

ECLOGA EX PAPYRIS MAGICIS

a Johanne Opsopoeo

Liber I

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Selections from Magical Papyri by John Opsopaus Book I

Shall we write about the things not to be spoken of?
Shall we divulge the things not to be divulged?
Shall we pronounce the things not to be pronounced?
- Julian, Hymn to the Mother of the Gods

INTRODUCTION

Origin of the Magical Papyri

Although most of the magical papyri were discovered in Egypt the nineteenth century and brought together as part of the Anastasi Collection, they were not completely published until 1925. In fact, the first complete translation into English had to wait until 1986 (Betz). It is quite likely that many of the papyri come from a single source, perhaps a tomb or temple library, and it is commonly supposed that they were collected by a Theban Magician. In any case, they are one of the best sources of Greco-Egyptian magic and religion, comparable to the Qumran scrolls for Judaism and the Nag Hamadi library for Gnosticism. We are extremely lucky that they have survived, since magical books and scrolls were often systematically burned (Acts 19:19; but not just by the Christians: Augustus ordered 2000 to be burned).

Contents

Here are the translations of a few spells, prayers, etc. that I thought might be useful or interesting. The information in [brackets] following each indicates the collection (PGM = Papyri Graecae Magicae, PDM = P. Demoticae M.), the papyrus number and the lines where the spell can be found. The source for these translations is Hans Dieter Betz (ed.), *The Greek Magical Papyri in Translation Including the Demotic Spells*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1986.

The spells, prayers, etc. are organized by category:

- I. Protection
- II. Divination and Visions
- III. Self-Improvement
- IV. Health and Healing

- V. Craft
- VI. Miscellaneous

Pronunciation of Magical Names

In general, most of the "vores magicae" (magical names) are written in Old Coptic, which used Greek letters, so you will do best if you think Greek. Thus, Y sounds between English "u" and "y", something like German unlauded "u". Pronounce CH as in German "ach" or Scotch "loch". The symbol E' represents eta, so pronounce like a long "a"; O' represents omega, so pronounce like a long "o". The diphthong "OU" is pronounced like English "oo". The symbols PH (phi) and TH (theta) probably should be aspirated "p" and "t", but may have been pronounced like English "f" and "th" by the time the papyri were written.

The symbol "NN" in a spell means "fill in the blank," generally with the name of the one on whose behalf the spell is cast (thus, "NN" or "the NN man"), or with the question or problem to which the spell is addressed (thus, "the NN matter").

I. PROTECTION

i. Protective Spell

Taking Sulfur and Seed of Nile Rushes, burn as Incense to the Moon and say, "I call on You, Lady Isis, whom Agathos Daimon permitted to rule in the entire Black Land [i.e., Egypt]. Your name is LOU LOULOU BATHARTHAR THARE'SIBATH ATHERNEKLE'SICH ATHERNEBOUNI E'ICHOMO' CHOMO'THI Isis Sothis, SOUE'RI, Boubastis, EURELIBAT CHAMARI NEBOUTOS OUE'RI AIE' E'OA O'AI. Protect me, Great and Marvelous Names of the God (add the usual [i.e., the protection you seek]); for I am the One Established in Pelusium, SERPHOUTH MOUISRO' STROMMO' MOLO'TH MOLONTHE'R PHON Thoth. Protect me, Great and Marvelous Names of the Great God! (add the usual)

"ASO' EIO' NISAO'TH. Lady Isis, Nemesis, Adrasteia, Many-named, Many-formed, glorify me, as I have glorified the Name of Your Son Horus! (add the usual)" [PGM VII.490-504]

ii. Restraining Spell

Write on a Tin Lamella with a Bronze Stylus before Sunrise the Names "CHRE'MILLON MOULUCH KAMPY CHRE' O'PHTHO' MASKELLI (formula) ERE'KISIPHTHE' IABEZEBYTH." Then throw it into River or into Sea before Sunrise. Also write on it, with the others, these Characters: "[six symbols, see below] Mighty Gods, restrain (add the usual, whatever you wish)." [PGM VII.417-22]

[The six symbols are: (1) an X in a circle; (2) a

backwards capital E; (3) a Z with a small circle at the end of each line segment (four in all); (4) draw a capital E on its side with the legs pointing down, add small leftward pointing feet to the first two legs, add two upward tick marks from the back between the second and third legs, extend the back to the left a little, and the first leg up a little to make a backwards L at the top-left corner, extend this upward from the left end to make a small |_| sign, then write a tiny U nested inside; (5) an X with a small circle on the end of the right leg; (6) a small epsilon or set membership sign.]

iii. Spell for Restraining Anger

If you want Someone to cease being Angry with you, write with Myrrh this Name of Anger: "CHNEO'M" [probably Egyptian Khnum]. Hold it in your Left Hand and say: "I am restraining the Anger of all, especially of him, NN, which is CHNEO'M." [PGM XII.179-81]

iv. Against Every Wild Animal, Aquatic Creature and Robbers

Attach a Tassel to your Garment and say: "LO'MA ZATH AION' ACHTHASE MA . . . ZAL BALAMAO'N E'EIOY, protect me, NN, in the Present Hour! Immediately, immediately! Quickly, quickly!" [PGM VII.370-3]

v. Charm of Hekate Ereschigal Against Fear of Punishment

If He [i.e., a punishment daimon] comes forth, say to Him: "I am Ereschigal, the One holding Her Thumbs, and not even one Evil can befall Her!"

If, however, He comes close to you, take hold of your Right Heel and recite the following: "Ereschigal, Virgin, Bitch, Serpent, Wreath, Key, Herald's Wand, Golden Sandal of the Lady of Tartaros!" And you will avert Him.

"ASKEI KATASKEI ERO'N OREO'N IO'R MEGA SAMNYE'R BAUI (3 times) PHOBANTIA SEMNE', I have been initiated, and I went down into the Underground Chamber of the Dactyls, and I saw the Other Things Down Below, Virgin, Bitch, and all the rest!" Say It at the Crossroad, and turn around and flee, because it is at those Places that She appears. Saying It Late at Night, about what you wish, It will reveal it in your Sleep; and if you are led away to Death, say It while scattering Seeds of Seseme, and It will save you. [PGM LXX.4-19]

vi. Indispensable Invisibility Spell

Take Fat or an Eye of a Nightowl and a Ball of Dung rolled by a Beetle and Oil of an Unripe Olive and grind them all together until smooth, and smear your Whole Body with it and say to Helios: "I adjure You by Your Great

Name, BORKE' PHOIOUR IO' ZIZIA APARXEOUCH THYTHE LAILAM
AAAAAA IIIII OOOO IEO' IEO' IEO' IEO' IEO' IEO' IEO'
NAUNAX AI AI AEO' AEO' E'AO'!" And moisten It and say in
addition: "Make me Invisible, Lord Helios, AEO' O'AE'
EIE' E'AO', in the Presence of Any Man until Sunset, IO'
IO' O' PHRIXRIZO' EO'A!" [PGM I.222-31]

II. DIVINATION AND VISIONS

vii. Direct Vision Spell

"EEIM TO EIM ALALE'P BARBARIATH MENE BREIO ARBATHIAO'TH
IOUE'L IAE'L OUE'NE'IE MESOMMIAS, let the God who
prophesies to me come and let Him not go away until I
dismiss Him, OURNAOUR SOUL ZASOUL OUGOT NOOUMBIAOU
THABRAT BERIAOU ACHTHIRI MARAI ELPHEO'N TABAO'TH KIRASINA
LAMPSOURE' IABOE ABLAMATHANALBA AKRAMMACHAMAREI!"

In a Bronze Cup over Oil. Anoint your Right Eye with
Water from a Shipwreck and the Left with Coptic Eyepaint,
with the same Water. If you cannot find Water from a
Shipwreck, then from a Sunken Skiff. [PGM V.54-69]

viii. Request for a Dream Oracle

Take a Strip of Clean Linen and write on it the following
Name. Roll it up to make a Wick, pour Pure Olive Oil
over it and light it.

The Formula to be written is this: "HARMIOUTH LAILAM
CHO'OUCH ARSENOPHRE' PHRE'U PHTHA HARCHENTECHTHA."
In the Evening then, when you are about to go to Sleep,
being Pure in every respect, do this: Go to the Lamp,
say 7 times the following Formula, extinguish the Light
and go to Sleep.

