

Princeton/Stanford Working Papers in Classics

A Narrator of Wisdom.
Characterization through *gnomai* in Achilles Tatius.

Version 1.0

March 2007

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Abstract: This paper contributes to the study of characterization in Achilles Tatius by offering an analysis of the many *gnomai* or “wisdom sayings” in this ancient Greek novel. After having illustrated the importance of *gnomai* in literary characterization with some examples from the text, I argue that a close reading of the *gnomai* in Clitophon’s narrator text and character text raises questions about Clitophon’s reliability as a narrator. Whereas Clitophon uses *gnomai* to portray himself as an expert in erotic affairs before his narratee in Sidon, the *gnomai* used by the protagonist and other characters *within* the story suggest that, as a character in his own story, Clitophon does not assume the authoritative position that he claims to have in this field.

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A Narrator of Wisdom. Characterization through *gnomai* in Achilles Tatius.

It is commonly known that Achilles Tatius' *Leucippe and Clitophon* is set apart from the other ancient Greek novels by its narrative technique. It is the only Greek novel in which the story is narrated by the protagonist himself¹. The novel's prologue is set in Sidon, where the primary narrator meets a young man and invites him to tell his story. This man turns out to be none else than Clitophon, the hero of the novel. Once Clitophon starts the narration of his story (1.3.1), the primary narrator does not intervene anymore, and the frame narrative in Sidon is never resumed.

Regarding the characterization of Clitophon as the story's protagonist and narrator, the homodiegetic narrative technique involves a particular problem. There is no omniscient narrator who can characterize his protagonist in a more or less "objective" way. Everything that the reader knows about Clitophon, is told to him by Clitophon himself. Simultaneously, however, since Clitophon's narration is the reader's only source about the story, Clitophon's characterization is crucial for our reading of the novel itself. Adopting the narratological distinction between author (Achilles Tatius) and narrator (Clitophon), some scholars have suggested that the author takes a critical and ironical stance towards his narrator/protagonist. T. Hägg, for example, suggests that the novel's ironic tone "is a consequence of the author's ironic distance from his narrator hero"². Along the same lines, J. Morgan surveys a number of passages where the narrator is made "an object of the novel's irony" by a so-called "hidden author"³, and concludes that "Kleitophon's voiced perceptions often do not coincide with those of the careful reader"⁴. Following W. Booth's definition of the "unreliable narrator", Morgan aligns Clitophon with unreliable narrators as Petronius' Encolpius or Apuleius' Lucius, and explicitly labels this connection as a fruitful area for further research⁵.

In this article, I want to offer some further stepstones towards mapping Clitophon's characterization, both as a narrator and as a character. I therefore adopt a specific angle of attack: I examine what the many *gnomai* or "wisdom sayings" in the novel tell us about Clitophon's character⁶.

Reading gnomai

In narrative literature, *gnomai* are relevant to characterization in two ways. Firstly, a *gnomê* itself can explicitly deal with a characteristic of a character. In Chariton's novel *Callirhoe*, for example, the primary narrator uses the *gnomê* "εὐεξαπάτητον γὰρ ἄνθρωπος δυστυχῶν" (7.1.5) to explain why Chaereas instantly believes the bad news brought to him by Dionysius' accomplice. Secondly, and more importantly for my present purpose, a *gnomê* is an implicit index of the character of the person who uses it in his/her speech. As Aristotle suggests in his

¹ On the uniqueness of this homodiegetic narration in the novelistic corpus, cf., among others, Reardon (1994).

² Hägg (1983: 53-4).

³ Morgan (2004: 500). Cf. also Morgan (2003: 172).

⁴ Morgan (1996: 180).

⁵ "A similar approach to Achilles Tatius needs to be developed", Morgan (2004: 500 n. 21). Cf. already Brethes (2001: 191) for a brief mention of the similarity between Clitophon and Encolpius.

⁶ I follow Morales' (2000: 72) definition of *gnomai/sententiae*: "'General principles' which do not require specific circumstances. [...] They are usually statements which claim to be universal and eternal, [...] by appearing independent of any specific context."

Rhetoric, the use of *gnomai* makes speech “ἠθικός” (“ἠθικούς ... ποιεῖ τοὺς λόγους”) because it reveals the moral disposition (προαίρεσις) of the speaker:

αἱ δὲ γνῶμαι πᾶσαι τοῦτο [i.e. ἦθος] ποιούσιν διὰ τὸ ἀποφαίνεσθαι τὸν τὴν γνώμην λέγοντα καθόλου περὶ τῶν προαιρέσεων, ὥστε, ἂν χρησταὶ ὦσιν αἱ γνῶμαι, καὶ χρηστοθήη φαίνεσθαι ποιούσι τὸν λέγοντα. Arist. *Rh.* 1395b.16.

Let me first briefly explain the general background against which I undertake the analysis of Clitophon’s *gnomai*. Therefore, I turn towards ancient rhetorical theory. The construction of *gnomai* was one of the so-called *progymnasmata*, preliminary rhetorical school exercises in writing and composition. These *progymnasmata*, discussed by, among others, Aelius Theon, Ps.-Hermogenes, Aphthonius and Nicolaus⁷, were an essential part of rhetorical education in antiquity from the first century BC onwards⁸ and undeniably influenced imperial literature⁹. One of the points of interests in the discussions about *gnomai* in ancient treatises is the so-called ἐργασία: pupils were taught to elaborate a *gnomê*, which consists, in its basic form, of only one or two sentences¹⁰, into a complete miniature speech¹¹. According to ps.-Hermogenes and Aphthonius, this elaboration adopts a number of fixed “κεφάλαια” or “headings”. These include, among others, a paraphrase of the *gnomê*’s content (κεφάλαιον παραφραστικόν or κατὰ τὸ ἀπλοῦν¹²), a statement making explicit the reason behind the *gnomê*’s legitimacy (τὸ τῆς αἰτίας κεφάλαιον or κατὰ τὴν αἰτίαν), a refutation of the implications generated by the opposite of the *gnomê* (τὸ ἐκ τοῦ ἐναντίου κεφάλαιον or κατὰ τὸ ἐναντίον), a comparison (παραβολῆ or κατὰ παραβολήν) or example (παράδειγμα or κατὰ παράδειγμα) underlining the *gnomê*’s validity, and, finally, a short conclusion (ἐπίλογος βραχὺς or παράκλησις). Given the place of *gnomê* construction and elaboration in the rhetorical curriculum, we can, I think, safely suppose that the *gnomai* in contemporary literature will have caught the eye of the rhetorically trained reader as entities governed by their own rules of elaboration and, thus, open to display of literary craftsmanship.

My analysis will revolve around two questions. I list both, and mention briefly the methodological tools which I will use to answer them. Firstly, analyzing characterization through *gnomai* in narrative literature requires a description of the *applicability* of the *gnomai* to the various characters in the story. In his analysis of proverbs, P. Seitel underlines the importance of “the metaphorical relationship between the imaginary situation presented in the proverb and the social situation to which it refers”¹³. Under the label of “correlation”, he

⁷ All treatises are edited by Spengel (Sp.), volumes II (1854) and III (1856). A more recent edition of Theon is Patillon (1997).

⁸ Cf. Kennedy (1999: 27).

⁹ Cf. Cizek (1994: 236-41), Cichocka (1992), Kennedy (1983: 53 & 143). Theon *Prog.* 70.24-30 Sp. II explicitly underlines the importance of *progymnasmata* in contemporary literature: [...] πάνυ ἐστὶν ἀναγκαῖον ἢ τῶν γυμνασμάτων ἄσκησις οὐ μόνον τοῖς μέλλουσι ῥητορεύειν, ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰ τις ἢ ποιητῶν ἢ λογοποιῶν ἢ ἄλλων τινῶν λόγων δύναμιν ἐθέλει μεταχειρίζεσθαι. ἔστι γὰρ ταῦτα οἰονεὶ θεμέλια πάσης τῆς τῶν λόγων ιδέας, καὶ ὡς ἂν αὐτὰ τις ὑπάγηται τῇ τῶν νέων ψυχῇ, ἀνάγκη τὸν αὐτὸν τρόπον καὶ τὰ μετὰ ταῦτα συμβαίνειν.

¹⁰ According to ps.-Hermog. *Prog.* 7-8 Sp. II, Aphth. *Prog.* 25 Sp. II, and Nicol. *Prog.* 464 Sp. III, the “simple” *gnomê* (αἱ ἀπλαῖ, τὸ ἀπλοῦν) consists of one sentence, whereas the “compound” *gnomê* (αἱ συνεζευγμένα, τὸ συνεζευγμένον, αἱ διπλαῖ) consists of two sentences.

¹¹ Cf. Lausberg (1998: §875).

¹² Where Aphthonius and ps.-Hermogenes use different terminology, I mention Aphthonius’ before ps.-Hermogenes’.

¹³ Seitel (1969: 147).

distinguishes between first-, second- and third-person *gnomai*: first-person *gnomai* apply to the speaker, second-person *gnomai* apply to the addressee, and third-person *gnomai* apply to a third person¹⁴. In a narrative context, the same concepts can be used to refer to a *gnomê*'s applicability to the narrator, the addressee (or narratee) and a third character respectively¹⁵.

