

32

1-2 *Trimalchio exeruerat caput*: Smith reads *excluserat caput*: cf. 78.5. NB Maecenas at Sen. *Ep.* 114 *pallio velaretur caput exclusis utrimque auribus*. Significant? (T has *Maecenatianus* as cognomen). T brought in late (bad manners? Apeing imperial practice?). Makes an impression.

1 *symphoniam* (Greek word): musical troupe/orchestra. Music again.

minutissima: adopted by Schmeling and Smith, over H reading *mutissima*; slightly comic aspect of T propped up among a bunch of the tiniest pillows (*cervical, alis* (n) = pillow, cushion).

2 *expressit imprudentibus risum*: “forced a laugh from the unwary” (Smith); presumably E and his companions who aren't regular dinner-guests. *exprimo, ere, expressi*: press out, force, squeeze accusative from person/thing (in abl.). What does this indicate about E's attitudes to T? And what do we think of E? “Here and at places like 33.2 *rem omnium delicatissimam* it is difficult to tell whether P. is allowing E. to show his lack of experience in dining out, or stressing the inelegance of T.'s table, or both. E. is not totally critical of T.'s pretensions.” (Schmeling ad loc.).

coccineo: cf 28.4; effeminate?

adrasum...caput: close-cropped here, going bald (27.1); Schmeling wonders if he is a jester at his own banquet.

laticlaviam: with a broad purple stripe (as tunics worn by senatorial class); senatorial. Martial 4.46.17 also gives an example of a this on a napkin (*mappa, ae* (f) = napkin). What impression is Trimalchio trying to give? Any evocation of Hor. *Sat.* 1.5.34-6 (magistrate at Fundi, now a provincial praetor and wearing the purple)?

immiserat: immitto, ere: here “put on, wrap around”.

fimbriis: fimbriae, fimbriarum (f pl) fringe, tassels. Nb Caesar wore a toga with fringed sleeves (Suet. *Iul.* 43.3).

3 T's jewellery (big gold-plated ring, small solid gold ring studded with iron stars, gold and ivory bracelets). T's ring on smallest finger of left hand = gilt (can't wear gold: for equites and senators). Hoping for what impression? Suggestive of high status? Cf. 71.9 (tomb statue: 5 gold rings).

ferreis veluti stellis ferruminatum: “ornamented with iron stars soldered to it” (Schmeling ad loc.)

4 *lacertum armilla aurea cultum et eboreo circulo lamina ... conexo*: “his right arm adorned with a gold armlet and with an ivory band fastened by a shining metal plate” (Schmeling, who says it may or may not be the *armilla* mentioned at 67.7); feminine or royal Eastern dress?

33

1 *pinna argentea: pinna* usually “feather”; toothpicks usually of wood but could be e.g metal. Silver for T...

dentes perfodit: “picked his teeth”

suave erat – impersonal construction.

sed ne diutius: see Smith ad loc for textual problems.

absens: Smith reads *absentivus* (only here; probably = *absens*).

morae vobis: double dative: as a delay for you.

2 *permittis*: present used for future. Alternative for imperative. The verb *permittere* here takes accusative plus infinitive (late development).

lusum: games probably *ludus duodecim scriptorum* (bit like backgammon). Dice thrown to determine the moves. One of 4 games played by T. (see Horsfall, N. 1989. ‘The uses of literacy and the *Cena Trimalchionis*’, *Greece and Rome* 36.1, 74-89, on p83f.).

tabula terebintha: “a table of terebinth wood” (hard, dark, expensive wood).

et crystallinis tesseris: the dice are made of (crystal) glass, instead of rock crystal.

rem ...delicatissimam: “absolute refinement” (Schmeling); cf. previous reference to him as *lautissimus*. Encolpius admiring?

pro calculis: “counters”.

aureos... denarios: Schmeling says subject of *habebat* is the *puer* or we would see as early instance

of impersonal *habet* with accusative.

omnium ...dicta: textorum corrupt? "All the expressions of weavers": why associate weavers with bad language? Various conjecture. See Smith.

repositorium: "tray". Apparently a second *gustatio*; eggs do feature in the *gustatio*.