The Formula to be spoken is as follows: "SACHMOUNE
[i.e., Sakhmet] PAE'MALIGOTE'RE'EN'CH, the One who
Shakes, who Thunders, who has Swallowed the Serpent,
Surrounds the Moon, and Hour by Hour Raises the Disk of
the Sun, CHTHETHO'NI is Your Name. I ask You, Lords of
the Gods, SE'TH CHRE'PS: reveal to me concerning the
Things I wish." [PGM VII.359-69]

ix. Spell for Revelation

[Addressed to Ursa Major (Great Bear)]: "KOMPHTHO
KOMASITH KOMNOUN You who shook and shake the World, You
who have swallowed the Ever-living Serpent and daily
raise the Disk of the Sun and of the Moon, You whose Name
is ITHIOO' E'I ARBATHIAO' E', send up to me, NN, at Night
the Daimon of This Night to reveal to me concerning the
NN thing." [PGM IV.1323-30]

x. Saucer Divination of Aphrodite

Having kept oneself Pure for 7 days, take a White Saucer, fill It with Water and Olive Oil, having previously written on Its Base with Myrrh Ink: "E'IOCH CHIPHA ELAMPSE'R ZEL A E E' I O Y O'" (25 letters [in Greek]); and beneath the Base, on the outside: "TACHIE'L CNTHONIE' DRAXO'" (18 letters). Wax over with White Wax. On the outside of the Rim at the Top: "IERMI PHILO' 6 ERIKO'MA DERKO' MALO'K GAULE' APHRIE'L I ask" (say it 3 times). Let It rest on the Floor and looking intently at It, say "I call upon You, the Mother and Mistress of Nymphs, ILAOCH OBRIE' LOUCH TLOR; Come in, Holy Light, and give Answer, showing Your Lovely Shape!"

Then look intently at the Bowl. When you see Her, welcome Her and say, "Hail, Very Glorious Goddess, ILARA OUCH. And if You give me a Response, extend Your Hand." And when She extends It, expect Answers to your Inquiry.

But if She does not listen, say, "I call upon the ILAOUCH who has begotten Himeros, the Lovely Horai and You Graces; I also call upon the Zeus-sprung Physis [Nature] of All Things, two-formed, indivisible, straight, foam-beautiful Aphrodite. Reveal to me Your Lovely Light and Your Lovely Face, O Mistress ILAOUCH. I conjure You, Giver of Fire, by ELGINAL, and by the Great Names OBRIE'TYCH KERDYNOUCHILE'PSIN NIOU NAUNIN IOUTHOU THRIGX TATIOUTH GERTIATH GERGERIS GERGERIE' THEITHI. I also ask You by the All Wonderful Names, OISIA EI EI AO' E'Y AAO' IO'IAIAIO' SO'THOU BERBROI AKTEROBORE GERIE' IE'OYA; bring me Light and Your Lovely Face and the True Saucer Divination, You shining with Fire, bearing Fire all around, stirring the Land from afar, IO' IO' PHTHAIE' THOUTHOI PHAEPHI. Do it!"

Preparation: having kept yourself Pure, as you learned, take a Bronze Drinking Cup, and write with Myrrh Ink the previously inscribed Stele [charm or amulet] which calls upon Aphrodite, and use the untouched Olive Oil and clean River Water. Put the Drinking Cup on your Knees and speak over it the Stele mentioned above, and the Goddess will appear to you and will reveal concerning what Things you wish. [PGM IV.3209-54]

III. SELF-IMPROVEMENT

xi. Memory Spell

Take Hieratic Papyrus and write the Prescribed Names with Hermaic Myrrh Ink. And once you have written them as they are prescribed, wash them off into Spring Water from 7 springs and drink the Water on an empty stomach for seven days while the Moon is in the East.

This is the Writing on the strip of papyrus: "KAMBRE' CHAMBRE SIXIO'PHI HARPON CHNOUPHI BRIONTATE'NO'PHRI-BRISKYLMA ARAOUAZAR BAMESEN KRIPHI NIPTOUMI CHMOUMAO'PH

AKTIO'PHI ARTO'SE BIBIOU BIBIOU SPHE' SPHE' NOUSI NOUSI
SIEGO' SIEGO' NOUCHA NOUCHA LINOUCHA LINOUCHA CHYCHBA
CHYCHBA KAXIO' CHYCHBA DE'TOPHO'TH II AA OO YY E'E' EE
O'O'." After doing these things wash the Writing off and
drink as is prescribed.

This is also the composition of the Ink: Myrrh
Troglitis, 4 drams; 3 Karian Figs, 7 pits of Nikolaus
Dates, 7 dried Pinecones, 7 piths of the single-stemmed
Wormwood, 7 wings of the Hermaic Ibis, Spring Water.
When you have burned the Ingredients, prepare them and
write. [PGM I.232-47]

xii. Another Memory Spell

Take a Silver Tablet and engrave it [with the Uzait Horu,
or "Sacred Eye of Horus"] after the God [i.e., Helios,
the sun] sets. Take Cow's Milk and pour it [or, perhaps,
heat it]. Put down [into?] a Clean Vessel and place the
Tablet under [it]; add Barley Meal, mix and form Bread:
twelve Rolls in the Shape of Female Figures. Say [the
formula] three times, eat [the rolls] on an Empty
Stomach, and you will know The Power.

[The formula]: "BORKA BORKA PHRIX PHRIX RIX O' . . .
ACHACH AMIXAG OUCH THIP LAI LAI LAMLAI LAI LAM MAIL
AAAAAAAA IIIY E'I AI O'O'O'O'O'O' MOUMOU O'YIO' NAK NAK
NAX LAINLIMM LAILAM AEDA . . . LAILAM AE'O O'AE' O'AE'
E'OA' AO'E' E'O'A O'E'A, enter, Master, into my Mind, and
grant me Memory, MMM E'E'E' MTHPH!"

Do this monthly, facing the Moon, on the First Day [of
the month]. Prostrate yourself before the Goddess [i.e.,
Selene, the moon], and wear the Tablet as an Amulet.
[PGM III.410-23]

xiii. Spell for Strength

"PHNOUNEBEE' (2 times), give me Your Strength, IO'
ABRASAX, give me Your Strength, for I am ABRASAX!" Say
it 7 times while holding your two Thumbs. [PGM LXIX.1-3]

xiv. Your Great Name, for Favor

"Everyone fears Your Great Might. Grant me the Good
Things: The Strength of AKRYSKYLOS, the Speech of
EUO'NOS, the Eyes of Solomon, the Voice of ABRASAX, the
Grace of ADO'NIOS, the God. Come to me, Kypris, every
day! The Hidden Name bestowed to You: THOATHOE'THATHO-
OYTHAETHO'USTHOAITHITHE'THOINTHO'; grant me Victory,
Repute, Beauty toward all Men and all Women!" [PGM
XCII.1-16]

xv. Business Spell

Take Orange Beeswax and the juice of the Aeria Plant and
of Ground Ivy and mix them and fashion a Figure of Hermes

having a hollow bottom, grasping in his left hand a Herald's Wand and in his right a small Bag. Write on Hieratic Papyrus these Names, and you will see Continuous Business: "CHAI'O'CHEN OUTIBILMEMNOUO'TH ATRAUICH. Give Income and Business to this place, because Psentebeth lives here." Put the Papyrus inside the Figure and fill in the hole with the same Beeswax. Then deposit in a wall, at an inconspicuous place, and crown Him on the outside, and sacrifice to Him a cock, and make a Drink Offering of Egyptian Wine, and light for Him a Lamp that is not colored Red. [PGM IV.2359-72]

xvi. Spell for Assertiveness

"Greetings, Lord, You who are the Means to obtain Favor for the Universe and for the Inhabited World. Heaven has become a Dancing Place for You, ARSENOPHRE', O King of the Heavenly Gods, ABLANATHANALBA, You who possess Righteousness, AKRAMMACHAMAREI, Gracious God, SANKANTHARA, Ruler of Nature, SATRAPERKME'PH, Origin of the Heavenly World, ATHTHANNOU ATHTHANNOU ASTRAPHAI IASTRAPHAI PAKEPTO'TH PA . . . E'RINTASKLIOUTH E'PHIO' MARMARAO'TH!

"Let my Outspokenness not leave me. But let every Tongue and Language listen to me, because I am PERTAO' [ME'CH CHACH] MNE'CH SAKME'PH IAO'OYEE' O'E'O' O'E'O' IEYO'E'IE'IAE'A IE'O'YOEI, Give me graciously whatever You want." [PGM XII.182-189]

IV. HEALTH AND HEALING

xvii. Fever Amulet

"ABLANATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARAMARACH
BLANATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARAMARA
LANATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARAMAR
ANATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARAMA
NATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARAM
ATHANABLANAMACHARAMARACHARA
THANABLANAMACHARAMARACHAR
ANABLANAMACHARAMARACHA
NABLANAMACHARAMARACH
ABLANAMACHARAMARA
BLANAMACHARAMAR
LANAMACHARAMA
ANAMACHARAM
NAMACHARA
AMACHAR
MACHA
ACH
A