My second point of interest deals with determining the *function* of a *gnomê* in its narrative context. Therefore, I draw upon the narratological distinction between “argument function” (the *gnomê*'s function for the characters in the story) and “key function” (the *gnomê*'s function for the primary narratee, that is, the reader of the story)¹⁶. On the level of argument function, the rhetoricians themselves underline the importance of *gnomai*'s various functions by introducing the distinction between descriptive and prescriptive *gnomai*. Whereas descriptive *gnomai* state how things are¹⁷, prescriptive *gnomai* state how things *should* be¹⁸. *Gnomai*'s argument functions are, of course, not restricted to describing and prescribing. Depending on the narrative context in which a *gnomê* appears, it can be used, for example, as an argument underscoring a statement or thesis, or as an illustration¹⁹, explanation or conclusion. The representation of a narrator's or character's “*êthos*” by his/her use of *gnomai* is situated on both levels: key function deals with the information that a narrator's/character's use of *gnomai* offers the reader about his/her character (i.e. characterization). Argument function, on the other hand, deals with how the narrator/character aims to present his/her own character by using a specific *gnomê* (i.e. self-portraiture).

Gnomai and characterization: some examples from Achilles Tatius

The use of *gnomai* has received only limited attention in Greek novel scholarship. A. Scarcella offers a classification of the *gnomai* in Achilles Tatius, distinguishing mainly between *gnomai* with an erotic content and *gnomai* with an ethical content. In his view, however, their function is essentially limited to flavouring the novel:

“Queste *gnomai* concorrono a fare, anche del suo [i.e. Achilles Tatius'] romanzo, quel prodotto di consumo, pur esile ma sapido e colorito, che comunemente i romanzi greci aspiravano ad essere.”
Scarcella (1987: 269)

Other scholars acknowledge the descriptive or prescriptive functions of *gnomai*. J. Morgan, for example, regards the *gnomê* as a description and, simultaneously, maintenance of general truths, and identifies it as a technique adopted in fiction to evoke the reader's “fictional

¹⁴ Seitel (1969: 149-50).

¹⁵ Lardinois (2000) uses Seitel's concept of correlation in his analysis of Achilles', Nestor's, Odysseus' and the gods' characterization in Homer's *Iliad*.

¹⁶ Drawing upon Andersen (1987), de Jong (1997: 309-10) applies this distinction to the function of embedded stories in Homer.

¹⁷ Nicol. *Prog.* 465.6-7 Sp. III (αὶ δηλοῦσιν ὅποιά ἐστι τὰ πράγματα), Ps.-Hermog. *Prog.* 7.13-4 Sp. II (ὅποιον ἕκαστόν ἐστι δηλῶν [...] ἀποφαίνεται δὲ περὶ τῆς τοῦ πράγματος φύσεως), Aphth. *Prog.* 25.10 Sp. II (ἀποφαντικόν).

¹⁸ Nicol. *Prog.* 465.6-7 Sp. III (ὅποια δεῖ εἶναι). Some progymnasmata authors emphasize the prescriptive function of the *gnomê* in their definition: Aphth. *Prog.* 25.8-9 Sp. II (Γνώμη ἐστὶ λόγος ἐν ἀποφάνσει κεφαλαιώδης, ἐπὶ τι προτρέπων ἢ ἀποτρέπων), Nicol. *Prog.* 463.25-27 Sp. III (Τὴν γνώμην ἀπόφασιν εἶναι βούλεται καθολικὴν, συμβουλήν τινα καὶ παραινέσιν ἔχουσιν πρὸς τι τῶν ἐν τῷ βίῳ χρησίμων).

¹⁹ Cf. Lausberg (1998: §872) (“as proof or as *ornatus*”) and Demoen (1997: 129-33).

belief²⁰. H. Morales, on the other hand, emphasizes the prescriptive nature of *gnomai* in the novels (primarily in Achilles Tatius): rather than merely reflecting plausibility, *gnomai* also define it²¹. So far, however, no systematic attention has been paid to the significance of *gnomai* for characterization. Thus, the direction in which scholars have taken the issue of *gnomai* in the Greek novels is in itself an illustration of the above-mentioned distinction between argument function and key function: whereas certain argument functions (description and prescription) have received some attention, issues dealt with on the level of key function, such as characterization, have been largely overlooked.

Let me briefly point out the importance of *gnomai* for characterization by looking at some mere numbers. In Achilles Tatius' novel I have found 83 *gnomai*²². In my analysis of Clitophon's *gnomai*, I distinguish between the *gnomai* used in his narrator text on the one hand (that is, his narration of his story to his narratee in Sidon), and the *gnomai* used in his character text on the other (that is, his direct speech as a character in his own story). Clitophon uses 43 *gnomai* (or 51.8%) in his narrator text, and 9 *gnomai* (or 10.8%) in his character text. The other *gnomai* (31) are used, of course, in other characters' text. The ratio between Clitophon's narrator text and his character text indicates that the distribution of *gnomai* in Clitophon's text is statistically normal: Clitophon's narrator text occupies 52.3% of his total story, whereas his character text occupies 10.1%²³. Thus, relatively speaking, Clitophon does not use *gnomai* with a significant frequency, either as the narrator or as a character.

Two characters, on the other hand, do use *gnomai* especially frequently. The first one is Clinias, Clitophon's cousin. Although Clinias' character text makes up only 5.2% of the entire text²⁴, he uses no less than 15.6% of all the *gnomai* in the novel (13). Furthermore, in nine cases, the internal narratee of Clinias' *gnomai* is Clitophon. This is an indication that the pedantic Clinias performs his task of *praeceptor amoris* of the novel's protagonist very conscientiously²⁵. I will return to Clinias' *gnomai* addressed to Clitophon in due course.

The second character who uses *gnomai* relatively frequently is Sosthenes, Thersander's cunning slave. Although his character text makes up only 51 lines in Garnaud's edition²⁶, he uses 3 of the 82 *gnomai*. Interestingly, these *gnomai* underline Sosthenes' function as a go-between between Leucippe, the novel's heroine, and Thersander, who is in love with her: two of his *gnomai* apply to Leucippe (“παλαιὸν γὰρ ἔρωτα μαραίνει νέος ἔρωτος” and “γυνὴ δὲ μάλιστα τὸ παρὸν φιλεῖ, τοῦ δὲ ἀπόντος, ἕως καινὸν οὐχ εὔρει, μνημονεύει”; both in 6.17.4) and are used in Sosthenes' conversation with Thersander. Conversely, the other *gnomai*, which applies to Thersander (“χρηστότης γὰρ τυγχάνουσα μὲν χάριτος ἔτι μᾶλλον αὔξεται, προπηλακισθεῖσα δὲ εἰς ὀργὴν ἐρεθίζεται”, 6.13.4), is used in Sosthenes' conversation with Leucippe. In both cases, Sosthenes uses the *gnomai* to gain control over his internal narratee: the *gnome* addressed to Leucippe is geared to convince her to have sex with Thersander by referring to the anger which will seize him if she turns him down. The argument function of Sosthenes' two *gnomai* addressed to Thersander is situated in a similar

²⁰ Morgan (1993: 202).

²¹ Morales (2000: 73).

²² Scarcella (1987: 269) counts 58 *gnomai*. Morales (2000: 73-4) lists only 37 relevant passages, whereas Morales (2004: 109-10) gives the number of 40. I refer to the appendix at the end of this article.

²³ Clitophon's entire story (that is, from 1.3.1 to 8.19.3) consists of 5079 lines in the Budé edition (Garnaud 1995). 2657 lines of them make up Clitophon's narrator text, whereas 514 lines make up his character text.

²⁴ Clinias' character text consists of 264 lines in Garnaud (1995).

²⁵ On Clinias as Clitophon's *praeceptor amoris*, cf. Morgan (1996: 180-1).

²⁶ That is, 1% of the entire text.

context: he uses the *gnomai* to convince his master that Leucippe will eventually choose him and not Clitophon, although Thersander has heard the exact opposite from Leucippe herself shortly before. Thus, in all three cases, the *gnomai*'s key function is to underline Sosthenes' characterization as a cunning slave, determined to satisfy his master's desire to have sex with the novel's heroine.

My third preliminary example deals with Melite, who uses five *gnomai*. Interestingly, only one of these *gnomai* is a "pure" first-person *gnomê* (ἔρωτος ἀτυχῶν καὶ μαίνεται, 5.26.2). The correlation of the other four *gnomai* is a combination of first and second person. This means that these *gnomai* equally apply to Melite herself and to her narratee. She addresses three of these *gnomai* to Clitophon. They are all geared to persuade him to have sex with her. On board of the ship which brings them to Ephesus, Clitophon refuses, saying that the sea on which Leucippe died, is not an appropriate place to have sex (5.16.1-2). Melite adduces two consecutive *gnomai* pointing out that every place is suitable for sex (πᾶς δὲ τόπος τοῖς ἐρῶσι θάλαμος· οὐδὲν γὰρ ἄβατον τῷ θεῷ, 5.16.3). The third *gnomê* serves a similar aim. In his cell in Ephesus, she tells Clitophon that she is not ashamed to talk about sex with him (οὐκ αἰσχύνομαι τὰ τοῦ Ἔρωτος ἐξαγορεύουσα μυστήρια, 5.26.3) since he is, like herself, initiated in Eros' mysteries (μεμυημένον). Her *gnomê* explains why she is not ashamed to talk about sex with a co-initiate (μόνοι δὲ οἶδασιν οἱ ἐρῶντες τὰ τῶν ὁμοίων τραύματα, 5.26.3). Melite's last *gnomê* is addressed to her husband Thersander, who has been informed that she has married Clitophon after his alleged death at sea. Although Thersander's suspicion is correct, Melite urges him not to believe the rumours. She corroborates her request with a *gnomê* pointing towards the pernicious effect of rumour and gossip for their relationship (Φήμη δὲ καὶ Διαβολὴ δύο συγγενῆ κακά, 6.10.4). After an elaboration of this *gnomê*, she explicitly adds that the two vices mentioned in the *gnomê* affect both herself and her husband (ταῦτά με τὰ δύο πολεμεῖ· ταῦτά σου τὴν ψυχὴν κατέλαβε καὶ ἀπέκλεισέ μου τοῖς λόγοις τῶν ὧτων σου τὰς θύρας, 6.10.6). Melite's four *gnomai* showing a correlation of both first and second person are significant for her characterization. In all four cases, she uses the double correlation of the *gnomê* to align herself with her narratee, thus trying to increase the persuasiveness of her speech. Whereas the objective of this speech before Clitophon is to persuade him to have sex with her, her objective before Thersander is precisely to *deny* any sexual link between herself and the novel hero. The thematically similar contexts in which she uses the *gnomai* underline that her handling of *gnomai* is an index of her versatility and manoevrability.