4-5 see Smith for peacock and eggs as delicacies but not rare. T using imitation peahen/eggs (where delicacies figpeckers inside coated with egg-yolk, vitellum). Encolpius fooled by trick (until hitting what turns out to be pastry with spoon). Other pastries: see Smith ad loc. Other disguised foods: cf. e.g. 60.4; 69.8-9. Something Roman cooks did. "Even the core of this recipe for masquerade is defined by what it has eaten: the bird is obese (*pinguissima*) from pecking figs, just as Trimalchio, we imagine, is puffed up (*plenus*) in pulling off this highly sophisticated stunt. This is much more than just an egg, in more ways than one: there is no getting around, or outside it, for the whole world, says Trimalchio, is an ovum, containing a universe of blessings within her shell (*terra mater est in medio quasi ovum corrotundata, et omnia bona in se habet tamquam favus*/ 'mother earth lies in the centre of the universe, as round as an egg, holding all her blessings inside her like a honeycomb'" (Rimell 2002:40)

5 *scaenam*: "scene, tableau" (Smith); a dinner-theatre; Smith labels T. a theatre-producer.

sunt: ok to have indicative as here in indirect question.

6 *cochlearia*: "spoons"; with point at one end (for snails) and little cup on other (for eggs); note unusual weight here (showing off).

ovaque... pertundimus: E. beats eggs moulded of rich (probably of flour and oil) pastry.

7 E almost threw away but tipped off by a regular guest: what does that suggest about him?

8 *persecutus manu*: "I went over the shell with my hand" (Smith).

vitello "yolk of egg" (Smith); appropriate given hen. Fig-pecker= delicacy.

34

1 *eadem omnia*: i.e. T wants all the same things guests had and he missed while playing the game. Trimalchio had delayed joining: rude?

feceratque potestam: here in sense of "give permission".

quis = aliquis.

mulsum: *mulsum*, *mulsi* (n)-: properly meal, honeyed wine (could be expensive); seems same as *promulsis* (= *gustatio*), during which this drink is served. Guests could help themselves to appetizers more than once. Of course, E. not expecting the extent of food he will get.

symphonia ...: music again; tasks done to music cf. 47.8. Reference to "chorus" of servants evokes idea of play.

paropsis, paropsidis (f): side-dish (word taken from Greek). Here falls (slaves carried trays on their heads). Why does T. get him to throw it again? Shows disposable wealth (silver)? Other things left e.g. balls (27).

colaphis: from *colaphus*, *i* (m)- punch, slap (word from Greek).

3 *lecticarius*: ("litter-bearer") (E. could recognize the slave from the one carrying T. earlier). Smith reads *supellecticarius*, *ii* (m) "slave in charge of dishes and furnishings" (Smith).

purgamenta, orum (n pl) - filth, trash.

scopis: scopae, arum (f pl) – broom. This job would usually be done by the *scoparius*; perhaps in T's household, as elsewhere, slaves did different kinds of jobs.

verrere – sweep out; *everrere* has been conjectured.

4 *Aethiopes capillati*:: "long-haired Ethiopian boys" (Smith, who suggests it was meant to sound incongruous; but seems Ethiopians could have long hair; Courtney suggests T. uses long-haired pages common in Roman households with blackened faces).

utribus: uter, utris (m)- bag, skin.

quales: a relative adjective "which sort", ref = *utres*; subject of *solent*.

Cleansing of floor: whilst dirty, manner suggestive of theatre/ spectacle.

harenam: harena - sand (was used as floor of gladiatorial show > arena).

vinum: previously guests had hands washed in water. Why wine? Show of expense? Does it make

sense? No water in poor taste?

dedere = *dederunt* (form of 3rd perfect plural active indicative).

in manus: plus accusative here to indicate purpose, rather than dative.