"O Tireless One, KOK KOUK KOUL, save Tais whom Taraus bore from every Shivering Fit, whether Tertian or Quartan or Quotidian Fever, or an Every-other-day Fever, or one

by Night, or even a Mild Fever, because I am the ancestral, tireless God, KOK KOUK KOUL! Immediately, immediately! Quickly, quickly!" [PGM XXXIII.1-25]

xviii. Spell for Coughs

In Black Ink, write on Hyena Parchment: "THAPSATE STHRAITO" - or as I found in another: "TEUTHRAIO' THRAITEU THRAITO' THABARBAO'RI [symbol: an X in a circle] LIKRALIRE'TA - deliver NN from the Cough that holds him fast." [PGM VII.203-5]

xix. Spell for Migraine Headache

Take Oil in your Hands and utter the Spell: "Zeus sowed a Grape Seed: it parts the Soil; He does not sow it; it does not sprout." [PGM VII.199-201]

xx. Spell for Scorpion Sting

"OR OR PHOR PHOR SABAO'TH ADO'NE SALAMA TARCHEI ABRASAX, I bind you, Scorpion of Artemisia, three-hundred and fifteen times, on the fifteenth day of Pachon . . ." [PGM XXVIIIa.1-7]

xxi. A Contraceptive, the Only One in the World

Take as many Bittervetch Seeds as you want for the Number of Years you wish to remain Sterile. Steep them in the Menses of a Menstruating Woman. Let them steep in her own Genitals. And take a Frog that is alive and throw the Bittervetch Seeds into its Mouth so that the Frog swallows them, and release the Frog alive at the place where you captured him. And take a Seed of Henbane, steep it in Mare's Milk; and take the Nasal Mucus of a Cow, with Grains of Barley, put these into a Leather Skin made from a Fawn and on the outside bind it up with Mulehide Skin, and attach it as an Amulet during the Waning of the Moon in a Female Sign of the Zodiac on a Day of Kronos or Hermes [i.e., Saturn or Mercury]. Mix in also, with the Barley Grains, Cerumen from the Ear of a Mule. [PGM XXXVI.320-32]

xxii. A Prescription to Stop Blood

Juice of "Great-Nile" Plant together with Beer; you should make the Woman drink it at Dawn before she has eaten. It stops. [PDM xiv.953-5]

xxiii. The Way to Know it of a Woman Whether She will be Pregnant

You should make the Woman urinate on this Plant, above [i.e., "Great-Nile" plant], at Night. When Morning comes, if you find the Plant scorched, she will not conceive. If you find it green, she will conceive. [PDM xiv.956-60]

V. CRAFT

xxiv. Spell for Picking a Plant

Use it before Sunrise. The Spell to be spoken: "I am picking you, such and such a plant, with my Five-fingered Hand, I, NN, and I am bringing you home so that you may work for me for a Certain Purpose. I adjure you by the Undefined Name of the God: if you pay no Heed to me, the Earth which produced you will no longer be watered as far as you are concerned - ever in Life again, if I fail in this Operation, MOUTHABAR NACH BARNACHO'CHA BRAEO' MENDA LAUBRAASSE PHASPHA BENDEO'; fulfil for me the Perfect Charm!" [PGM IV.286-95]

xxv. Procedure for Obtaining Herbs

Among the Egyptians Herbs are always obtained like this: the Herbalist first purifies his own Body, then sprinkles with Natron and fumigates the Herb with Resin from a Pine Tree after carrying it around the Place 3 times. Then, after burning Kyphi and pouring the Libation of Milk as he prays, he pulls up the Plant while invoking by Name the Daimon to whom the Herb is being dedicated and calling upon Him to be more effective for the Use for which it is being acquired.

The Invocation for him, which he speaks over any Herb, generally at the Moment of Picking, is as follows:

"You were sown by Kronos, you were conceived by Hera, you were maintained by Ammon, you were given birth by Isis, you were nourished by Zeus the God of Rain, you were given growth by Helios and Drosos [Dew]. You are the Dew of all the Gods, you are the Heart of Hermes, you are the Seed of the Primordial Gods, you are the Eye of Helios, you are the Light of Selene, you are the Zeal of Osiris, you are the Beauty and Glory of Ouranos, you are the Soul of Osiris' Daimon which revels in Every Place, you are the Spirit of Ammon. As you have exalted Osiris, so exalt yourself and rise just as Helios rises each day. Your size is equal to the Zenith of Helios, your Roots come from the Depths, but your Powers are in the Heart of Hermes, your Fibers are the Bones of Mnevis [i.e., Mr-wr, the holy bull of Heliopolis], and your Flowers are the Eye of Horus, your Seed is Pan's Seed. I am washing you in Resin as I also wash the Gods [i.e., the cult statues] even as I do this for my own Health. You also be cleaned by Prayer and give us Power as Ares and Athena do. I am Hermes! I am acquiring you with Good Fortune and Good Daimon both at a Propitious Hour and on a Propitious Day that is effective for all things."

After saying this, he rolls the Harvested Stalk in a Pure Linen Cloth (but into the place of its Roots they threw seven Seeds of Wheat and an equal number of Barley, after

mixing them with Honey), and after pouring in the Ground which has been dug up, he departs. [PGM IV.2967-3006]

xxvi. Interpretations of Herbs and Other Ingredients

Which the Temple Scribes employed, from the Holy Writings, in translation. Because of the Curiosity of the Masses they [i.e., the scribes] inscribed the Names of the Herbs and Other Things which they employed on the Statues of the Gods, so that they [the masses], since they do not take Precaution, might not practice Magic, [being prevented] by the Consequence of their Misunderstanding. But we have collected the explanations from many Copies, all of them Secret.

Here they are:

A Snake's Head: a Leech.
A Snake's Ball of Thread: this means Soapstone.
Blood of a Snake: Hematite.
A Bone of an Ibis: this is Buckthorn.
Blood of a Hyrax: truly of a Hyrax [probably the rock hyrax, *Procavia capensis*].
Tears [Sleep Sand] of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Juice.
Crocodile Dung: Ethiopian Soil.
Blood of a Hamadryas Baboon: Blood of a Spotted Gecko.
Lion Semen: Human Semen.
Blood of Hephaistos: Wormwood.
Hairs of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Seed.
Semen of Hermes: Dill.
Blood of Ares: Purslane.
Blood of an Eye: Tamarisk Gall.
Blood from a Shoulder: Bear's Breach [probably *Acanthus mollis* L. or *Helleborus foetidus* L.].
From the Loins: Camomile.
A Man's Bile: Turnip Sap [probably *Brassica napus* L.].
A Pig's Tail: Leopard's Bane [probably a variety of leopard's bane in the genus *Boronicum*, or one of the heliotropes].
A Physician's Bone: Sandstone.
Blood of Hestia: Camomile.
An Eagle: Wild Garlic [*Trigonella foenumgraecum*, but the reading is doubtful].
Blood of a Goose: A Mulberry Tree's Milk.
Kronos' Spice: Piglet's Milk.
A Lion's Hairs: Tongue of a Turnip [i.e., the leaves of the taproot].
Kronos' Blood: . . . of Cedar.
Semen of Helios: White Hellebore.
Semen of Herakles: this is Mustard-rocket [probably *Eruca sativa*].
A Titan's Blood: Wild Lettuce.
Blood from a Head: Lupine.
A Bull's Semen: Egg of a Blister Beetle.
A Hawk's Heart: Heart of Wormwood.
Semen of Hephaistos: This is Fleabane.
Semen of Ammon: Houseleek.

Semen of Ares: Clover.
Fat from a Head: Spurge.
From the Belly: Earth-apple.
From the Foot: Houseleek.
[PGM XII.401-44]

[Similar lists can be found in De succedaneis transmitted among the works of Galen, Claudii Galeni Opera Omnia (Kuehn, ed.), vol. 19, 721-47; adapted version in Paul of Aegina, Paulus Aegineta, Corpus Medicorum Graecorum IX/2 (Heiberg, ed.), vol. II, 401-8; and in Dioscorides' Materia Medica.]

VI. Miscellaneous

xxvii. Prayer to Selene for Any Spell

[Since several aspects of this ritual are contrary to modern Pagan and Wiccan ethics and practice, I had some misgivings about including it in this collection, but decided to do so, because the hymn is so beautiful, so moving and so empowering. It has been discussed by K. Kerényi, "Die Goettin Natur," Eranos-Jahrbuch 14 (1947), 39-86.]

"Come to me, O Beloved Mistress, Three-faced
Selene; kindly hear my Sacred Chants;
Night's Ornament, young, bringing Light to Mortals,
O Child of Morn who ride upon the Fierce Bulls,
O Queen who drive Your Car on Equal Course
With Helios, who with the Triple Forms
Of Triple Graces dance in Revel with
The Stars. You're Justice and the Moira's Threads:
Klotho and Lachesis and Atropos
Three-headed, You're Persephone, Megaira,
Allekto, Many-Formed, who arm Your Hands
With Dreaded, Murky Lamps, who shake Your Locks
Of fearful Serpents on Your Brow, who sound
The Roar of Bulls out from Your Mouths, whose Womb
Is decked out with the Scales of Creeping Things,
With Pois'nous Rows of Serpents down the Back,
Bound down Your Backs with Horrifying Chains
Night-Crier, Bull-faced, loving Solitude,
Bull-headed, You have Eyes of Bulls, the Voice
Of Dogs; You hide Your Forms in Shanks of Lions,
Your Ankle is Wolf-shaped, Fierce Dogs are dear
To You, wherefore they call You Hekate,
Many-named, Mene, cleaving Air just like
Dart-shooter Artemis, Persephone,
Shooter of Deer, night shining, triple-sounding,
Triple-headed, triple-voiced Selene
Triple-pointed, triple-faced, triple-necked,
And Goddess of the Triple Ways, who hold
Untiring Flaming Fire in Triple Baskets,
And You who oft frequent the Triple Way
And rule the Triple Decades, unto me
Who'm calling You be gracious and with Kindness