Finally, I want to draw attention to the *gnomai* applying to the novel heroine Leucippe. Whereas only one third-person *gnomê* in the character text of another character applies to Clitophon (7.9.2), four third-person *gnomai* apply to Leucippe. Two of them are found in Clinias' text and are geared to corroborate his guidelines addressed to Clitophon about how to seduce Leucippe ("θέλει γὰρ ἐκάστη τῶν παρθένων εἶναι καλή, καὶ φιλουμένη χαίρει καὶ ἐπαινεῖ τῆς μαρτυρίας τὸν φιλοῦντα", 1.9.6; "παῖς γὰρ καὶ παρθένος ὅμοιοι μὲν εἰσιν εἰς αἰδῶ", 1.10.3). Also Sosthenes uses two third-person *gnomai* applying to Leucippe. In his conversation with Thersander, his *gnomai* seek to point out that Leucippe will answer his master's love ("παλαιὸν γὰρ ἔρωτα μαραίνει νέος ἔρωτος· γυνὴ δὲ μάλιστα τὸ παρὸν φιλεῖ, τοῦ δὲ ἀπόντος, ἕως καινὸν οὐχ εὔρει, μνημονεύει, 6.17.4). Significantly, all four *gnomai* are used in a similar context by a character who sees Leucippe as the sexual object of his narratee. Moreover, this observation is in line with the fact that there are no *second*-person *gnomai* applying to Leucippe. In other words, the characters do not use *gnomai* referring to Leucippe in their "face to face" conversations with her; they rather display their "wisdom"

about Leucippe in her absence. Once this wisdom is “applied” by Clitophon resp. Thersander, however, it does not turn out to be that useful after all: only after a long period of insisting, Clitophon succeeds in persuading the girl to have sex with him (πολλάκις κατεπάδων ἐπεπεύκειν τὴν κόρην, 2.19.2), and Sosthenes’ advice will soon appear to be worthless, since Leucippe plainly refuses to share Thersander’s bed. Thus, Clinias and Sosthenes regard Leucippe not only as a sexual object, but also as an open book: they think that their wisdom allows them to formulate guidelines that will allow their narratees to profit from her, but in fact their “wisdom” turns out to be utterly futile.

Gnomai in Clitophon’s narrator text

Let me now turn to the analysis of Clitophon’s use of gnomai. What do they tell us about his character? Within the two above-mentioned categories of narrator text and character text, I will distinguish between first-, second- and third person gnomai. I will point out the argument function of the gnomai by situating them in their immediate narrative context. On the level of their key function, the concluding sections clarify how my observations about Clitophon’s gnomai enhance our understanding of character and plot.

In Clitophon’s narrator text there are first-person gnomai (19) and third-person gnomai (24)²⁷. The argument function of all Clitophon’s first-person gnomai is to offer an *explanation*. Before his narratee in Sidon, Clitophon uses most gnomai as explanations of emotions seizing him in the course of his story (or expressions of these emotions). Unsurprisingly for gnomai used by the narrator of a love story and applying to the protagonist of this story, almost all of them are used in an erotic context. Most of them, furthermore, apply to the protagonist’s love for Leucippe. In this respect, they mark a number of important moments in the story. The first gnomê in this category appears when Clitophon describes his first encounter with the heroine. It explains why he falls in love with her on first sight (εὐθύς ἀπωλώλειν, 1.4.4): κάλλος γὰρ ὀξύτερον τιτρώσκει βέλους καὶ διὰ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν εἰς τὴν ψυχὴν καταρρεῖ (1.4.4). This gnomê, in turn, is explained by a second gnomê (ὀφθαλμὸς γὰρ ὁδὸς ἐρωτικῶ τραύματι). With these gnomai, the narrator Clitophon wants to provide his narratee in Sidon with a “rationalistic” explanation for what can be considered one of the most important characteristics of protagonists’ love in the Greek novel, namely the topos of love-at-first-sight²⁸. Although this topos, as one of the hallmarks of the novelistic genre, is most probably considered self-evident for any ancient reader of the novel, Clitophon is made to adopt two gnomai to “explain” his falling in love.

Soon, Clitophon’s use of gnomai for theorising about his own love for Leucippe appears to be a recurrent element in his narration. Only one paragraph after narrating his first encounter with the heroine, he mentions his reaction evoked by hearing the story of Apollo and Daphne during dinner at his father’s house in Tyr. This reaction consists in an intensification of his passion for Leucippe (Τοῦτό μου μᾶλλον ἀσθὲν τὴν ψυχὴν ἐξέκαυσεν, 1.5.5) and is explained by a gnomê (ὑπέκκαυμα γὰρ ἐπιθυμίας λόγος ἐρωτικός, 1.5.6). Subsequently, he elaborates the gnomê with the progymnastic headings of contrast (“ἐκ τοῦ ἐναντίου”) (Κἄν εἰς σωφροσύνην...) and reason (“αἰτία”) (ἢ γὰρ...). Also to explain his insomnia (οὐδὲ ὕπνου τυχεῖν ἠδυνάμην, 1.6.2) after having seen Leucippe, Clitophon uses a gnomê pointing

²⁷ There are no second-person gnomai in Clitophon’s narrator text. In other words, Clitophon never uses gnomai that apply to his narratee in Sidon.

²⁸ On this topos, cf., among others, Létoublon (1993: 137-54).

out that sickness and wounds aggravate at night (Ἔστι μὲν γὰρ φύσει καὶ τὰ ἄλλα νοσήματα καὶ τὰ τοῦ σώματος τραύματα νυκτὶ χαλεπώτερα καὶ ἐπανίσταται μᾶλλον ἡμῖν ἡσυχάζουσι καὶ ἐρεθίζει τὰς ἀλγηδόνας). He elaborates also this *gnomê* with a reason (ὅταν γὰρ ἀναπαύηται τὸ σῶμα..., 1.6.3) and contrast (Ἐν ἡμέρᾳ..., 1.6.3-4). Thirdly, he uses a *gnomê* to explain why the wine makes him look impudently at Leucippe during a banquet (Τοῦ δὲ πότου προϊόντος ἤδη καὶ ἀναισχύντως ἐς αὐτὴν ἐώρων, 2.3.3): οἶνος γὰρ ἔρωτος τροφή. Equally, Clitophon's emotions marking the first kiss of the protagonists (Ῥάων οὖν ἐγεγόνειν καὶ μεστὸς ἐλπίδων [...] ἐφύλασσον ἀληθῶς ὡς θησαυρὸν τὸ φίλημα τηρῶν ἡδονῆς, [...]. Οὐκ οἶδα δὲ οὕτω πρότερον ἡσθείσης τῆς καρδίας· καὶ τότε πρῶτον ἔμαθον ὅτι οὐδὲν ἐρίζει πρὸς ἡδονὴν φιλήματι ἐρωτικῶ, 2.8.1 & 2.8.3) are explained by a *gnomê* (τὸ φίλημα ... ὅπερ πρῶτόν ἐστι γλυκύ, 2.8.1). Also this *gnomê* is elaborated with a reason, which consists itself of a series of *gnomai* (Καὶ γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ καλλίστου τῶν τοῦ σώματος ὀργάνων τίκεται, στόμα γὰρ φωνῆς ὄργανον, φωνὴ δὲ ψυχῆς σκιά).