5 *elegantias*: how do we read this?

aequum... amat: *aequum* used substantively “fairness, equality”; alludes to idea that war is an equalizer: see the expression *aequo Marte pugnare* (Mars is impartial).

obiter facient: “incidentally even those stinking slaves won't make us so hot by crowding round” (Smith); contrast 70.10-12 (inconsistent in declared attitudes, though in practice does not harm any, probably due to his servile past); *putidus, a, um* = stinking, rotten (kitchen smells? Sweat?). Note previous derogatory reference to slaves. T. doesn't seem concerned by arrangement on grounds of having best entertainment for guests.

6 wine : really Opimian wine from 121BC (when Opimius was consul)? (and was T tricked by wine-seller into thinking old? Or trying to impress?). Plin *NH* 14.55 talks of this wine as curiosity and used to give body to younger wines. Schmeling comments ad loc: “By T's date... Opimianus was merely a generic description of a fine vintage (Martial 3.82.24 and *passim*)”. For discussion, see Bicknell, P. 1968. 'Opimian Bitters or “Opimian” Wine' *AJP* 89: 347-9 (arguing fraud which Encolpius and Ascyltus spot). Courtney 2001:84 notes that T later claims he never buys wines but produces all he serves on his own estate (48.2). Nb Romans drank through meal, unlike Greeks, and wine-drinking throughout the *Cena* (cf. 41.12 drunkenness; 65.8 T asks for bigger cup); wine mixed/poured for each non-slave (slaves get pre-mixed wine and water, 64.13).

vitreae: *vitreus, a, um* = glass (BUT glass not used commercially for wine export in this period)

diligenter gypsatae: “carefully sealed with gypsum” (Schmeling); *gypsatus, a, um*: covered/sealed with gypsum (sort of white plaster; usually sealed with pitch). Encolpius focuses on (and draws our attention to): seems to suspect.

pittacia: *pittacium. ii* = small bit of cloth, label (word from Greek). As E. probably knows, labels would give type of wine and name of consuls when bottled. Wine from Opimianus' consulship wouldn't have had label with provenance, like *Falernum*.

7 *complosit...manus*: clapping hands a trick of the stage according to Quinilian; see Panyotakis, C. 1995. *Theatrum Arbitri*: Theatrical Elements in Petronius' *Cena Trimalchionis* 1995: 40 for this as a gesture from mime.

eheu- “alas!”

homuncio, ionis (m) – wretched man.

tangomenas faciamus: mysterious, repeated once more; “let's drink our fill”? First word may be from Greek for soak, Fits first line of a hexameter so may be a quotation; probably a proverb (nb repeated 73.6).

vita vinum est: may be relevant that there was a Greek wine called “life”. Thought linking wine-drinking and living common: found e.g. on inscriptions (cf. CLE 243 “While I lived, I enjoyed drinking; drink up, you who are alive”).

heri...: appears that T varies wine according to quality of guests (practice criticized at e.g. Plin. *Ep.* 2.6 and Juv. 5.24ff). T keeps getting it wrong, esp. by letting current guests know they are less respectable. T. implies he often entertains aristocrats like Scaurus (77.5) and Pansa (47.2)

8: *lautitias*: cf. 26.9; recurring word. *mirantibus*: various expressions of wonder/admiration through the dinner.

A slave brings out a silver skeleton (>*carpe diem* idea): see Smith for parallels. Death/time obsession.

sic aptatam: “made so that its joints and backbone could be moved freely and turned in every direction” (Smith).

luxatae: reading adopted by Smith (textual problem); *laxatae* adopted by Schmeling (“being loosely fitted”).

9 *super mensam*: a reference to the table in the centre of the dining room.

catenatio “mechanism” or “system of joints” (Schmeling) > hence different poses of skeleton.