Give Heed, You who protect the Spacious World
At night, before whom Daimons quake in Fear
And Gods Immortal tremble, Goddess who
Exalt Men, You of Many Names, who bear
Fair Offspring, Bull-eyed, Horned, Mother of Gods
And Men, and Nature, Mother of All Things,
For You frequent Olympos, and the broad
And boundless Chasm You traverse. Beginning
And End are You, and You Alone rule All.
For All Things are from You, and in You do
All Things, Eternal One, come to their End.
As Everlasting Band around Your Temples
You wear Great Kronos' Chains, unbreakable
And unremovable, and You hold in
Your Hands a Golden Scepter. Letters 'round
Your Scepter Kronos wrote Himself and gave
To You to wear that All Things stay steadfast:
Subduer and subdued, Mankind's Subduer,
And Force-subduer; Chaos, too, You rule.
Hail, Goddess, and attend Your Epithets,
I burn for You this Spice, O Child of Zeus,
Dart-shooter, Heav'nly One, Goddess of Harbors,
Who roam the Mountains, Goddess of Crossroads,
O Nether and Nocturnal, and Infernal,
Goddess of Dark, Quiet and Frightful One,
O You who have Your Meal amid the Graves,
Night, Darkness, Broad Chaos: Necessity
Hard to escape are You; You're Moira and
Erinys, Torment, Justice and Destroyer,
And You keep Kerberos in Chains, with Scales
Of Serpents are You dark, O You with Hair
Of Serpents, Serpent-girded, who drink Blood,
Who bring Death and Destruction, and who feast
On Hearts, Flesh Eater, who devour Those Dead
Untimely, and You who make Grief resound
And spread Madness, come to my Sacrifices,
And now for me do You fulfill this Matter."
[Tr.: E. N. O'Neil]

Offering for The Rite: For doing Good, offer Storax,
Myrrh, Sage, Frankincense, a Fruit Pit. But for doing
Harm, offer Magical Material of a Dog and a Dappled Goat
(or in a similar way, of a Virgin Untimely Dead).

Protective Charm for The Rite: Take a Lodestone and on
it have carved a Three-faced Hekate. And let the Middle
Face be that of a Maiden wearing Horns, and the Left Face
that of a Dog, and the One on the Right that of a Goat.
After the Carving is done, clean with Natron and Water,
and dip in the Blood of One who has died a Violent Death.
Then make Food Offering to it and say the same Spell at
the time of the Ritual. [PGM IV.2785-2890]

xxviii. Love Spell

Aphrodite's Name, which becomes known to No One quickly,
is NEPHERIE'RI [i.e. Nfr-iry.t, "the beautiful eye", an

epithet for Aphrodite/Hathor] - this is the Name. If you wish to win a Woman who is beautiful, be Pure for 3 days, make an offering of Frankincense, and call this Name over it. You approach the Woman and say it seven times in your Soul as you gaze at her, and in this way it will succeed. But do this for 7 days. [PGM IV.1265-74]

xxix. To be Able to Eat Garlic and Not Stink

Bake Beetroots and eat them. [PGM VII.173]

xxx. To Let Those Who Have Difficulty Intermingling [i.e. Socializing] Perform Well

Give Gum mixed with Wine and Honey to be smeared on the Face. [PGM VII.179-80]

xxxi. To be Able to Drink a Lot and Not Get Drunk

Eat a baked Pig's Lung. [PGM VII.181]

xxxii. To be Able to Copulate a Lot

Grind up fifty Tiny Pinecones with 2 ozs. of Sweet Wine and two Pepper Grains and drink it. [PGM VII.184-5]

xxxiii. To Get an Erection When You Want

Grind up a Pepper with some Honey and coat your Thing. [PGM VII.186]

xxxiv. Love Salve

. . . Hawk's Dung; Salt, Reed, Bele Plant. Pound together. Anoint your Phallus with it and lie with the Woman. If it is dry, you should pound a little of it with Wine, anoint your Phallus with it, and lie with the Woman. Very Good. [PDM xiv.1155-62]

*** FINIS ***

ECLOGA EX PAPYRIS MAGICIS

a Johanne Opsopoeo

Liber II

* * *

Selections from Magical Papyri
by John Opsopaus
Book II

'Tis true : There's Magicke in the web of it:
A Sybill, that had numbred in the world
The Sun to course, two hundred compasses,
In her Prophetticke furie sow'd the Worke:
The Wormes were hallowed, that did breede the Silke,
And it was dyde in Mummey, which the Skilfull
Conserv'd of Maidens hearts.

-- Shakespeare, Othello, III.iv.70

INTRODUCTION

Contents

This is the second book of spells, charms, prayers, rituals etc. from the Greek magical papyri and Demotic spells. I have selected items that seem interesting and useful. Unfortunately, many of the papyri are very fragmentary and incomplete, and others make use of complicated magickal symbols and figures that are hard to represent in ASCII, so I have had to omit some otherwise worthwhile spells and charms. For these I suggest consulting Betz (below), which contains nearly 600 spells, charms, prayers, invocations, etc.

The information in [brackets] following each selection indicates the collection (PGM = Papyri Graecae Magicae, PDM = P. Demoticae M.), the papyrus number and the lines where the spell can be found. The source for these translations is Hans Dieter Betz (ed.), *The Greek Magical Papyri in Translation Including the Demotic Spells*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1986.

The spells, prayers, etc. are organized by category:

- I. Protection
- II. Divination and Visions
- III. Self-Improvement
- IV. Health and Healing
- V. Craft
- VI. Miscellaneous

Pronunciation of Magical Names

In general, most of the "voces magicae" (magical names) are written in Old Coptic, which used Greek letters, so you will do best if you think Greek. Thus, Y sounds between English "u" and "y", something like German unlauded "u". Pronounce CH as in German "ach" or Scotch "loch". The symbol E' represents eta, so pronounce like a long "a"; O' represents omega, so pronounce like a long "o". The symbols PH (phi) and TH (theta) probably should be aspirated "p" and "t", but may have been pronounced like English "f" and "th" by the time the papyri were written.

The symbol "NN" in a spell means "fill in the blank," generally with the name of the one on whose behalf the spell is cast (thus, "NN" or "the NN man"), or with the question or problem to which the spell is addressed (thus, "the NN matter").

I. PROTECTION

i. Charm to Break Enchantment

Taking a Three-Cornered Sherd from a Fork in the Road -- pick it up with your Left Hand -- inscribe it with Myrrhed Ink and hide it. [Write:] "ASSTRAELOS CHRAELOS, dissolve every Enchantment against me, NN, for I conjure You by the Great and Terrible Names which the Winds fear and the Rocks split when they hear it."

[There are seven Symbols to be written on the Sherd; they look like this: (1) a Greek capital upsilon (like a Y with sagging arms), with small circles at all three ends; (2) an X with small circles on the ends; (3) a squared-off U with small circles at the ends of the arms; (4) a line inclined to the right, with a small right-angle bend to the right at the end, small circles at both ends; (5) a line inclined to the right, small circles on ends, but slightly to the left; (6) arc or rounded L from upper left to lower right, circles on ends; (7) An A with circles on its feet. The whole sign looks something like this:

Y X U / ^) L A

] [PGM XXXVI.256-64]

ii. Charm to Restrain Anger and Charm for Success

(No Charm is Greater, and it is to be performed by means of Words Alone.) Hold your Thumbs and repeat the Spell 7 times: "ERMALLO'TH ARCHIMALLO'TH stop the Mouths that speak against me, because I glorify Your Sacred and Honored Names which are in Heaven."

To Augment the Words: Take Papyrus and write thus:
"I am CHPHYRIS [i.e., the god Khepri, the scarab]. I must be successful! MICHAEL RAPHAEL ROUBE'L NARIE'L KATTIE'L ROUMBOUTHIE'L AZARIE'L IOE'L IOUE'L EZRIE'L SOURIE'L NARIE'L METMOURIE'L AZAE'L AZIE'L SAOUMIE'L ROUBOUTHIE'L RABIE'E'L RABIE'E'L RABCHLOU ENAEZRAE'L, Angels, protect me from every Bad Situation that comes upon me!" [PGM XXXVI.161-77]

iii. Spell To Catch a Thief

[Although this spell is coercive, I have included it because it is fundamentally defensive.] Take a Plant Chelkbei and Bugloss, strain them, burn what you strain out, mix well with Juice, and write "CHOO" with it on a Wall. Take Gallows Wood and carve a Hammer. With the Hammer strike the Eye [see below] while saying the Formula: "I conjure You by the Holy Names! Hand over the Thief who made off with it! CHALCHAK CHALKOUM CHIAM CHARCHROUM ZBAR BE'RI ZBARKOM CHRE' KARIO'B PHARIBOU, and by the Shudderful Names: A EE E'E'E' IIII OOOOO YYYYYY O'O'O'O'O'O'!"