Not only the very beginning of Clitophon's love for Leucippe is marked by *gnomai*, but also the *end* of their relationship – or rather, what Clitophon considers to be the end at one point in the narrative: after having seen how Leucippe is decapitated on Chaereas' ship, he returns to Alexandria. After six months, his grief starts to fade away (Καὶ ἤδη μοι γεγόνεσαν μῆνες ἕξ, καὶ τὸ πολὺ τοῦ πένθους ἤρχετο μαραίνεισθαι, 5.8.2). In his narration, he explains – or should we say: justifies? – the weakening of his grief with a *gnomê* (Χρόνος γὰρ λύπης φάρμακον καὶ πεπαίνει τῆς ψυχῆς τὰ ἔλκη, 5.8.2), elaborated with a reason (Μεστὸς γὰρ..., 5.8.2). One book later, Clitophon discovers that Leucippe is still alive. After having been thrown in prison by Thersander, he is struck by fear for Leucippe's fate (Δέος δέ με περὶ τῆς Λευκίπτης εἶχεν, 6.5.4). He explains this emotion by referring to a *gnomê* about the capacity of the soul to predict disaster (Ψυχαὶ δὲ πεφύκασιν μάντιες τῶν κακῶν, ἐπεὶ τῶν γε ἀγαθῶν ἤκιστα ἐκ μαντείας εὐτυχοῦμεν, 6.5.5). When, soon afterwards, Clitophon hears the (false) story about Leucippe's murder by Melite, he does not cry at first (οὔτε ἀνώμωξα οὔτε ἔκλαυσα, 7.4.1); it is only later that grief for his beloved results in tears (Ἦλθε δέ μοι τότε δάκρυα καὶ τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς τὴν λύπην ἀπεδίδουν, 7.4.3). He explains this delay with a *gnomê* characterizing tears as blood that springs from wounds of the soul (δάκρυον γὰρ αἷμα τραύματος ψυχῆς, 7.4.5). This *gnomê* is preceded by an elaborating comparison between wounds of the soul and physical wounds (Ὅσπερ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς τοῦ σώματος πληγαῖς ..., οὕτω καὶ ψυχὴ παταχθεῖσα ..., 7.4.4-5), and followed by a paraphrase (Ὅταν ὁ τῆς λύπης..., 7.4.5).

In two cases only, Clitophon's first-person *gnomai* explain emotions outside of an erotic context. They concern Clitophon's own safety. When he narrates the shipwreck which happened on his way to Egypt, he considers the victims lucky because their death frees them from fear for death (τῶ τοῦ θανάτου φόβῳ, 3.4.4). He explains the presence of this fear in the hearts of living people with a *gnomê* about the cruelty of a slow death at sea (Ὁ γὰρ ἐν θαλάττῃ θάνατος βραδὺς προαναίρει πρὸ τοῦ παθεῖν, 3.4.4). Again, this *gnomê* explains an emotion that does not really need any explanation; fear is a perfectly acceptable emotion for someone who is shipwrecked in full sea. Yet, Clitophon takes the time to offer a *gnomic* explanation of it. Moreover, the contrast between his own situation and the situation of the dead, with which he elaborates the *gnomê* according to the ancient progymnastic heading of “ἐκ τοῦ ἐναντίου” (Ὅπόσοι μὲν οὖν..., 3.4.4), is of an absurd nature: “The persons who

did not survive the shipwreck are not afraid of death because... they are already dead”. In the same book, Clitophon narrates the capture of himself and Leucippe by Egyptian Boucoloi. In these circumstances, he grieves silently because he cannot cry (ἐθρήνουν ἤσυχῃ, κλαίειν δὲ οὐκ ἠδυνάμην, 3.11.1). Before his narratee in Sidon, he explains this tearless way of grieving with a *gnomê* about the behavior of eyes when confronted with disaster (τοῦτο γὰρ ἴδιον τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἐν τοῖς μεγάλοις κακοῖς, 3.11.1). He elaborates this *gnomê* with a contrast (Ἐν μὲν γὰρ ταῖς μετρίαις συμφοραῖς..., 3.11.1) and a reason (Ἐντυχοῦσα γὰρ..., 3.11.2). Strangely, however, Clitophon himself has told his narratee immediately before that he *did* cry (“κλαίειν ἤρχον τὴν Λευκίπτην”, 3.10.1). He seems to have forgotten this and uses a *gnomê* to explain why he was not crying... at a time when he *was* crying. In this passage, Clitophon’s inclination towards theorizing about his own emotions clearly does not contribute to the authenticity and credibility of his narration.

Let me now turn to the third-person *gnomai* in Clitophon’s narrator text. The argument function of all but one of them is, here too, explaining. The only exception has a *concluding* function. When Clitophon is shipwrecked on his way to Egypt, the people on board start to fight with each other. The narrator concludes the paragraph picturing the battle with a *gnomê* about the threat of danger for friendship (Οὕτως οἱ μεγάλοι κίνδυνοι καὶ τοὺς τῆς φιλίας λύουσι νόμους, 3.3.5). Thus, the behavior of Clitophon’s companions is a specific illustration of the general truth expressed by the *gnomê*. Given its concluding position in the paragraph, this *gnomê* is a typical example of the so-called “ἐπιφώνημα”, a *gnomê* appearing in final position in a line of thought or story²⁹.

The remaining 23 *gnomai* apply to various characters (to Thersander, Leucippe, Charmides, Melite, Sosthenes, Callisthenes, Satyrus, and the Egyptian Boucoloi). Like the first-person *gnomai*, most of them (16) offer an explanation in an erotic context. Five times, the narrator Clitophon uses a *gnomê* to explain Thersander’s (expressions of) emotions. A *gnomê* about the role of the eyes in the perception of beauty (μάλιστα γὰρ ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς κάθηται τὸ κάλλος, 6.6.3) is geared to explain that Thersander is struck immediately by Leucippe’s beauty at their first encounter (Ἰδὼν δὲ ὁ Θέρσανδρος τὸ κάλλος ἐκ παραδρομῆς, ὡς ἀρπαζομένης ἀστραπῆς). This passage raises an interesting point which will be emblematic for my discussion of Clitophon’s third-person *gnomai*. Clitophon himself was not present at the scene which he narrates here. This begs the question of how he *knows* Thersander’s reaction at his first encounter with Leucippe. The obvious explanation would be that Leucippe has told Clitophon afterwards. However, I would like to propose another solution. This *gnomê* suggests that Clitophon projects his own feelings onto Thersander. Both the *gnomê* and the context in which it is given remind the reader of the episode in which Clitophon himself fell in love with Leucippe (1.4.4). As I have mentioned above, Clitophon used a *gnomê* with a similar content (the role of eyes in the perception of beauty) when he narrated this episode. Apparently, he takes for granted that the *gnomê* which applied to himself will also apply to Thersander in similar circumstances. Although he does not know what Thersander’s reaction has been at his first encounter with Leucippe, he simply supposes that his rival reacted in the same way as he did himself. This is subtly suggested to the reader by the similar *gnomai* connecting both episodes.

²⁹ Lausberg [1998: §879], Patillon [1997: lxiiv-lxix]. Theon *Prog.* 91 Sp. II identifies the ἐπιφώνημα as a technique which makes a story “ἐπίχαρις” (charming).

When Clitophon narrates that Thersander starts crying when he sees Leucippe crying, he ascribes Thersander's reaction to compassion and explains it with a *gnomê* (Ἔστι μὲν γὰρ φύσει δάκρυον ἐπαγωγότατον ἐλέου τοῖς ὀρώσι· τὸ δὲ τῶν γυναικῶν μᾶλλον, ὅσῳ θαλερώτερον, τοσοῦτῳ καὶ γοητότερον, 6.7.4). Shortly afterwards, he uses a *gnomê* about jealousy (ζηλοτυπία γὰρ ἅπαξ ἐμπεσοῦσα ψυχῇ δυσέκλειπτόν ἐστιν, 6.11.1) to explain why Thersander does not believe Melite's reconciling words despite their persuasiveness (πιθανῶς, 6.10.2). Here again, Clitophon's absence at the scene raises the issue of the credibility of his narration. This holds true also for the last two *gnomai* explaining Thersander's emotions. When Thersander has heard Leucippe say that she loves Clitophon, the narrator informs us that Sosthenes comforts his master by predicting that he will be able to take Clitophon's place as Leucippe's lover. The fact that Thersander is cheered up (ἠγέρθη, 6.17.5) by these words is explained by Clitophon with a *gnomê* (Λόγος γὰρ ἐλπίδος εἰς τὸ τυχεῖν ἔρωτος ἐς πειθῶ ῥάδιος, 6.17.5), elaborated with a reason (τὸ γὰρ ...). Soon afterwards, however, Thersander's hopes are crushed by Leucippe, who tells him that he will never become her lover. Her words fill Thersander with love and anger simultaneously (ἦρα καὶ ὠργίζετο, 6.19.1), and the narrator provides his narratee with a long excursus explaining both emotions (6.19.1-7). This excursus is itself an elaboration of the *gnomê* "Θυμὸς δὲ καὶ ἔρως δύο λαμπάδες" (6.19.1). Again, Clitophon himself was not present at the conversation between Sosthenes and Thersander, nor at the subsequent confrontation between Leucippe and Thersander.

Two *gnomai* explain Leucippe's feelings. When Clitophon and Leucippe are caught during their first attempt to have sex together in her bedroom, Leucippe is severely reprimanded by her mother. Clitophon informs his narratee about the emotions of shame, grieve and anger which seize Leucippe afterwards. Clitophon does not merely mention her emotions (ἤχθετο, ἠσχύνετο, ὠργίζετο), but also the specific circumstance triggering each of them (ἤχθετο μὲν πεφωραμένη, ἠσχύνετο δὲ ὀνειδιζομένη, ὠργίζετο δὲ ἀπιστουμένη). He provides further information about these emotions in two *gnomai* ("αἰδῶς δὲ καὶ λύπη καὶ ὀργὴ τρία τῆς ψυχῆς κύματα", 2.29.1, and "Λόγος δὲ τούτων ἀπάντων πατήρ", 2.29.3). The first one is the beginning of a long excursus in which he discusses the origins and results of these emotions (2.29.2-5). The excursus is concluded by the explicit statement that it describes the reason of Leucippe's emotions at that specific moment in the story (Τοσοῦτων οὖν ἡ Λευκίππη γεμισθεῖσα συμφορῶν οὐκ ἔφερε τὴν προσβολήν, 2.29.5). However, since Clitophon was able to escape before being recognized by Leucippe's mother, the reader, here again, wonders how he knows the exact emotions seizing Leucippe. Also in this passage, the reader is invited to infer that Clitophon merely *pretends* to have access to Leucippe's innermost emotions using the wisdom which he displays in the *gnomai* and in the excursus.