10 epigram consisting of 2 hexameters and a pentameter (a common pattern for epitaphs): not very

good but probably organized in advance as part of performance; 41.6 for more of T's poetry.

auferet: we should expect *abstulerit*.

Orcus: according to Schmeling here the death-demon of native tradition who carried people away to death.

esse bene: "enjoy ourselves" (Smith); pun on *esse* (infin also of *edo*, "eat")? "In the *Satyricon*, everything lives and breathes, and the entire text grows out of the mischievous Latin pun of eating as being (*est* = he eats/he is)." (Rimell 2002: 9).

35

1 "praise that followed the recitation" (Schmeling): praise cf. 34.5; 39.6; 41.8; 48.7; 52.8. Cf. funeral praise?

1-2: First course (2nd: 40.3; 3rd: 49.1; 4th: 59.6). Circular tray (with lid) with different food symbolizing the 12 zodiac signs in 12 sections. Cf. 39.5ff (food corresponds to kind of person born under the sign or things associated with it). Is the motif of link of Zodiac with death found on sarcophagi relevant? There are some examples of Zodiac dishes (cf. Smith) so the novelty mentioned by Encolpius may be an example of his own interpretative fallibility. Fairly everyday food. On the course/riddle and textual problems, see Rose and Sullivan 1968, 'Trimalchio's Zodiac Dish (Petronius, Sat. 35. 1-5)', *CQ* 18.1: 180-184 (e.g. on food being edible, deliberately insipid and in natural state).

"Similarly the compelling zodiac dish at *Sat...* presents a world on a plate, each personality-food digested in the communal gut representing the free flow of social interaction in Trimalchio's dining room cosmos" (Rimell 2002: 40f.).

Trimalchio likes astrology > chef pleasing him through astrological dish. T explains. "The characterisation of Trimalchio as astrologer may owe something to the themes of the popular stage; several literary mimes are named after the signs of the Zodiac" (Walsh 1970: 26) (see e.g. Laberius' mimes: *Aries*, *Cancer*, *Gemelli*, *Taurus*, *Virgo*).

signa: signs (on circumference).

structor: whose job was to arrange dishes and carve meat.

3 *super...* *Arietinum*: "over Ares, chickpeas shaped like a ram's head" (Schmeling).

super ... frustrum: "over Taurus a slice of beef" (Schmeling).

super geminos ... rienes: "over Gemini testicles and kidneys" (Schmeling): link is the idea of things in twos. As Smith notes, *gemini* could be used in sense "testicles".

super cancrum coronam: "over Cancer a chaplet" (Schmeling). cf. 39.8. In astrology when cancer is rising, Corona is setting and vice versa.

super ... ficum: "over Leo, an African fig" (Schmeling). Lions and figs= from Africa; sun enters Leo on 23rd July, hottest time of year when early figs ripen.

4 *super steriliculam*: "over Virgo the womb of a barren sow" (Schmeling).

scriblita: cake like, with cheese; eaten hot.

placenta: "honey cheese cake". Connection to Libra through scales supporting the dishes.

super Scorpionem...: textual issues over what is over Scorpio? A little fish? (some fish resemble the scorio).

super sagittarium oclonetam: raven? Crow? (pecking at eye).

super capricornum locustam marinam: "over capricorn a lobster" (Schmeling).

5 *super aquarium anserem*: "over Aquarius a goose" (Schmeling); goose= aquatic bird.

super pisces duos mullos: "over Pisces two mullets" (Schmeling).

6-7: see Smith's discussion of textual issues.

6 *clibano*: "portable silver oven"; nb hot food and expense.

de Laserpiciario mimo: this mime (*The Silphium-Gatherer*) unknown to us; mime/spectacle motif.