[This is the figure to strike:]

```

      A
O'   [draw the   E E
Y Y   Uzat-Eye,  E'E'E'
IIII  the Eye of  IIII
E'E'E'E' Horus, here] E'E'E'E'
E E E E E E       E E E E E E
A A A A A A A     A A A A A A A
IAO' O'IA IO'A AE'O' E'O'A O'AE'

```

"Hand over the Thief who Stole it! As long as I strike the Eye with this Hammer, let the Eye of the Thief be struck, and let it Swell Up until it betrays him!"
While saying this, Strike with the Hammer. [PGM V.70-95]

II. DIVINATION AND VISIONS

iv. Inquiry of Bowl Divination and Necromancy

Nephotes to Psammetichos, Immortal King of Egypt. Greetings. Since the Great God has appointed you Immortal King and Nature has made you an Expert Magician [Sophistes], I too, with a desire to show you the Industry in me, have sent you this Magical Procedure which, with Complete Ease, produces a Holy Power....

Whenever you want to Inquire about Matters, take a Bronze Vessel, either a Bowl or a Saucer, whatever Kind you wish. Pour Water: Rain Water if you are calling upon the Heavenly Gods, Sea Water if Gods of the Earth, River Water if Osiris or Sarapis, Spring Water if the Dead. Holding the Vessel on your Knees, pour out Green Olive Oil, bend over the Vessel and speak the Prescribed Spell. And address whatever God you want and ask about whatever you wish, and He will reply to you and tell you about Anything. And if He has spoken dismiss Him with the Spell of Dismissal, and you who have used this Spell will be Amazed.

The Spell spoken over the Vessel is: "AMOUN

AUANTAU LAIMOUTAU RIPTOU MANTAU IMANTOU
LANTOU LAPTOUMI ANCHO'MACH ARAPTOUMI, hither to
me, O NN God! Appear to me this very Hour and do not
Frighten my Eyes! Hither to me, O NN God, be
Attentive to me because he [probably should be "I"]
Wishes and Commands this ACHCHO'R ACHCHO'R
ACHACHACH PTOUMI CHACHCHO' CHARACHO'CH CHAP-
TOUME' CHO'RACHARACHO'CH APTOUMI ME'CHO'CHAP-
TOU CHARACHPTOU CHACHCHO' CHARACHO' PTENA-
CHO'CHEU" (a Hundred [Greek] Letters).

But you are not unaware, Mighty King and Leader of
Magicians, that this is the Chief Name of Typhon, at
whom the Ground, the Depth of the Sea, Hades, Heaven,
the Sun, the Moon, the Visible Chorus of Stars, the
whole Universe all Tremble, the Name that consists of
100 Letters. Finally, when you have called, whomever
you called will appear, God or Dead Man, and He will
give an Answer about anything you ask. And when you
have learned to your Satisfaction, dismiss the God
merely with the Powerful Name of the Hundred
Letters as you say, "Depart, Master, for the Great God,
NN, wishes and commands this of You!" Speak the
Name, and He will depart. Let this Spell, Mighty King,
be transmitted to You Alone, Guarded by you,
Unshared!

There is also the Protective Charm itself which you
wear while Performing, even while Standing: onto a
Silver Leaf inscribe this Name of 100 Letters with a
Bronze Stylus, and wear it strung on a Thong from the
Hide of an Ass. [The ass is the animal associated
with Seth/Typhon.] [PGM IV.154-160, 222-260]

v. Vessel Divination

To inquire opposite the Moon: You should do it as a
Vessel Inquiry alone or with a Youth. If you are the
one who is going to Inquire, you should equip your Eye
with Green Eye-Paint and Black Eye-Paint. You should
stand on a High Place on the Top of your House. You
should speak to the Moon when it fills the Sound-Eye
on the 15th Day, you being Pure for Three Days. [The
Sound-Eye is Uzait Horu, the wdz.t-eye or Sacred Eye
of Horus; the Moon fills the Sound-Eye when it is full.]
You should recite this Spell opposite the Moon seven
or nine times until He [the Moon (masculine in
Egyptian)] appears to you and speaks to you: "Hail,
SAKS Amoun SAKS ABRASAKS, for You are the Moon,
the Great One of the Stars, He who formed them!
Listen to these things which I said! Walk in
accordance with the Words of my Mouth! Reveal
Yourself to me, THAN THANA THANATHA, this is my
Correct Name!" Nine times of saying it until She [the
Moon] reveals Herself to you. [PDM xiv.695-700]

vi. Method of 29 Letters for Receiving an Omen

"Great is the Lady Isis!" Copy of a Holy Book found in the Archives of Hermes: The Method is that concerning The 29 Letters [of the Coptic alphabet], through which Letters Hermes and Isis, who was seeking Osiris, Her Brother and Husband, found Him.

Call upon Helios and all the Gods in the Deep concerning Those Things for which you want to receive an Omen. Take 29 Leaves of a Male Date Palm and write on each of the Leaves the Names of the Gods. Pray and then pick them up Two By Two. Read the Last Remaining Leaf and you will find your Omen, how things are, and you will be answered clearly. [PGM XXIVa.1-25]

vii. Charm of Solomon's Collapse

[That is, Solomon's Charm to produce a trance.]
(Works on Boys and on Adults): I swear to you by the Holy Gods and the Heavenly Gods not to share the Procedure of Solomon with anyone and certainly not to use it for Something Questionable unless a Matter of Necessity forces you, lest perchance Wrath be preserved for you.

Formula to be Spoken: "OURIO'R AME'N IM TAR CHO'B
KLAMPHO'B PHRE' PHRO'R PTAR OUSIRI SAIO'B TE'LO'
KABE' MANATATHO'R ASIO'RIKO'R BE'EINO'R AMOUN O'M
ME'NICHTHA MACHTHA CHTHARA AMACHTHA AOU ALA-
KAMBO'T BE'SINO'R APHE'SIO'R PHRE'PH AME'I OUR
LAMASIR CHE'RIO'B PITRE'M PHE'O'PH NIRIN ALLANNA-
THATH CHE'RIO'CH O'NE' BOUSIRI NINOUNO AMANAL
GAGO'SARIE'R ME'NIAM TLE'R OOO AA ETNE' OUSIRI
OUSIRI OUSIRI OUSIRI ME'NE'MB MNE'M BRABE'L
TNE'KAIO'B. Hear me, that is, my Holy Voice, because I
call upon Your Holy Names, and reveal to me
concerning the Thing which I want, through the NN Man
or Little Boy, for otherwise I will not defend Your
Holy and Undeclared Names! Come to me, You who
became Hesies and were carried away by a River;
inspire the NN Man or Boy concerning that which I ask
You: BARBE'TH MNO'R ARARIAK TARE'RIM O'AR TE'RO'K
SANIO'R ME'NIK PHAUEK DAPHORIOUMIN LARIO'R
E'TNIAMIM KNO'S CHALAKTHIR KRO'PHE'R PHE'SIMO'T
PRE'BIB KNALA E'RIBE'TIM GNO'RI! Come to me through
the NN Man or Little Boy and tell me accurately since I
speak Your Names which Thrice-Greatest Hermes [i.e.,
Hermes Trismegistos] wrote in Heliopolis with
Hieroglyphic Letters: ARBAKO'RIPH ME'NIAM O'RAO'B
ABNIO'B ME'RIM BAIAX CHENO'R PE'NIM O'RA O'RE'SIOU
OUSIRI PNIAOUSIRI PHRE'OUSIRI HO'RIOUSIRI NAEI-
O'ROUSIRI ME'NIMOUSIRI MNE'KOUSIRI PHLE'KOUSIRI
PE'LE'LOUSIRI O'NIO' RABKOUSIRI ANIO'BOUSIRI AME'A-
OUSIRI ANO'ROUSIRI AME'N'PHE'OUSIRI AME'NIOUSIRI
XO'NIO'R E'OUROUSIRI! Enter into him and reveal to me
concerning the NN Matter!"

After you have Purified the Designated Man by keeping him from Intercourse for 3 Days, you yourself also being Pure, enter together with him. After you have taken him up to an Open Place, seat him on Unbaked Bricks, dress him and give him an Anubian Head of Wheat and a Falcon-Weed Plant so that he will be protected. Gird yourself with a Palm Fiber of a Male Date Palm, extend your Hands up to Heaven, toward the Rays of the Sun, and say the Formula 7 times. Next make an offering of Male Frankincense after pouring out Wine, Beer, Honey or Milk of a Black Cow onto Grape-Vine Wood. Then say the Formula 7 times just into the Ear of the NN Man or Little Boy, and right away he will fall down. But you sit down on the Bricks and make your Inquiry, and he will describe Everything with Truth. You should crown him with a Garland of Indigenous Worm-Wood, both him and you, for the God delights in the Plant.

Dismissal of the Lord: Into the Ear of NN: "ANANAK ARBEQUE'RI AEE'IOYO!"

If He tarries, sacrifice on Grape-Vine Charcoal a Sesame Seed and Black Cumin while saying: "ANANAK O'RBEOUSIRI AEE'IOYO', go away, Lord, to Your Own Thrones and protect him, NN, from all Evil!" You learned thoroughly; keep it Secret.