One *gnomê* explaining Melite's body language is equally relevant to our present purpose. During the banquet in Alexandria, Melite cannot eat anything and is continuously staring at Clitophon (οὐκ ἠδύνατο τυχεῖν ὀλοκλήρου τροφῆς, πάντα δὲ ἔβλεπέ με, 5.13.3). Our narrator explains this behavior with a *gnomê* concerning lovers (Οὐδὲν γὰρ ἠδὲ τοῖς ἐρώσι πλὴν τὸ ἐρώμενον). The use of this *gnomê* raises two points of interest. Firstly, it reveals that Clitophon has paid attention to his *praeceptor amoris* Clinias, who had earlier emphasized, in Clitophon's presence, the importance for a lover of seeing his beloved (1.9.4). Now, Clitophon does nothing more than mimicking his *praeceptor amoris*. Displaying the knowledge that he received from him, he pretends to be capable of fathoming Melite's feelings. Secondly, this scene establishes a link with Clitophon's first banquet with Leucippe, where he was characterized by the same body language as Melite is now (ἐμαυτὸν ὄλοις

ἔβλεπον τὴν κόρην τοῖς προσώποις, 1.5.3). The similarity between both scenes cannot be overlooked: about the first episode, Clitophon says that he himself “ἔώκειν γὰρ τοῖς ἐν ὀνειροῖς ἐσθίουσιν” (1.5.3). In the second episode, he says to Melite: “ἔουκας τοῖς ἐν γραφαῖς ἐσθίουσιν” (5.13.5). Thus, Clitophon does not limit himself to using gnomic wisdom taught by Clinias, he takes for granted that Melite is affected by the same psychological phenomena as he himself was in an earlier, and similar, situation. In other words, Clitophon projects his own feelings onto Melite.

The argument function of all first-person gnomai in Clitophon’s narrator text, thus, is to offer an explanation. Clitophon frequently feels the need to offer his narratee in Sidon a gnomic explanation of his own emotions. This underlines Clitophon’s recurrent inclination towards theorizing about various aspects of himself, thus drawing attention to the skyline of his own emotional world. It does not surprise that seventeen out of the nineteen first-person gnomai deal with erotic matters, but what evokes the reader’s scepticism about some of these gnomai’s relevance is that Clitophon does not hesitate to offer theorizing explanations of emotions which do not need any explanation because they are self-evident. Moreover, I observed that the redundant focus on rationalizing his own emotions does not always enhance the credibility and authenticity of his story.

Also of almost all third-person gnomai in Clitophon’s narrator text (23 out of 24), the argument function is to offer explanations. Most of them deal with an erotic content. Again, the abundance of gnomai offering an explanation underlines Clitophon’s concern with analysis. The crucial difference between these gnomai and the first-person gnomai, however, is that Clitophon’s third-person gnomai apply to emotions of *other* characters. This raises two important issues regarding Clitophon’s characterization. Firstly, all these erotically-oriented explanations dealing not only with himself but also with other characters, suggest that Clitophon clearly wants to characterize himself as an expert in love affairs before his narratee in Sidon. Let us not forget, after all, that Clitophon’s very first words to his narratee in the beginning of the novel underline his own experience and expertise in love, identifying his own relationship to love with the verb “οἶδα” (“Ἐγὼ ταῦτα ἂν εἰδέην,” ἔφη, "τοσαύτας ὕβρεις ἐξ ἔρωτος παθών.", 1.2.1). Clitophon regards himself as someone who *knows* the ways of love, and the argument function of his “wisdom sayings” applying to the erotic life of himself and other characters is to propagate this self-portraiture. Simultaneously, however, Clitophon’s explanations about other characters raise serious questions about his reliability as a narrator. Firstly, he frequently uses gnomai to shed light on situations of which, logically speaking, he does not even know that they have taken place. Secondly, his explanations of other characters’ *emotions* in particular are problematic in this respect. As a homodiegetic narrator, Clitophon is, of course, not capable of entering the mind of the characters in the story, as an omniscient narrator would be. By using various gnomai, however, Clitophon *pretends* to have access to the minds of the characters in “his” story; the reader, on the other hand, knows that he does not have such access. In fact, the possibility of entering someone’s innermost thoughts and feelings is an exclusive privilege of narrators of fiction, as opposed to narrators of “fact”³⁰. Whereas the reader of Achilles Tatius’s novel knows, of course, that he is reading fiction, Clitophon himself does present his story to his narratee in Sidon as a true story, which *resembles* fiction but nonetheless really happened (Σμῆνος ἀνεγείρεις [...] λόγων· τὰ γὰρ ἐμὰ μύθοις ἔουκε, 1.2.2). Thus, the analysis of the gnomai in Clitophon’s narrator text reveals an interesting contradiction: by narrating, analysing and rationalizing his own and his characters’ innermost thoughts and feelings, Clitophon tries to portray himself as

³⁰ Cf. Cohn (1989) about this “marker of fictionality”.

an expert in love, and, thus, a perfectly suitable narrator of “his” love story (argument function). On the level of key function, however, precisely the technique of using *gnomai* to explain other characters’ thoughts and feelings undermines Clitophon’s reliability because it involves talking about what he cannot possibly know. Moreover, the reader’s scepticism about the truth of Clitophon’s representation is in some cases stimulated by Clitophon’s inclination towards projecting his own feelings onto the character whom he is discussing in his narration.

Gnomai in Clitophon’s character text

Most of the *gnomai* in Clitophon’s character text are third-person *gnomai* (6). I want to focus on three of them, situated in an erotic context³¹. Clitophon uses the first one (ἐγγύς γὰρ τοῦ θείου τὸ ἄφθαρτον, 2.37.1) in his discussion with Menelaus about homosexual and heterosexual love to underscore his view that the beauty of women is more heavenly than the beauty of boys because the former does not quickly fade. The two other third-person *gnomai* appear in the embedded story about Philomela and Tereus told by Clitophon to Leucippe (5.5.1-9). The story is set when Clitophon and Leucippe see a painting which shows the rape of Philomela by Tereus. Clitophon’s narration of this story is an answer to Leucippe’s question about the *mythos* behind the painting. During his narration, Clitophon uses two *gnomai* to clarify his own view about characters in the story. The first *gnomê* (Βαρβάρους δέ, ὡς ἔοικεν, οὐχ ἱκανὴ πρὸς Ἀφροδίτην μία γυνή, μάλισθ’ ὅταν αὐτῷ καιρὸς διδῶ πρὸς ὕβριν τρυφᾶν, 5.5.2) seeks to explain Tereus’ deceit of Procne. By using this *gnomê*, Clitophon presents inclination towards adultery as a characteristic inherently connected to barbarians like Tereus, who is Thracian. Shortly afterwards, however, the unintentional irony of Clitophon’s words will become apparent: when he is persuaded by Melite to have sex with her, the man for whom one woman is not enough will turn out to be none else than Clitophon himself. H. Morales correctly labels this passage as an index of Clitophon’s “hypocrisy, which undermines, rather than underpins, his authority in his laying down the law about other people”³².

The second *gnomê* in Clitophon’s embedded story (Οὕτως αἱ τῆς ζηλοτυπίας ὠδίνες νικῶσι καὶ τὴν γαστέρα, 5.5.7) characterizes the protagonist in a comparable way. This *gnomê* is elaborated with a paraphrase (Μόνον γὰρ ὀργῶσαι γυναῖκες ἀνιάσαι τὸν τὴν εὐνήν λελυπηκότα, κἂν πάσχωσιν ἐν οἷς ποιοῦσιν οὐχ ἦττον κακόν, τὴν τοῦ πάσχειν λογίζονται συμφορὰν τῆ τοῦ ποιεῖν ἡδονῆ). Both the *gnomê* and the paraphrase illustrate the cruelty of Procne’s revenge, which consists in murdering her own son. Clitophon warns against the terrible consequences of jealousy (ζηλοτυπίας) and, like in his *gnomê* discussing

³¹ The other two are both found in 3.10.2.

