

PLAUTUS

TRUCULENTUS
TRAVELLING BAG
FRAGMENTS



Translated by
PAUL NIXON

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PLAUTUS

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY





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THE GREEK ORIGINALS AND DATES OF THE PLAYS IN THE FIFTH VOLUME

The Stichus was adapted from Menander's 'Aδελφοί, a second 'Aδελφοί, and was presented at Rome in A.D. 200. The date of presentation of its original is less certain. The combined facts that the brothers had been able to enjoy three years of apparently peaceful trading in Asia, that the people of Ambracia had envoys visiting Athens, that Pinacium intends to make things unpleasant for any "king" who blocks his path and expects such an impressive welcome from his mistress, lead Hueffner to believe that the 'Aδελφοί was produced in 306 B.C. when Demetrius Poliorcetes wintered at Athens with much pomp and circumstance.

References in the *Trinummus* to Asian trade and war,⁶ and to busybodies knowing quid in aurem rex reginae dixerit ⁷ cause Hueffner ⁸ to assign its Greek original, Philemon's Θησαυρός, to the period when this same Demetrius Poliorcetes ruled in Athens, 292–287 B.C. The *Trinummus* itself seems to have been produced no earlier than 194 B.C.

- ¹ Stich. 402-405.
- 8 Stich. 287.
- ⁵ Hueffner, 46.
- 7 Trin. 207.

- ² Stich. 490-491.
- 4 Stich. 290-291.
 - ⁶ Trin. 598-599.
- 8 Hueffner, 61.

THE GREEK ORIGINALS

The original of the *Truculentus* is unknown. Stratophanes' statement that he overthrew Syria, together with Diniarchus' allusion to going to Lemnos cum publico imperio 2 make it likely that that original was produced in Athens between 299 and 297 B.C.³ The *Truculentus* was written toward the end of Plautus' life and probably was presented at Rome about 186 B.C.

¹ Truc. 530-532. ² Truc. 91-92. Huefiner, 33.

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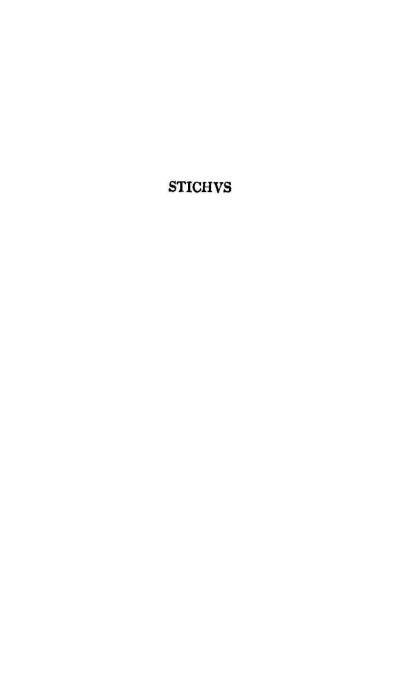
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STICHUS

GRAECA ADELPHOE MENANDRU

ACTA LUDIS PLEBEIS
CN. BAEBIO C. TERENTIO AED. PL.

T. PUBLILIUS PELLIO
MARCIPOR OPPII
TIBIIS SARRANIS TOTAM
C. SULPICIO C. AURELIO COS.

STICHUS

FROM THE GREEK PLAY OF MENANDER, THE BROTHERS.

ACTED AT THE PLEBEIAN GAMES IN THE PLEBEIAN AEDILESHIP OF GNAEUS BAEBIUS AND GAIUS TERENTIUS.

PRODUCED BY TITUS PUBLILIUS PELLIO.

MUSIC, ON TYRIAN FLUTES THROUGHOUT, BY OPPIUS' MARCIPOR.

GAIUS SULPICIUS AND GAIUS AURELIUS, CONSULS.

ARGVMENTVM I

Duas sorores simul in matrimonium duo fratres ducunt. post re confracta duo rem quaerunt peregre, qui paupertatem levent. ibi absunt peregrinantes per triennium. sorores nolunt prodere absentes viros. pater castigat propter eam rem filias; sed ei persuadent, aliis ne se conlocet. reveniunt opibus aucti ad uxores viri; facete reduces ludunt. potant servuli.

ARGVMENTVM II

Senex castigat filias, quod eae viros

Tam perseverent peregrinantis pauperes

Ita sustinere tratres neque relinquere;

Contraque verbis delenitur commodis,

Habere ut sineret quos semel nactae forent.

Viri reveniunt opibus aucti trans mare;

Suam quisque retinet, ac Sticho ludus datur.