The Awakening is as follows: Stand away from the Boy or Man, having your Palms spread on your Buttocks, your Feet together on the Ground, recite the following often until he is moved either toward the Right or toward the Left: "AMOUN E'EI ABRIATH KICHOP O'TEM PITH." Then as a Dog [i.e., presumably, bark like a dog]. [PGM IV.850-929]

viii. Spell for Revelation

Keep yourself Pure for 7 days before the Moon becomes Full by abstaining from Meat and Uncooked Food, by leaving behind during the prescribed days exactly Half of your Food in a Turquoise Vessel [probably faience, i.e., blue-green glazed pottery, rather than actual turquoise], over which you are also to Eat, and by abstaining from Wine. When the Moon is Full, go by yourself to the Eastern Section of your City, Village, or House and throw out on the Ground the Left-Over Morsels. Then return Very Quickly to your Quarters and shut yourself in before He can get there, because He will shut you out if He gets there before you. But before you throw out the Morsels, fix in the Ground at a Slight Angle a Verdant Reed that is about Two Cubits long, tie some Hairs from a Stallion about the Mid-Section of a Horned Dung Beetle, and suspend the Beetle from the Reed by them. Then light a Lamp that has not been used before and place it

under the Beetle in a new Earthen-Ware Dish, so that the Heat from the Lamp barely reaches the Beetle. Stay Calm after you have thrown out the Morsels, gone to your Quarters, and shut yourself in; for the One you have summoned will stand there and, by threatening you with Weapons, will try to force you to release the Beetle. But remain Calm, and do not release it until He gives you a Response; then release it right away. And every day during the Period of Purification when you are about to Eat and to go to Bed, speak the following Spell 7 times (you are to say them again when you return to your Quarters after throwing out the Food). Keep it Secret: "You with the Wooden Neck, you with the Clay Face, come in to me, for I am Sabertoush, the Great God who is in Heaven!"

The Phylactery [charm worn for protection] for the foregoing: With Blood from the Hand or Foot of a Pregnant Woman, write the Name given below on a Clean Piece of Papyrus; then tie it about your Left Arm by a Linen Cords and wear it. Here is what is to be written: "SHTE'IT CHIEN TENHA, I bind and loose."

The dismissal: When you release the Beetle, say: "Harko, Harko is my Name; Harko is my True Name!"

Guard these Instructions well! The Rite: an Onion. [Probably means: Use the Procedure involving an Onion.] [PGM IV.52-85]

ix. A "God's Arrival" of Osiris

[I.e., an Invocation of Osiris for a Revelation] "O Isis, O Nephthys, O Noble Soul of Osiris Wennefer, come to me! I am Your Beloved Son, Horus. O Gods who are in Heaven, O Gods who are in the Earth, O Gods who are in the Primeval Waters, O Gods who are in the South, O Gods who are in the North, O Gods who are in the West, O Gods who are in the East, come to me tonight! Teach me about Such and Such a Thing about which I am asking. Quickly! Quickly! Hurry! Hurry!"

Formula: On a Phoenix written with Myrrh Water and Juniper Water. Put a Pellet of Gum on your Right Hand; recite these Writings to it in the Evening while your Hand is stretched out to the Moon, while you are going to Sleep; and leave your Hand before you. Very Good. 4 times. [PDM Suppl.130-38]

III. SELF-IMPROVEMENT

x. Prayer to Helios: A Charm to Restrain Anger and for Victory and for Securing Favor

(None is Greater): Say to the Sun (Helios) 7 times, and anoint your Hand with Oil and wipe it on your Head and

Face.

Now the Prayer is: "Rejoice with me, You who are set over the East Wind and the World, for whom all the Gods serve as Body-Guards at Your Good Hour and on Your Good Day, You who are the Good Daimon of the World, the Crown of the Inhabited World, You who arise from the Abyss, You who Each Day rise a Young Man and set an Old Man, HARPENKNOUPHI BRINTANTE'-NO'PHRI BRISSKYLMA AROURZORBOROBA MESINTRIPHI NIPTOUMI CHMOUMMAO'PHI. I beg You, Lord, do not allow me to be Over-Thrown, to be Plotted Against, to receive Dangerous Drugs, to go into Exile, to fall upon Hard Times. Rather, I ask to obtain and receive from You Life, Health, Reputation, Wealth, Influence, Strength, Success, Charm, Favor with all Men and all Women, Victory over all Men and all Women. Yes, Lord, ABLANATHANALBA AKRAMMACHAMARI PEPHNA PHO'ZA PHNEBENNOUNI NAACHTHIP... OUNORBA, accomplish this Matter which I want, by means of Your Power." [PGM XXXVI.211-30]

xi. Prayer

"I call upon You who have All Forms and Many Names, Double-Horned Goddess, Mene, whose Form no one knows except Him who made the entire World, IAO', the One who shaped You into Twenty-Eight Shapes of the World so that they might complete every Figure and distribute Breath to every Animal and Plant, that it might Flourish, You who grow from Obscurity into Light and leave Light for Darkness" (beginning to leave by Waning).

"And the First Companion of Your Name is Silence,
the Second a Popping Sound,
the Third Groaning,
the Fourth Hissing,
the Fifth a Cry of Joy,
the Sixth Moaning,
the Seventh Barking,
the Eighth Bellowing,
the Ninth Neighing,
the Tenth a Musical Sound,
the Eleventh a Sounding Wind,
the Twelfth a Wind-Creating Sound,
the Thirteenth a Coercive Sound,
the Fourteenth a Coercive Emanation from Perfection.

"Ox, Vulture, Bull, Beetle, Falcon, Crab, Dog, Wolf, Serpent, Horse, She-Goat, Asp, Goat, He-Goat, Baboon, Cat, Lion, Leopard, Field-Mouse, Deer, Multi-Form, Virgin, Torch, Lightning, Garland, a Herald's Wand, Child, Key.

"I have said Your Signs and Symbols of Your Name so that You might hear me, because I pray to You,

Mistress of the Whole World. Hear me, You, the Stable
One, the Mighty One! APHEIBOE'O' MINTE'R OCHAO'
PIZEPHYDO'R CHANTHAR CHADE'ROZO MOCHTHION EOT-
NEU PHE'RZON AINDE'S LACHABOO' PITTO' RIPHTHAMER
ZMOMOCHO'LEIE TIE'DRANTEIA OISOZOCHABE'DO'PHRA"
(add the usual). [PGM VII.756-94]

IV. HEALTH AND HEALING

xii. Phylactery for Fever, Phantoms, Daimons, etc.

"I, Abrasax, shall deliver. Abrasax am I! ABRASAX
ABRASICHO'OU, help little Sophia-Priskilla. Get hold
of and do away with what comes to little Sophia-
Priskilla, whether it is a Shivering Fit -- get hold of
it! Whether a Phantom -- get hold of it! Whether a
Daimon -- get hold of it! I, Abrasax, shall deliver.
Abrasax am I! ABRASAX ABRASICHO'OU. Get hold of,
get hold of and do away with... what comes to little
Sophia-Priskilla on This Very Day, whether it is a
Shivering Fit -- do away with it! Whether a Daimon
-- do away with it!" [PGM LXXXIX.1-27]

xiii. Spell for Dog Bite

To be said to the Bite of the Dog: "My Mouth being full
of Blood of a Black Dog, I spitting out the Redness of a
Dog, I come forth from Alkhah [Egyptian `rq-hh
(Alxai), a sacred place at Abydos, the cemetery where
the mummy of Osiris was buried]. O this Dog who is
among the Ten Dogs which belong to Anubis, the Son
of His Body, extract your Venom, remove your Saliva
from me also! If you do not extract your Venom and
remove your Saliva, I shall take you up to the Fore-
Court of the Temple of Osiris, my Watch-Tower. I
will do for you according to the Voice of Isis, the
Magician, the Lady of Magic, who Bewitches every-
thing, who is Never Bewitched in her Name of Isis, the
Magician."

You pound Garlic with Gum, put it on the Wound of the
Dog Bite, and speak to it Daily until it is Well. [PDM
xiv.554-62]

V. CRAFT

xiv. This is the Consecration for All Purposes: Spell
to Helios

"I invoke You, the Greatest God, Eternal Lord, World
Ruler, who are over the World and under the World,
Mighty Ruler of the Sea, rising at Dawn, shining from
the East for the Whole World, setting in the West.
Come to me, Thou who risest from the Four Winds,
benevolent and lucky Agathos Daimon, for whom

Heaven has become the Processional Way. I call upon Your Holy and Great and Hidden Names which You rejoice to hear. The Earth flourished when You shone forth, and the Plants became fruitful when you laughed; the Animals begat their Young when You permitted. Give Glory and Honor and Favor and Fortune and Power to this, NN, Stone which I consecrate today (or to the Phylactery [charm] being consecrated) for [or in relation to] NN. I invoke You, the greatest in Heaven, E'I LANCHYCH AKARE'N BAL MISTHRE'N MARTA MATHATH LAILAM MOUSOUTH SIETHO' BATHABATHI IATMO'N ALEI IABATH ABAO'TH SABAO'TH ADO'NAI, the Great God, ORSENOPHRE' ORGEATE'S TOTHORNATE'SA KRITHI BIO'THI IADMO' IATMO'MI METHIE'I LONCHOO' AKARE' BAL MINTHRE' BANE BAI(N)CHCHYCHCH OUPHRI NOTHEOUSI THRAI ARSIOUTH ERO'NER'THER, the Shining Helios, giving Light throughout the Whole World. You are the Great Serpent, Leader of all the Gods, who control the Beginning of Egypt and the End of the Whole Inhabited World, who mate in the Ocean, PSOI PHNOUTH NINTHE'R. You are He who becomes Visible each Day and Sets in the Northwest of Heaven, and Rises in the Southeast.