³² Morales (2000: 79-80). According to Morales, this *gnomê* also establishes a link between Tereus and Thersander: “This judgement not only applies to Tereus, but is also relevant to Thersander: both are adulterous and both Thracian. It is, however, a reflection cast as a generalization, condemning all barbarians.” This statement is, I think, incorrect. Since the text under consideration is a *gnomê*, it is, by definition, “a reflection cast as a generalization”. But that does not mean that it links Tereus to Thersander. Firstly, Thersander is nowhere said to be Thracian – not even in 8.2.1-3, the passage to which Morales (2004: 83-4) refers. In fact, he is no barbarian at all: he is “γένει δὲ πρῶτος ἀπάντων τῶν Ἰώνων” (6.12.2). Secondly, Morales’ characterization of Thersander as “adulterous” is somewhat inaccurate: Thersander definitely *tries* to have sex with Leucippe, but he never succeeds. Thersander is only “intentionally” adulterous. The point of the key function of Clitophon’s use of this *gnomê* is exactly that he does not realize, unlike the reader, that it applies to himself, and to *no-one* else.

adultery, he dissociates himself from the pernicious vice on which he is commenting. This time, he constructs dissociation by attributing the vice to yet another group representing “the other”, namely women. Again, however, a later episode in the novel invites the reader to take a critical stance towards Clitophon’s dissociating self-portraiture in this episode. Clitophon’s misogyny shining through in this *gnomê* will turn out to harm himself when a cellmate tells him that Melite has murdered Leucippe. About Melite’s motives, the cellmate says the following:

“Ἡ δὲ ὑπὸ ζηλοτυπίας πεφλεγμένη τὴν γυναῖκα ταύτην ἀπαντήσασαν συλλαμβάνει καὶ παραδίδωσι ᾧ νῦν ἔφην κακῆ τύχῃ μοι συνωδευκότι, φονεῦσαι κελεύσασα.” (7.3.7)

The reader knows that this story is false, and that Clitophon’s cellmate is actually an accomplice of Thersander. But Clitophon’s soliloquy following the news (7.5.1-4) indicates that he immediately believes that this story is true. His credulity and uncritical attitude towards the story of the stranger is implicitly emphasized by the contrast with Clinias’ reaction to the story. He comforts Clitophon (*παρεμυθεῖτο*, 7.6.1), suggests that Leucippe may still be alive (*Τίς γὰρ οἶδεν, εἰ ζῆ πάλιν;*, 7.6.2), and underscores this suggestion by referring to the past episodes in which Leucippe was, incorrectly, believed to be dead (*μὴ γὰρ οὐ πολλάκις τέθνηκε; μὴ γὰρ οὐ πολλάκις ἀνεβίω;*, 7.6.2). Whereas the reader knows that Clinias is right, Clitophon qualifies Clinias’ suggestion as sheer nonsense (*Ληρεῖς*, 7.6.3). Moreover, in his soliloquy, the protagonist himself equally refers to the previous times when Leucippe was allegedly dead (*ποσάκις μοι τέθνηκας*, 7.5.2). Unlike Clinias, Clitophon does not interpret these episodes as precedents triggering a critical attitude towards the stranger’s story about Leucippe’s death. Thus, it is tempting to ascribe Clitophon’s exaggerated credulity in this passage to his misogyny displayed in the *gnomê* in 5.5.7. Moreover, his association between women and jealousy surfaces again in 7.9.12, when Clinias explicitly mentions in his apology for Clitophon before the Ephesian court that Clitophon thought that jealousy (*ζηλοτυπίαν*) was Melite’s most important motive for the homicide. The reader concludes that, if Clitophon had been a little bit less prejudiced against women and their devastating inclination towards jealousy, he might have been more critical towards the made-up story of Thersander’s accomplice about Melite’s jealousy resulting in the murder of Leucippe. But instead, Clitophon’s prejudice about the fatal consequences of female jealousy leads him to the equally fatal decision to commit suicide. It is, of course, both ironic and significant for Clitophon’s character that precisely *Clinias* contrasts Clitophon’s attitude: even Achilles Tatius’ pre-eminent misogynist, who in 1.8.1-9 succeeds in listing no less than 12 mythological exempla to curse womankind (“τῶν γυναικῶν γένος λοιδορῶν”, 1.8.1), appears to be less prejudiced against women’s inclination towards jealousy than our novelistic hero.

Among the third-person *gnomai* in Clitophon’s character text, the two *gnomai* in his embedded *mythos* about Philomela and Tereus are of special interest to us. In both *gnomai*, Clitophon invests himself with an attitude of natural superiority towards barbarians/women. Adopting this attitude, he feels entitled to attack the injustice performed by the representatives of these two groups (Tereus and Procne). The reader’s scepticism, however, is aroused by two observations. Firstly, Clitophon himself will turn out to be an example of the inclination towards adultery from which he dissociates himself by ascribing it to barbarians in the first *gnomê*. Clitophon, thus, proves not to be capable of acting according to the lofty principles which he propagates. Secondly, his prejudice towards women displayed in the second *gnomê*

will in the course of the story turn out to be harmful to himself and to prevent him from adopting a critical stance to newly received information.

Second-person gnomai applying to Clitophon

In the final section of this paper, I want to point out that the comparison between the number of second-person gnomai in Clitophon's character text on the one hand, and second-person gnomai applying to Clitophon in other characters' text on the other reveals a significant contrast. There is only one second-person gnomê in Clitophon's character text. It appears in his discussion with Menelaus about homosexual and heterosexual love (2.35.2-38.5). Clitophon rejects his homosexual companion's statement that "ἀπλούστεροι παῖδες γυναικῶν, καὶ τὸ κάλλος αὐτοῖς δριμύτερον εἰς ἡδονήν" (2.35.3) by comparing the love for boys with the agony of Tantalus. He phrases the conclusion of this comparison as a gnomê: "καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπὸ παιδὸς ἀπελθεῖν ἐραστὴν ἄλυπον ἔχοντα τὴν ἡδονήν· καταλείπει γὰρ ἔτι διψῶντα" (2.35.5).

In sharp opposition to the uniqueness of the second-person gnomê in Clitophon's character text, the protagonist is the *narratee* of no less than 11 second-person gnomai (that is, 13% of all gnomai in Achilles Tatius) used by other characters. Interestingly, *all* these gnomai deal with an erotic theme. It does not surprise, then, that the majority of these gnomai is used by Clitophon's two *praeceptores amoris*, Clinias and Satyrus, to instruct their pupil³³.

Clinias uses no less than 7 second-person gnomai in his conversations with Clitophon. In the dialogue in which Clitophon asks his cousin advice concerning his love for Leucippe, Clinias reproaches Clitophon for being ungrateful (ἀχάριστος εἶ πρὸς ἔρωτος δωρέαν, 1.9.4): Clitophon does not realize, he says, how lucky he is to see Leucippe in his own house every day (οὕτως εἰς ἔρωτα εὐτυχῶν, 1.9.2; εὐτυχῶν, 1.9.4). He underscores his statement with a gnomê, saying that merely seeing the beloved "μείζονα τῶν ἔργων ἔχει τὴν ἡδονήν" (1.9.4). He elaborates this gnomê with a reason and a comparison (1.9.5). Subsequently, he advises Clitophon to try to establish contact with the girl, and underscores this advice with two consecutive gnomai ("Μέγιστον γὰρ ἔστιν ἐφόδιον εἰς πειθῶ συνεχῆς πρὸς ἐρωμένην ὁμιλία. Ὀφθαλμὸς γὰρ φιλίας πρόξενος καὶ τὸ σύνηθες τῆς κοινωνίας εἰς χάριν ἀνυσιμώτερον.", 1.9.5). When Clitophon asks for more specific guidelines ("Δός μοι τὰς ἀφορμὰς [...]. Τί λέγω; Τί ποιῶ; Πῶς ἂν τύχοιμι τῆς ἐρωμένης; Οὐκ οἶδα γὰρ ἐγὼ τὰς ὁδοὺς", 1.9.7), Clinias at first says that he cannot give any further advice since "αὐτοδίδακτος γὰρ ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς σοφιστής" (1.10.1). Shortly after, however, he advises Clitophon to kiss his beloved silently when he finds her docile, and he underscores this advice with a gnomê (τὸ γὰρ ἐραστοῦ φίλημα πρὸς ἐρωμένην θέλουσαν μὲν παρέχειν αἰτησίς ἐστι σιωπῆ, πρὸς ἀπειθοῦσαν δέ, ἰκετηρία, 1.10.5). Later in the story, when Leucippe is believed to be dead, Clinias tries to persuade Clitophon to answer Melite's love for him. He underscores his advice with two second-person gnomai (Κάλλος γὰρ καὶ πλουῦτος καὶ ἔρωσ εἰ συνῆλθον ἐπὶ σέ, οὐχ ἔδρας <ἔργον> οὐδ' ἀναβολῆς. [...] Μισεῖ δὲ ὁ θεὸς τοὺς ἀλαζόνας, 5.12.1).

³³ Apart from Clinias and Satyrus, only Melite addresses second-person gnomai to Clitophon, which have all been discussed earlier.

Second-person *gnomai* are traditionally regarded as *gnomai* in which the narrator assumes a position of authority over his narratee³⁴. Clearly, Clinias' fondness of using such second-person *gnomai* in his dialogues with Clitophon reflects this *praeceptor amoris*' position of authority over his pupil. This conclusion corresponds seamlessly to Clitophon's explicit characterization of Clinias ("ἔρωτι τετελεσμένος", 1.7.1), his age ("δύο ἀναβεβηκῶς ἔτη τῆς ἡλικίας τῆς ἐμῆς"), and the fact that Clitophon introduces Clinias in the narrative precisely when he tells his narratee in Sidon that he was looking for help regarding his love for Leucippe (cf. "Οὐκ οἶδα γὰρ ἐγὼ τὰς ὁδοὺς", 1.9.7).