7 *tristiores*: "with rather sour faces" (Schmeling).

viles: see Rose/Sullivan 1968: p183 (some delicacies; E's sneering; dish removed and surprise course- with sauces etc); Schmeling comments ad loc: "This course is prepared more to enhance T.'s reputation as a mathematicus than to appeal to his guests' tastes. Such an interpretation (*pace* Smith

1975) is confirmed by T. at 39.3 *me putatis illa cena contentum, quam in theca repositorii videratis?*”.

ius cinae: pun: “this is the sauce of the dinner”/ “this is the rule of the feast” (Schmeling).

36

1 *haec ut dixit...*: then the top part of the tray lifted by 4 slaves (because so heavy or idea of four slaves lifting to reveal 4 figurines?), with food beneath (poultry, pork, hare).

tripudiantes: “moved rhythmically” (used of lively ritualistic three-step dancing).

2 *scilicet in altero ferculo*: Smith has in square brackets (suggests probably an explanatory gloss).

altitia: “birds fattened for the table” (Schmeling); penned birds would have been fattened up.

sumina: ‘sows’s udders” (Smith): a delicacy, eaten boiled or stuffed.

leporemque: hare (a delicacy); hares raised in warrens or fattened in cages.

3 *Marsyas*: “figurines of Marsyas”, with wineskins (*utriculis*) over shoulder, from which sauce flows. Presumably forming a square within the circular tray; perhaps there is a square compartment with the fish separated from the meat. *Marsyas*= a mythological Satyr who lost to Apollo after challenging him in a music contest and was thus flayed alive.

garum: sauce from fish entrails/ flesh and brine (varying levels of expense).

euripo: i.e. here channel around the tray rim (*Euripus* was the strait separating *Euboea* from *Boeotia*).

4 *plausum*: cueing applause: stage-managing show. Motif of praise.

5 *methodio* : “piece of ingenuity/surprise/trick”. Only found here.

6 *scissor*: “carver” (but balletic actions, to music!). This is also found as a gladiatorial name (CIL ix.466), which may be relevant.

essedarium: “chariot-fighter” (Smith): a gladiator who fights from a Gallic or British two-wheeled chariot (cf. 45.7 for a reference to a female chariot-fighter).

hydraule cantante: “accompanied by a water-organist” (Schmeling). Question of whether this specifically looks to Nero whom T may be apeing or just reflecting popularity of the instrument.

7 *nihilo minus*: nonetheless.

T orders slave “Carver” to cut the meat (poor pun on verb *carpo*: imperative/vocative; slave presumably named to allow the joke); E needs to have pun explained at 8 despite suspecting wit (what of his interpretative capacity?). Cf. Sen. *Ep.* 47.6 *infelix, qui huic uni re vivit, ut altitia decenter secet*.

eum... accumbibat: we learn later (57.1; 59.1)= *Hermeros*. Not unusual for guests not to know each other or not been introduced.

8 *eiusmodi*- of that type. Clearly some of the diners are regular guests and T’s tricks can be reused.

ludos: suggestive of theatrical spectacle.

obsonium, ii (n): word from Greek.

quotienscumque (adv): as often as.

37

in 37 and 38 *Hermeros* explains who the woman is (*Fortunata*, self-made woman/businesswoman who comes in for his approval; cf. 67.2) and talks about some freedmen (i.e. freedman interpreting freedmen); conversations of freedmen continue at 41.10ff. nb freedmen’s value on money (often first thing mentioned); nb 12 freedmen given info on in the *Cena* but outside the episode there is little interest in such class-distinctions and no character is clearly defined as a former slave. nb ex-slave language (clipped sentences); Graecisms to be expected at a diner-party in *Puteoli*.