In the 1st Hour You have the Form of a Cat; Your Name is PHARAKOUNE'TH. Give Glory and Favor to this Phylactery.

In the 2nd Hour You have the Form of a Dog; Your Name is SOUPHI. Give Strength and Honor to this Phylactery, or to this Stone, and to NN.

In the 3rd Hour You have the Form of a Serpent; Your Name is AMEKRANE'BE'CHEO THO'YTH. Give Honor to the God NN.

In the 4th Hour You have the Form of a Scarab; Your Name is SENTHENIPS. Mightily strengthen this Phylactery in this Night, for the Work for which it is consecrated.

In the 5th Hour You have the Form of a Donkey; Your Name is ENPHANCHOUPH. Give Strength and Courage and Power to the God, NN.

In the 6th Hour You have the Form of a Lion; Your Name is BAI SOLBAI, the Ruler of Time. Give Success to this Phylactery and Glorious Victory.

In the 7th Hour You have the Form of a Goat; Your Name is OUMESTHO'TH. Give Sexual Charm to this Ring (or to this Phylactery, or to this Engraving).

In the 8th Hour You have the Form of a Bull; Your Name is DIATIPHE', who becomes visible everywhere. Let all Things done by the use of this Stone be accomplished.

In the 9th Hour You have the Form of a Falcon; Your Name is PHE'OUS PHO'OUTH, the Lotus Emerged From the Abyss. Give Success and Good Luck to this Phylactery.

In the 10th Hour You have the Form of a Baboon; Your Name is BESBYKI. [Prayer for gift omitted?]

In the 11th Hour You have the Form of an Ibis; Your Name is MOU RO'PH. Protect this great Phylactery for Lucky Use by NN, from this Present Day for All Time.

In the 12th Hour You have the Form of a Crocodile; Your Name is AERTHOE'. [Prayer for gift omitted?]

You who have set at Evening as an Old Man, who are over the World and under the World, Mighty Ruler of the Sea, hear my Voice in this Present Day, in this Night, in these Holy Hours, and let all done by this Stone, or for this Phylactery, be brought to fulfillment, and especially NN matter for which I consecrate It. Please, Lord KME'PH LOUTHEOUTH ORPHOICHE ORTILIBECHOUCH IERCHE ROUM IPERITAO' YAI! I conjure Earth and Heaven and Light and Darkness and the Great God who created All, SAROUSIN, You, Agathon Daimonion the Helper, to accomplish for me everything done by the Use of this Ring or Stone!"

When you complete the Consecration, say, "The one Zeus is Serapis!" [PGM IV.1596-1715]

xv. How to Say the Magical Sounds

the "A" [alpha] with an Open Mouth, undulating like a Wave;
the "O" [omicron] succinctly, as a Breathed Threat;
the "IAO" [iota alpha omega] to Earth, to Air, and to Heaven;
the "E" [eta] like a Baboon; ...
the "E" [epsilon] with Enjoyment, aspirating it;
the "Y" [upsilon] like a Shepherd, drawing out the Pronunciation.

[This description, taken from a longer spell, does not specify the pronunciation of "I" (iota) or "O" (omega).]
[PGM V.24-30]

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

xvi. Bear-Charms which Accomplishes Everything

[The Bear is the constellation Ursa Major, which represents the soul of Typhon.] Formula: "I call upon You the Greatest Power in Heaven, appointed by the Lord God to turn with a Strong Hand the Holy Pole, NIKAROPLEX. Listen to me, Helios, Phre [i.e. Helios-Pre]! Hear the Holy Prayer, You who hold together the

Universe and bring to Life the whole World, THO'ZO-
PITHE' EUCHANDAMA O'CHRIENTHE'R OMNYO'DE'S
CHE'MIOCHYNGE'S IEO'Y" (perform a sacrifice)
"THERMOUTHER PSIPHIRIX PHROSALI KANTHIMEO'
ZANZEMIA O'PER PEROMENE'S RO'THIEU E'NINDEU
KORKOUNTHO EUMEN MENI KE'DEUA KE'PSE'OI" (add the
usual).

Petition to the Sun at Sunset. Formula: "THE'NO'R, O
Helios, SANTHE'NO'R, I beseech You, Lord, may the
Place and Lord of the Bear devote Themselves to me"
(while petitioning, sacrifice Armara [for recipe, see
"Offering", below]. Do it at Sunset).

Charm of Compulsion for the 3rd Day: "ANTEBERO'-
YRTO'R EREMNETHE'CHO'R CHNYCHIROANTO'R MENE-
LEOCHEU E'ESSIPO DO'TE'R EUARE'TO' GOU PI PHYLAKE'
O'MALAMINGOR MANTATONCHA do the NN Thing."

The First Formula in a Different Way: "THO'ZOPITHE',
Bear, Greatest Goddess, Ruling Heaven, Reigning over
the Pole of the Stars, Highest, Beautiful-Shining
Goddess, Incorruptible Element, Composite of the All,
All-Illuminating, Bond of the Universe AEE'IOYO'
(square [probably means arranged in lines forming a
square:

A E E'I O Y O'
E E'I O Y O'A
E'I O Y O'A E
I O Y O'A E E'
O Y O'A E E'I
Y O'A E E'I O
O'A E E'I O Y

]), You who stand on the Pole, you whom the Lord God
appointed to turn the Holy Pole with Strong Hand:
THO'ZOPITHE' (formula)."

Offering for the Procedure: 4 Drams of Frankincense,
4 Drams of Myrrh, 2 Ounces each of Cassia Leaf and of
White Pepper, 1 Dram of BdeUlion, 1 Dram of Asphodel
Seed, 2 Drams each of Amomon, of Saffron, or Tere-
binth Storax, 1 Dram of Wormwood,... of Vetch Plant,
Priestly Egyptian Incense, the Complete Brain of a
Black Ram. Combine these with White Mendesian Wine
[i.e. from city of Mendes in Nile Delta] and Honey, and
make Pellets of Bread.

Phylactery for the Procedure: Wear a Wolf Knuckle-
Bone, mix Juice of Vetch and of Pond-Weed in a
Censer, write in the Middle of the Censer this Name:
"THERMOUTHEREPSIPHIRIPHI PISALI" (24 [Greek]
letters), and in this Way make an Offering. [PGM
IV.1275-1322]

xvii. Powerful Spell of the Bear which Accomplishes

Anything

Take the Fat of a Black Ass, the Fat of a Dappled She-Goat, the Fat of a Black Bull, and Ethiopian Cumin, mix all together and make an Offering to the Bear, having as a Phylactery Hairs from the same Animals which you have plaited into a Cord and are wearing as a Diadem around your Head. Anoint your Lips with the Fats, smear your whole Body with Storax Oil, and make your Petition while holding a Single-Shooted Egyptian Onion. Speak concerning whatever you wish. Gird yourself with a Palm Fiber of a Male Date Palm, kneel down, and speak the following Formula:

"I call upon You, Holy, Very-Powerful, Very-Glorious, Very-Strong, Holy, Autochthons, Assistants of the Great God, the powerful Chief Daimons, You who are Inhabitants of Chaos, of Erebus, of The Abyss, of The Depth, of Earth, Dwelling in the Recesses of Heaven, Lurking in the Nooks and Crannies of Houses, Shrouded in Dark Clouds, Watchers of Things Not To Be Seen, Guardians of Secrets, Leaders of Those in the Underworld, Administrators of the Infinite, Wielding Power over Earth, Earth-Shakers, Foundation-Layers, Servants in the Chasm, Shudderful Fighters, Fearful Ministers, Turning The Spindle, Freezing Snow and Rain, Air-Transversers, Causing Summer Heat, Wind-Bringers, Lords of Fate, Inhabitants of Dark Erebus, Bringers of Compulsion, Sending Flames of Fire, Bringing Snow and Dew, Wind-Releasers, Disturbers of the Deep, Treaders on the Calm Sea, Mighty in Courage, Grievors of the Heart, Powerful Potentates, Cliff-Walkers, Adverse Daimons, Iron-Hearted, Wild-Tempered, Unruly, Guarding Tartaros, Misleading Fate, All-Seeing, All-Hearing, All-Subjecting, Heaven-Walkers, Spirit-Givers, Living Simply, Heaven-Shakers, Gladdening the Heart, Those Who Join Together Death, Revealers of Angels, Punishers of Mortals, Sunless Revealers, Rulers of Daimons, Air-Transversers, Almighty, Holy, Unconquerable AO'TH ABAO'TH BASYM ISAK SABAO'TH IAO' IAKO'P MANARA SKORTOURI MORTROUM EPHRAULA THREERSA; do the NN matter!"