Clitophon's second *praeceptor amoris*, Satyrus, uses one second-person *gnomê* of which Clitophon is the narratee. Also this *gnomê* marks an advice regarding Clitophon's love for Leucippe. When Satyrus advises Clitophon to express his love for Leucippe, Clitophon utters the fear that he will dare to do so because he will be a "δειλὸς ἔρωτος ἀθλητής". Satyrus' answer to this objection consists of a *gnomê* ("Ἐρως [...] δειλίας οὐκ ἀνέχεται, 2.4.5).

The numerical contrast between the one second-person *gnomê* in Clitophon's own character text and the eleven second-person *gnomai* addressed to him by Clinias, Satyrus, and Melite, is highly significant for the protagonist's characterization. Since *all* these second-person *gnomai* have an erotic content, and since second-person *gnomai* imply a position of authority of the narrator over the narratee, the sheer number of these *gnomai* indicates that Clitophon, as a character in his own story, does *not* assume an authoritative position in love affairs. Although Clitophon tries, as I pointed out earlier, to portray himself as an expert in love through the *gnomai* in his narration, he is characterized differently as a character in his own story: rather than being an erotic "connoisseur", he is the one who is *being* taught. This observation becomes even more significant if we contrast the eleven second-person *gnomai* addressed to Clitophon with the only second-person *gnomê* which he uses himself: by using a second-person *gnomê* in his conversation with Menelaus, Clitophon does place himself in a position of authority over his narratee. Ironically, this *gnomê* deals with a domain about which Clitophon, as a Greek novel protagonist, knows virtually nothing, namely... *homosexual* love.

Conclusion

The first conclusion has remained somewhat implicit in the course of the article. Reading Achilles Tatius's *gnomai* while bearing in mind the discussions of *gnomai* in the *progymnasmata* suggests that many of the *excursus* in Achilles Tatius' novel can be read as elaborations of *gnomai* adopting (some of) the *progymnasmatic* headings or "κεφάλαια".

Secondly, I have illustrated the importance of *gnomai* in literary characterization by exploring, as preliminary examples, a number of characters who are all characterized in a specific way by the *gnomai* adopted in their character text. Clinias' *gnomai* underline the pedantry of this *praeceptor amoris*, whereas Sosthenes' *gnomai* reveal his cunning as a go-between between Leucippe and Thersander. Melite's use of *gnomai*, thirdly, emphasizes her versatility and manoevrability. Finally, I pointed out that the *gnomai* applying to Leucippe inform us about the attitude of other characters towards her and about the ways in which the heroine's actual behavior renders these characters' displayed 'wisdom' utterly futile.

³⁴ Cf. Lardinois (2000: 643), drawing upon Seitel (1969).

The main focus of this article, thirdly, has been on Clitophon. I adopted a classification of Clitophon's *gnomai* in first-, second- and third-person *gnomai* and pointed out that it generates some interesting insights into his characterization as a narrator and as a character. As a character, Clitophon is characterized as someone who is not capable of living up to the lofty standards which he advertises in his *gnomai*, and as someone who is the victim of his own prejudices. Moreover, Clitophon is characterized as a novel protagonist who is highly receptive to the "erotic" advice of his *praeceptores amoris*. Against this background, a close reading of Clitophon's *gnomai* raises serious questions about Clitophon's reliability as a narrator. Firstly, there is a clear discrepancy between his self-portraiture as an experienced expert in love in his narrator text on the one hand, and the anything but authoritative position in which he is placed by the use of *gnomai* by his *praeceptores amoris*. Moreover, many third-person *gnomai* in his narrator text with an explaining argument function raise the double problem that Clitophon explains situations of which he cannot have been aware, and that he pretends to have access to the minds of other characters, which he, as a homodiegetic narrator, cannot have. It is, thus, tempting to consider the possibility that the narrator Clitophon has repeatedly invented these psychological and emotional details in order to characterize himself as an "erotic" expert who has psychological insight into the emotional lives of the characters in his story, and who is, ultimately, an exquisite narrator of "his" Greek novel³⁵.

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³⁵ Research underlying this publication was funded by the Fund for Scientific Research – Flanders (Belgium) (F.W.O.-Vlaanderen) and the Belgian American Educational Foundation. I would like to thank Kristoffel Demoen and Susan Stephens for their expert advice and stimulating comments.

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Appendix: Gnomai in Achilles Tatius and their ἐργασία

(* = Marked as a gnomê by Scarcella and/or Morales)

Gnomai used by Clitophon

As a narrator

Ist p.

- * 1.3.2 (2) φιλεῖ δὲ τὸ δαιμόνιον πολλάκις ἀνθρώποις τὸ μέλλον νύκτωρ λαλεῖν οὐ γὰρ εἰμαρμένης δύνανται κρατεῖν
+ αἰτία 1.3.3 (τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἐξαίφνης...)
- * 1.4.4 (2) κάλλος γὰρ ὀξύτερον τιτρώσκει βέλους καὶ διὰ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν εἰς τὴν ψυχὴν καταρρεῖ·
ὀφθαλμὸς γὰρ ὁδὸς ἐρωτικῶν τραύματι.
- * 1.5.6 ὑπέκκαυμα γὰρ ἐπιθυμίας λόγος ἐρωτικός.
+ ἐναντίον 1.5.6 (κἂν εἰς σωφροσύνην...)
+ αἰτία 1.5.6 (ἢ γὰρ ὦν ἀμαρτάνει...)
- * 1.6.2 ἔστι μὲν γὰρ φύσει καὶ τὰ ἄλλα νοσήματα καὶ τὰ τοῦ σώματος τραύματα <ἐν> νυκτὶ χαλεπώτερα καὶ ἐπανίσταται μᾶλλον ἡμῖν ἡσυχάζουσι καὶ ἐρεθίζει τὰς ἀλγηδόνας·
+ αἰτία 1.6.3 (ὅταν γὰρ...)
+ ἐναντίον 1.6.3-4 (ἐν ἡμέρᾳ μὲν γὰρ...)
- * 2.3.3 (2) Ἐρωσ δὲ καὶ Διόνυσος, δύο βίαιοι θεοί, ψυχὴν κατασχόντες ἐκμαίνουσιν εἰς ἀναισχυντίαν, ὁ μὲν καίων αὐτὴν τῷ συνήθει πυρὶ, ὁ δὲ τὸν οἶνον ὑπέκκαυμα φέρον·
οἶνος γὰρ ἔρωτος τροφή.

- * 2.4.1 ό γάρ μετά κλοπῆς ἐρῶν ἄν ἐλεγχθῆ πρός τινος, ὡς ὄνειδίζοντα τὸν ἐλέγξαντα μισεῖ.
- * 2.8.1 τὸ φίλημα ... ὁ πρῶτόν ἐστι γλυκύ
- * 2.8.2 (3) καὶ γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ καλλίστου τῶν τοῦ σώματος ὀργάνων τίκεται· στόμα γὰρ φωνῆς ὄργανον· φωνὴ δὲ ψυχῆς σκιά.
- * 3.4.4 ό γάρ ἐν θαλάσση θάνατος βραδύς προαναίρει πρὸ τοῦ παθεῖν· + αἰτία 3.4.5 (ό γάρ ὀφθαλμός...)
- * 3.11.1 τοῦτο (= κλαίειν δὲ οὐκ ἠδυνάμην) γὰρ ἴδιον τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν ἐν τοῖς μεγάλοις κακοῖς. + ἐναντίον 3.11.1 (ἐν μὲν γὰρ ταῖς μετρίαις συμφοραῖς...) + αἰτία 3.11.2 (ἐντυχοῦσα γὰρ...)
- * 5.8.2 χρόνος γὰρ λύπης φάρμακον καὶ πεπαίνει τῆς ψυχῆς τὰ ἔλκη. + αἰτία 5.8.2 (μεστός γὰρ...)
- * 5.27.4 αὐτουργός γὰρ ὁ Ἔρωσ καὶ αὐτοσχέδιος σοφιστῆς καὶ πάντα τόπον αὐτῷ τιθέμενος μυστήριον.
- * 6.5.5 ψυχαὶ δὲ πεφύκασι μάντιες τῶν κακῶν, ἐπεὶ τῶν γε ἀγαθῶν ἥκιστα ἐκ μαντείας εὐτυχοῦμεν.
- * 7.4.4 δάκρυον γὰρ αἷμα τραύματος ψυχῆς + παραβολή 7.4.4-5 (ὥσπερ...οὔτω...) + αἰτία 7.4.5 (ὅταν ὁ τῆς λύπης ὁδοῦς...)
- 3rd p.*
- * 2.13.1 τοσαύτη γὰρ τοῖς ἀκολάστοις ὕβρις, ὡς καὶ τοῖς ὤσιν εἰς ἔρωτα τρυφᾶν καὶ ταῦτα πάσχειν ἀπὸ ῥημάτων, ἃ τῇ ψυχῇ τρωθέντες διακονοῦσιν ὀφθαλμοί.
- * 2.29.1 αἰδῶς δὲ καὶ λύπη καὶ ὀργὴ τρία τῆς ψυχῆς κύματα· + παράφρασις 2.29.2 (ἡ μὲν γὰρ αἰδῶς...)
- * 2.29.3 λόγος δὲ τούτων ἀπάντων πατήρ + παραβολή 2.29.3-4 (καὶ ἔοικεν...) + παράφρασις 2.29.4-5 (ἐν δὲ τούτων ἀπάντων...)
- * 3.3.5 οὕτως οἱ μεγάλοι κίνδυνοι καὶ τοὺς τῆς φιλίας λύουσι νόμους
- * 3.14.3 συμπαθῆς δὲ πῶς εἰς ἔλεον ἄνθρωπος ἀκροατῆς ἀλλοτριῶν κακῶν, καὶ ὁ ἔλεος πολλάκις φιλίαν προξενεῖ· + αἰτία 3.14.3 (ἡ γὰρ ψυχὴ...)
- * 4.6.1 οὐ δύναται τις τρωθεὶς ἀνέχεσθαι θλιβόμενος τῷ πυρὶ
- * 4.10.2 χαίρουσι γὰρ οἱ ἐρῶντες εἰς τὰ ἐρωτικά προστάγματα.
- * 4.14.9 ἀνὴρ γὰρ Αἰγύπτιος καὶ τὸ δειλόν, ὅπου φοβεῖται, δεδούλωται, καὶ τὸ μάχιμον, ἐν οἷς θαρρεῖ, παρῶξυνται· + παράφρασις 4.14.9 (ἀμφότερα δὲ...)
- * 5.5.1 φιλόμυθον γὰρ πῶς τὸ τῶν γυναικῶν γένος
- * 5.13.3 οὐδὲν γὰρ ἠδὺ τοῖς ἐρῶσι πλὴν τὸ ἐρώμενον + παράφρασις 5.13.3 (τὴν γὰρ ψυχὴν...) + αἰτία 5.13.4 (ἡ δὲ τῆς θεᾶς ἡδονή...)
- * 5.22.8 τὰ γὰρ ἠδέα, κἂν μήπω παρῆ, τέρπει ταῖς ἐλπίσιν.
- * 5.27.1 διδάσκει γὰρ ὁ Ἔρωσ καὶ λόγους
- * 6.6.2 ό γάρ νοῦς οὐ μοι δοκεῖ λελέχθαι καλῶς ἀόρατος εἶναι τὸ παράπαν + παράφρασις 6.6.2 (ἡσθεὶς τε γὰρ...)
- * 6.6.3 μάλιστα γὰρ ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς κάθηται τὸ κάλλος
- * 6.7.1 δάκρυον γὰρ ὀφθαλμὸν ἀνίστησι καὶ ποιεῖ προπετέστερον + παράφρασις 6.7.1 (κἂν μὲν ἄμορφος...) + αἰτία 6.7.2 (χεομένης δὲ τῆς...)
- * 6.7.4 ἔστι μὲν γὰρ φύσει δάκρυον ἐπαγωγότατον ἐλέου τοῖς ὀρῶσι·

