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BOOK XXII

EDITED BY
IRENE J. F. DE JONG

*Professor of Ancient Greek
University of Amsterdam*



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PREFACE

Some thirty years ago I applied for a grant to write a thesis that would consist of a commentary on *Iliad* 22. I was not awarded the grant and when a rumour started to spread that a team under the supervision of Geoffrey Kirk was preparing a commentary on the whole *Iliad* I turned my attention to another topic, the application of narratology to Homer. Given this history, it was with great joy that I accepted the invitation of the series editors Pat Easterling and Richard Hunter to write a ‘Green and Yellow’ on this very book.

I have focused on two aspects in this commentary: Homer’s language (especially his oral syntax, the meaning of words, and the function of particles) and narrative style (for instance the structure of scenes, the relationship of narrator and characters, and the directing of the narratees’ emotional response). Much important work has been done in the field of the language of the Homeric epics in the last decades. Thus, the invaluable *Lexikon des frühgriechischen Epos* was finally completed in 2010, and this treasure-trove of information deserves to be introduced more fully into English-speaking Homeric scholarship. I feel a special attachment to this formidable instrument because I spent a very pleasant and formative year as stipendiary in Hamburg, working on lemmata like $\theta\acute{\epsilon}\lambda\gamma\omega$ and $\iota\sigma\acute{\omicron}\theta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma$. Our understanding of Greek particles has advanced greatly since the publication of Denniston’s standard text, not least, if some chauvinism is allowed, thanks to the work of Dutch scholars on $\tau\epsilon$, $\pi\epsilon\rho$, $\mu\acute{\eta}\nu$, $\delta\acute{\eta}$, and $\acute{\alpha}\rho\alpha$. Finally, the insight has dawned that we should approach the oral syntax of Homer somewhat differently from that of later, written texts. It is a flow through time rather than a structure on the space of a page, and keeping this principle in mind can help us to appreciate and better understand the construction of his sentences.

Where the literary interpretation of Homer is concerned, a commentator finds herself in a land of plenty: the quantity of excellent scholarship is simply overwhelming. I have tried to summarise what I have read over the last thirty years as clearly and attractively as possible. Of course, I have profited considerably from the work of earlier commentators: Ameis-Hentze, Leaf, Richardson, and the recent Basler Kommentar (though not yet for book 22).

The introductory sections are geared to students and offer no more than a state-of-the-art summary of some central aspects of Homeric scholarship. Bibliographical references should lead the way to more in-depth discussions. Where the commentary is concerned I hope to facilitate and enrich students’ reading of the Homeric text, while at the same time proposing new insights and springboards for new interpretations or research to professional classicists.

In writing this commentary I have been very fortunate in my readers and advisers. In the first place, Pat Easterling and Richard Hunter offered comments on yearly instalments of my draft quickly, cheerfully, and expertly. Where the minutiae of the Homeric language and metre were concerned, I was happy to

be able to consult my former colleague Frits Waanders. Three colleagues and friends read the entire draft: Rutger Allan, Marietje van Erp Taalman Kip, and Sebastiaan van der Mije. They saved me from many errors, and their perceptive questions and constructive remarks helped me to rethink my text at innumerable places. I would also like to thank Elizabeth Upper for polishing my English. I take full responsibility for all remaining infelicities of expression. The cross-references were checked by David van Eijndhoven and (again) Marietje van Erp Taalman Kip. I also owe much gratitude to Dr. Andrew Dyck for his exemplary copy-editing. A grant of the Loeb Classical Library Foundation allowed me to finish the MS in a term without teaching obligations.

A special word of thanks is due to one of my readers. The thesis on *Iliad* 22 that I referred to earlier was designed as a two-person project for Sebastiaan van der Mije and myself. Although that project was never realised and we have never officially worked together, he has read and commented upon draft versions of much of my work in the past thirty years. I have no hesitation in claiming that his acute eye, literary sensibility, and unfailing generosity in sharing his time and ideas with me have greatly contributed to its quality. It is therefore with the greatest pleasure and gratitude that I dedicate this book to him.

Amsterdam
August 2011

I. J. F. d. J.

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>BK</i>	Bierl, A., Latacz, J., eds. <i>Homers Ilias Gesamtkommentar</i> (Basler Kommentar) Latacz, J., Nünlist, R., Stoevesandt, M. 2000. <i>Band I. Erster Gesang</i> , München-Leipzig Brügger, C., Stoevesandt, M., Visser, E. 2003. <i>Band II. Zweiter Gesang</i> , München-Leipzig Krieter-Spiro, M. 2009. <i>Band III. Dritter Gesang</i> , Berlin-New York Stoevesandt, M. 2008. <i>Band IV. Sechster Gesang</i> , Berlin-New York Coray, M. 2009. <i>Band VI. Neunzehnter Gesang</i> , Berlin-New York Brügger, C. 2009. <i>Band VIII. Vierundzwanzigster Gesang</i> , Berlin-New York
<i>DELG</i>	Chantraine, P. 1968. <i>Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue Grecque</i> , Paris
<i>GH</i>	Chantraine, P. 1958–1963. <i>Grammaire Homérique</i> , I-II, 3rd edn, Paris
<i>GP</i>	Denniston, J. P. 1959. <i>The Greek Particles</i> , 2nd edn, Oxford
<i>KG</i>	Kühner, R., Gerth, B. 1898–1904. <i>Ausführliche Grammatik der griechischen Sprache. Zweiter Teil: Satzlehre</i> , I-II, 3rd edn, Hannover-Leipzig
<i>LfgRE</i>	1955–2010. <i>Lexikon des frühgriechischen Epos</i> , Göttingen
<i>LIMC</i>	Ackermann, H. C., Gisler, J. R., eds. 1981–1999. <i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i> , Zürich
<i>scholia</i>	Erbse, H. 1969–88. <i>Scholia Graeca in Homeri Iliadem</i> , Berlin, New York

The following editions of and commentaries on the *Iliad* or *Odyssey* are referred to by name of author(s) only

Ameis-Hentze	Ameis, K. F., Hentze, C. 1922. <i>Homers Ilias für den Schulgebrauch erklärt, Gesang 22–24</i> , 5th edn, Leipzig-Berlin
Edwards	Edwards, M. W. 1991. <i>The Iliad. A Commentary. Vol. V: Books 17–20</i> , Cambridge
Janko	Janko, R. 1992. <i>The Iliad. A Commentary, Vol. IV: Books 13–16</i> , Cambridge
de Jong	de Jong, I. J. F. 2001. <i>A Narratological Commentary on the Odyssey</i> , Cambridge
Kirk	Kirk, G. S. 1985. <i>The Iliad. A Commentary, Vol. I: Books 1–4</i> , Cambridge 1990. <i>The Iliad. A Commentary, Vol. II: Books 5–8</i> , Cambridge
Leaf	Leaf, W. 1900–1902. <i>The Iliad I-II</i> , 2nd edn, London
Macleod	Macleod, C. W. 1982. <i>Homer: Iliad Book xxiv</i> , Cambridge

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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|------------|--|
| Pulleyn | Pulleyn, S. 2000. <i>Homer, Iliad Book One</i> , Oxford |
| Richardson | Richardson, N. J. 1993. <i>The Iliad. A Commentary, Vol. VI: Books 21–24</i> , Cambridge |
| West | West, M. L. 1998, 2000. <i>Homerus Ilias</i> , 1–2, Stuttgart-Leipzig |