Then write on a Piece of Papyrus the Hundred-Lettered Name of Typhon, curved as a Star, and bind It in the middle of the Core with the Letters showing.

This is the Name [Greek letters]: ACHCHO'R ACHCHO'R ACHACHACHPTOUMI CHACHCHO' CHARACHO'CH CHAPTOUME' CHO'RA CHO'CH APTOUMIME' CHO'CHAPTOU CHARACHPTOU CHACHCHO' CHARA CHO'CH PTENACHO'-CHEOU. [PGM IV.1331-89]

xviii. To Keep Bugs Out of the House

Mix Goat Bile with Water and sprinkle it. [PGM

VII.149-50]

xix. To Keep Fleas Out of the House

Wet Rose-Bay with Salt Water, grind it and spread it.
[PGM VII.150-4]

*** FINIS ***

ECLOGA EX PAPYRIS MAGICIS

a Johanne Opsopoeo

Liber III

* * *

Selections from Magical Papyri
by John Opsopaus
Book III

Introduction

Contents

This is the book of love spells, charms, prayers, rituals etc. from the Greek magical papyri and Demotic spells. They are not suitable for public consumption.

The information in [brackets] following each selection indicates the collection (PGM = Papyri Graecae Magicae, PDM = P. Demoticae M.), the papyrus number and the lines where the spell can be found. The source for these translations is Hans Dieter Betz (ed.), "The Greek Magical Papyri in Translation Including the Demotic Spells," Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1986.

Pronunciation of Magical Names

In general, most of the "voces magicae" (magical names) are written in Old Coptic, which used Greek letters, so you will do best if you think Greek. Thus, Y sounds between English "u" and "y", something like German unlaute "u". Pronounce CH as in German "ach" or Scotch "loch". The symbol E' represents eta, so pronounce like a long "a"; O' represents omega, so pronounce like a long "o". The symbols PH (phi) and TH (theta) probably should be aspirated "p" and "t", but may have been pronounced like English "f" and "th" by the time the papyri were written.

The symbol "NN" in a spell means "fill in the blank," generally with the name of the one on whose behalf the spell is cast (thus, "NN" or "the NN man"), or with the question or problem to which the spell is addressed (thus, "the NN matter").

SPELLS

i. Love Spell

Aphrodite's Name, which becomes known to No One quickly, is NEPHERIE'RI [i.e. Nfr-iry.t, "the beautiful eye", an epithet for Aphrodite/Hathor] -- this is the Name. If you wish to win a Woman who is beautiful, be Pure for 3 days, make an offering of Frankincense, and call this Name over it. You approach the Woman and say it seven times in your Soul as you gaze at her, and in this way it will succeed. But do this for 7 days. [PGM IV.1265-74]

ij. Love Spell Which Acts in the Same Hour

Take a Seashell and write the Holy Names with the Blood of a Black Ass.

Spell: "I adjure you, Shell, by Bitter Necessity, (MASKELLI formula) [i.e., MASKELLI MASKELLO' PHNOUKENTABAO' OREOBZAGRA RHE'XICHTHO'N HIPPOCHTHO'N PYRIPE'GANIX] and by those who have been placed in charge of the Punishments, LAKI LAKIO' LAKIMOU MOUKILA KILAMOU IO'R MOUO'R MOUDRA MAXTHA MOUSATHA: attract her, NN, whom NN bore" (add the usual, whatever). "Do not be stubborn, but attract her, OUCH OUCH CHAUNA MOUHLIMALCHA MANTO'R MOURKANA MOULITHA MALTHALI MOUI E'IE'I YYY AE' AIE' YOO' AE'I AE'I AE'I AO'A AO'A AO'A IAO' O'AI O'AI AIO' O'AI IO'A IAO' O'AI, attract her, NN" (add the usual).

As the Moon waxes in Aries or in Taurus [add the usual, whatever you wish]. [This line may belong to another spell.] [PGM VII.300a-310]

iiij. Love Spell

For Love say while kissing passionately: "I am THAZI N EPIBATHA CHEOUCH CHA I am I am CHARIEMOUTH LAILAM" (add the usual). [PGM VII.405-6]

iv. To Appear in Someone's Dreams

If you wish to appear to Someone at Night in Dreams, say to the Lamp that is in daily use, say frequently: "CHEIAMO'PSEI ERPEBO'TH, let her, NN, whom NN bore, see me in her Dreams, immediately, immediately; quickly, quickly!" (and add the usual, whatever you wish). [PGM VII.407-10]

v. Excellent Love Charm

Inscribe by scratching on a Tin Lamella. Write and lay it down, walking over it. And what is written is this: "I adjure you by the Glorious Name of Bacchios" [i.e., Bacchus] (add the usual, whatever you wish). [PGM VII.459-61]

vi. Excellent Love Charm

Inscribe by scratching on a Tin Lamella the Characters and the Names, and after making it Magically Potent with some Magical Material, roll it up and throw it in the Sea.

The Characters are these: "[omitted]ICHANARMENTHO' CHASAR, cause her, NN, to love me" (add the usual). Write with a Copper Nail from a Shipwrecked Vessel. [PGM VII.462-66]

vij. From "The Diadem of Moses"

Take the Plant Snapdragon and hold it under your Tongue while lying asleep. And rise early and before you speak to Anyone recite the Names, and you will be Invisible to Everyone.

But when you say them over Drinking Cups and give them to a Woman, she will love you, since this Spell has Power over Everything:
"ARESKILLIOUS THOUDALESAI KRAMMASI CHAMMAR MOULABO'TH LAUABAR
CHOUPHAR PHOR PHO'RBAO' SACHI HARBACH MACHIMASO' IAO' SABAO'TH
ADO'NAI."

For what you wish, say: "Get her, NN, for me, NN" (add the usual, whatever you wish). [PGM VII.619-27]

vijj. Cup Spell, Quite Remarkable

Say the Spell that is spoken to the Cup 7 times: "You are Wine; You are not Wine but the Head of Athena. You are Wine; You are not Wine, but the Guts of Osiris, the Guts of IAO' PAKERBE'TH SEMESILAM O'O'O' E' PATACHNA IAAA." (For the spell of compulsion: "ABLANATHANALBA AKRAMMACHAMAREI EEE, who has been stationed over Necessity, IAKOUB IA IAO' SABAO'TH ADO'NAI ABRASAX.").

"At whatever Hour You descend into the Guts of her, NN, let her love me, NN, for all the Time of her Life." [PGM VII.643-51]

ix. Love Spell

In Conversation, while kissing passionately, say: "ANOK THARENEPIBATHA CHEOUCHCHA ANOA ANOK CHARIEMOCHTH LAILAM." [PGM VII.661-63]

x. A Good Potion

Take a piece of Hieratic Papyrus and write on it: "IAO' O' ESTABISASE' TOUREO'SAN ATHIACHIO'OUEN'NOU ACHE'MACHOU. Let her, NN, whom NN bore, love me, NN when she has drunk this Drink. [PGM VII.969-72]

xi. Love Spell of Attraction

Purify yourself from Everything for ... Days and say this Spell at Sunrise: "Helios ... but come here to me, Mistress AKTIO'PHIS ERESCHIGAL PERSEPHONE"; attract to me and bind her, NN, whom NN bore, to the Man who is pining away with Passion for her; at this very moment, inflame her that she fulfill the Nightly Desires of NN, whom NN bore. Aye Lord NETHMOMAO' Helios, enter into the Soul of her, NN, whom NN bore, and burn her Heart, her Guts, her Liver, her Spirit, her Bones. Perform successfully for me this Charm, immediately, immediately; quickly, quickly!" [PGM VII.981-93]

xij. Love Spell

"ARMIOYT SITHANI YTHANI ARIAMYSI SOBRTAT BIRBAT MISIRITHAT AMSIETHARMITHAT, bring NN, whom NN bore, out of her Abodes in which she is, to any House, any Place in which NN, whom NN bore, is while she love him and craves him, she making the Gift of his Heart at every moment!"

You should write this in Myrrh Ink on a Scrap of Clean Byssus and put it in a Clean New Lamp, which is filled with Genuine Oil, in your House from Evening until Dawn. If you find the Hair of the Woman, put it in the Wick! It is good! [PDM xiv.1063-69]

xijj. Love Spell of Attraction

"I adjure You, Evangelos, by Anubis and Hermes and all the Rest Down Below; attract and bind Sarapias whom Helen bore, to this Herais, whom Thermoutharin bore, now, now; quickly, quickly! By her Soul and Heart attract Sarapias herself, whom Helen bore from her own Womb, MAEI OTE ELBO'SATOK ALAOUBE'TO' O'EIO ... AE'N. Attract and bind the Soul and Heart of Sarapias, whom Helen bore, to this Herais, whom Thermoutharin bore from her Womb now, now; quickly, quickly!" [PGM XXXII.1-19]

*** FINIS ***