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ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY (I)

Two brothers marry two sisters at the same time. Later, having lost their money, the brothers go abroad to recoup these losses that have left them poor. And abroad they stay for three long years. The sisters will not hear of giving up their absent husbands. This leads their father to upbraid them; but they persuade him not to marry them to other men. Home come the husbands to their wives at last, affluent again; and a lively time the homecomers have. The slaves carouse.

ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY (II)

An old gentleman upbraids his daughters for standing by their husbands through thick and thin and refusing to give them up, two impoverished brothers then abroad. The girls, however, find the proper words to appease him and are permitted to keep the mates they already have. Their husbands, affluent again, return from across the sea. They have their wives secure, and Stichus is allowed to celebrate.

PERSONAE

PANEGYRIS VXOR EPIGNOMI
SOROR VXOR PAMPHILIPPI
ANTIPHO SENEX
GELASIMVS PARASITVS
CROCOTIVM ANCILLA
PINACIVM PVER
EPIGNOMVS
PAMPHILIPPVS
STICHVS
SANGARINVS
SERVI
STEPHANIVM ANCILLA

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Panegyris, wife of Epignomus.

Sister of Panegyris, and wife of Pamphilippus.

Antipho, their father, an old gentleman of Athens.

Gelasimus, a parasite.

Crocotium, maid to Panegyris.

Pinacium, slave boy of Panegyris.

Epignomus

Pamphilippus

brothers, young Athenians.

Stichus, slave of Epignomus.

Sangarinus, slave of Pamphilippus.

Stephanium, maid to Pamphilippus' wife.

ACTVS I

Pan.

Credo ego miseram fuisse Penelopam, soror, suo ex animo, quae tam diu vidua viro suo caruit; nam nos eius animum de nostris factis noscimus, quarum viri hinc apsunt, quorumque nos negotiis apsentum, ita ut aequom est, sollicitae noctes et dies, soror, sumus semper.

Sor.

Nostrum officium
nos facere aequomst,
neque id magis facimus
quam nos monet pietas.
sed hic, soror, asside dum: multa volo tecum
loqui de re viri.

Pan.

Salvene, amabo?

10

Sor.

Spero quidem et volo; sed hoc, soror, crucior, patrem tuom meumque adeo, unice qui unus ¹ civibus ex omnibus probus perhibetur, eum nunc improbi viri officio uti, viris qui tantas apsentibus nostris facit iniurias immerito nosque ab eis abducere volt.

1 Corrupt (Leo)

Scene:—Athens. A street in which stand the houses of Epignomus, Pamphilippus and Antipho.

ACT I

ENTER Panegyris and her sister into doorway of Panegyris' house. They look down the street, disappointedly.

(querulously) Ah, Penelope must have felt dreary, sister, living alone without her husband all that time. We know what her feelings were, all right, from what's happened to us, with our husbands gone, and we for ever anxious about their affairs while they're away—and so we should be, sister—day and night.

(resolutely) We should do our duty, and what we do is no more than our loyalty dictates. (drawing her to a couch within the wide open doors) But do come

and sit down here, dear. There's lots I want to talk over with you—it's this husband matter.

ster.

ster

(as they seat themselves) Mercy! All's well, isn't it? I certainly hope so and wish so. But here's what torments me, sister—to have your father, yes, and mine, who's held to be the one outstanding man of high principles in this whole city, to have him, him, act like an unprincipled scoundrel now in doing our absent husbands such dreadful, undeserved injustice and wanting to take us away

TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

haec res vitae me, soror, saturant, haec mihi dividiae et senio sunt. Pan. Ne lacruma, soror, neu tuo id animo 20 fac quod tibi tuos pater facere minatur: spes est eum melius facturum. novi ego illum: ioculo istaec dicit, neque ille sibi mereat Persarum montis, qui esse aurei perhibentur, ut istuc faciat quod tu metuis. tamen si faciat, minime irasci decet, neque id immerito eveniet. nam viri nostri domo ut abierunt, hic tertius annus. 30 Sor. Ita ut memoras. Pan. Quom ipsi interea vivant, valeant, ubi sint, quid agant, ecquid agant, neque participant nos, neque redeunt. An id doles, soror, quia illi suom officium Sor. non colunt, quom tu tuom facis? Pan. Ita pol.

Sor.
Pan.

Pan. Sor. Nam quid iam?

Quia pol meo animo omnis sapientis
suom officium aequom est colere et facere.
quam ob rem ego te hoc, soror, tametsi es maior,
moneo, ut tuom memineris officium:
etsi illi improbi sint atque aliter
nobis faciant quam aequomst, tam pol
ne quid magi' sit, omnibus obnixe opibus
nostrum officium meminisse decet.

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Tace sis, cave sis audiam ego istuc

posthac ex te.

TO

¹ magi' sit Lindsay, sit A: magis simus (Leo), lacuna noted.