1 bad pun dampens E’s appetite (exag). “By the time *Carpus* arrives to serve the first main course, *Encolpius* is not able to taste anything more (37.1). Thus, he almost breaks the “law” of the feast, which is simply to eat, as *Trimalchio* makes clear in his pun on *ius* (“law” and “sauce,” 35.7)” (Star 2012. *The empire of the self : Self-command and political speech in Seneca and Petronius*, 110)

2 *Fortunata*: Latin name; lucky name (cf. 60.8).

quae nummos modio metitur: “who measures her money by the bushel” (Schmeling); a proverbial

expression for possession of great wealth (Smith). Note Hermeros' value judgements based on wealth. See Bodel, J. 2002. 'Omnia in nummis: Money and the Monetary Economy in Petronius' in G. Urso ed. *Moneta, mercanti, banchieri*, 270-82.

3 *modo modo*: "just a little while ago" (Smith); colloquial.

ignoscet mihi genius tuus: "you will pardon me, good sir" (Schmeling); future (polite, instead of imperative); *genius*= male's individual deity; Smith claims by P's day sign of servile origin to refer to this. In Sat., appears in freedmen context (53.3; 57.10; 62.14; 74.14; 75.2).

4 *nec quid nec quare, in caelum abiit*: "who knows how or why, but she is on top of the world" (Schmeling); lack of verb colloquial.

Trimalchionis topanta est: "she's Trimalchio's one and only" (Smith); lowly language of freedmen.

5 *ad summam*: "in short" (Smith). Hermeros begins sentences with this also at 10; 38.2; 57.3; 57.9; 58.8.

mero.... credet: proverbial.

6 *nescit quod habeat, adeo saplutus est*: "T. is portrayed as casual about his estate and his money: 37.9, most of his slaves have never seen him; 48.2 an estate (between Tarracina and Tarentum) never seen; 53.5 does not know that he owns the *horti Pompeiani*. This description of nonchalance runs counter to the description of him at other places; 29.4 a *dispensator*; 39.8 *multis pedibus sto*; 75.9 *bene emo, bene vendo*, 76.6 he remembers exactly what good he loaded on ship and how he financed it" (Schmeling ad loc).

saplutus: "exceedingly rich"; only found here, from the Greek.

lupatris: *lupatria* read by Smith "vixen" or "lynx" (Schmeling); only here. Hermeros is in the process of praising Fortunata here (*tamen* next clause marks shift).

est sicca, sobria: "thrifty and sound" (Schmeling).

tantum ...: question of whether this refers to Fortunata herself (you see as much gold as she weighs) or the wealth she has helped keep an eye on.

malae linguae: "she has a rough tongue" (Schmeling).

pica pulvinaris: Smith suggests "a magpie on the couch". Fortunata acquisitive and talkative like a magpie.

quem ...amat: Schmeling comments on the colloquial repetition and proverbial quality.

8 *quantum milvi volant*: proverbial expression for a great area or distance. Kites proverbial for being able to fly great distances. "Trimalchio, a freedman who immediately ceased to trade after amassing a fortune, who invests in land and henceforth talks and acts like a caricature of a Roman senator." (D'Arms, J. H. 1981. *Commerce and Social Standing in Ancient Rome*, 15).

nummorum nummos: see Smith for Greek flavour. Semitic flavour? Cash in coin connected with stability and authority> hence popular with the freedmen.

argenti: T collects silverware (28.8; 35.6; 52.1; cf 67.2).

babae babae: expression of surprise, from the Greek: cf. 40.1 *sophos*; 67.7 *pax*. Adams (*Bilingualism and the Latin Language* 2003) comments that H's Latin would have suggested a Greek or bilingual background (37.9 *babae babae*; 58.2 *io*; 58.3 *euge, deuro de*; cf. Greek borrowings: *topanta* 37.4, 37.6 *saplutus*, 37.0 *babaecalis*, 58.7 *Athana*).

non ... noverit: at 47.12 we learn T. has at least 40 *decuriae* of slaves.

10 *in rutae folium coniciet*: lit. "beat up along with a leaf of rue" (Smith); possibly idea of throwing into a small space or corner (rue leaf small); expression repeated 58.5.