- + παράφρασις 6.7.4 (ἐὰν δὲ ἡ δακρῦουσα...)
- + αἰτία 6.7.5 (ἐπειδὴ γὰρ εἰς...)
- * 6.11.1 ζηλοτυπία γὰρ ἄπαξ ἐμπεσοῦσα ψυχῇ δυσέκλειπτόν ἐστιν
- * 6.17.5 λόγος γὰρ ἐλπίδος εἰς τὸ τυχεῖν ἔρωτος ἐς πειθῶ ῥάδιος
+ αἰτία 6.17.5 (τὸ γὰρ ἐπιθυμοῦν...)
- * 6.18.3 τοιοῦτοι γὰρ οἱ ἐρῶντες, ὅταν πρὸς τὰς ἐρωμένας ζητήσωσι λαλεῖν
+ αἰτία 6.18.3 (οὐ γὰρ ἐπιστήσαντες...)
- * 6.19.1 θυμὸς δὲ καὶ ἔρωτος δύο λαμπάδες·
+ παράφρασις 6.19.2-7 (ἔχει γὰρ καὶ...)
- * 6.19.7 ἀτιμία γὰρ ἔρωτος σύμμαχος ἐστὶ θυμὸς
- * 7.10.4 (ἀληθὴς δὲ ἐστὶν, ὡς ἔοικεν, ὁ λόγος, ὅτι) μνήμην ἐκπλήσσειν πέφυκε φόβος·
- * 7.10.5 μάλιστα γὰρ τὸ τῶν δούλων γένος ἐν οἷς ἂν φοβηθῆ σφόδρα δειλόν ἐστὶν.
- 7.16.3 οὐκ ἔστι δὲ οὕτως ἄνθρωπος δρομικώτατος, ὃν οὐ τῆς φήμης φθάνει τὸ πτερόν·

As a character

1st p.

- * 4.8.2 φίλημα δὲ καὶ ἀόριστόν ἐστι καὶ ἀκόρεστον καὶ καινὸν αἰεὶ.
+ ἐναντίον 4.8.2 (τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἔργον...)
+ αἰτία 4.8.2-3 (τρία γὰρ τὰ κάλλιστα...)
- * 7.6.4 Οὐδέν [...] αἰσχρόν, ὃ λυπεῖ τὸν ἐχθρόν.

2nd p.

2.35.5 καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπὸ παιδὸς ἀπελθεῖν ἐραστὴν ἄλυπον ἔχοντα τὴν ἡδονήν·

3rd p.

- * 2.37.1 ἐγγὺς γὰρ τοῦ θεοῦ τὸ ἄφθαρτον.
+ ἐναντίον 2.37.1 (τὸ δὲ κινούμενον...)
+ παραδείγματα 2.37.2-6 (ἠράσθη μειρακίου Φρυγός...)
- * 3.10.2 (2) ληστὴν μὲν γὰρ Ἑλληνα καὶ φωνὴν κατέκλασε καὶ δέησις ἐμάλαξεν·
ὁ γὰρ λόγος πολλακίς τὸν ἔλεον προξενεῖ·
+ αἰτία 3.10.2 (τὸ γὰρ πονοῦν...)
- * 5.5.2 βαρβάροις δέ, ὡς ἔοικεν, οὐχ ἰκανὴ πρὸς Ἀφροδίτην μία γυνή, μάλισθ' ὅταν αὐτῶ καιρὸς διδῶ πρὸς ὕβριν τρυφᾶν.
- * 5.5.7 (2) οὕτως αἱ τῆς ζηλοτυπίας ὠδίνες νικῶσι καὶ τὴν γαστέρα.
μόνον γὰρ ἐρῶσαι γυναῖκες ἀνιᾶσαι τὸν τὴν εὐνήν λελυπηκότα, καὶ πάσχωσιν ἐν οἷς ποιοῦσιν οὐχ ἤττον κακόν, τὴν τοῦ πάσχειν λογιζονται συμφορὰν τῆ τοῦ ποιεῖν ἡδονῆ.

Gnomai used by Clinias

2nd p.

- 1.8.3 Ἀτυχῆς ὁ μέλλων γαμεῖν· ἐπὶ πόλεμον [...] πέμπεται.
+ παραδείγματα 1.8.4-6 (<ὁ> ὄρμος Ἐριφύλης...)
- * 1.8.8 τὸ γὰρ κάλλος ἔχει τινὰ παρηγορίαν τῶν κακῶν, καὶ τοῦτό ἐστιν ἐν ἀτυχήμασιν εὐτυχεῖν·
+ ἐναντίον 1.8.8 (εἰ δὲ μηδὲ εὐμορφος...)
- * 1.9.4 [βλέπειν] μείζονα τῶν ἔργων ἔχει τὴν ἡδονήν.
+ αἰτία 1.9.4 (ὀφθαλμοὶ γὰρ ἀλλήλοις...)
+ παραβολή 1.9.5 (καὶ ὀλίγον...)
- * 1.9.5 (2) μέγιστον γὰρ ἐστὶν ἐφόδιον εἰς πειθῶ συνεχῆς πρὸς ἐρωμένην ὁμιλία.
ὀφθαλμὸς γὰρ φιλίας πρόξενος καὶ τὸ σύνηθες τῆς κοινωνίας εἰς χάριν ἀνυσιμώτερον.
+ παραβολή 1.9.5 (εἰ γὰρ τὰ ἄγρια...)
- * 1.10.1 αὐτοδίδακτος γὰρ ἐστὶν ὁ θεὸς σοφιστής.

- + παραβολή 1.10.1 (ὥσπερ γὰρ...)
- + αἰτία 1.10.2 (ἐὰν γὰρ ἡ ᾠδὴς...)
- * 1.10.5 τὸ γὰρ ἔραστοῦ φίλημα πρὸς ἐρωμένην θέλουσαν μὲν παρέχειν αἰτησίς ἐστι σιωπῆ, πρὸς ἀπειθοῦσαν δέ, ἰκετηρία.
- * 5.12.1 (2) κάλλος γὰρ καὶ πλοῦτος καὶ ἔρως εἰ συνήλθον ἐπὶ σέ, οὐχ ἔδρας <ἔργον> οὐδ' ἀναβολῆς·
+ αἰτία 5.12.1 (τὸ μὲν γὰρ κάλλος...)
μισεῖ δὲ ὁ θεὸς τοὺς ἀλαζόνας.

3rd p.

- 1.8.7 [...] πάντα τολμῶσαι γυναῖκες· κἂν φιλῶσι, φονεύουσι· κἂν μὴ φιλῶσι, φονεύουσιν
+ παράδειγμα 1.8.7 (Ἀγαμέμνονα ἔδει...)
- * 1.9.6 θέλει γὰρ ἐκάστη τῶν παρθένων εἶναι καλή, καὶ φιλουμένη χαίρει καὶ ἐπαινεῖ τῆς μαρτυρίας τὸν φιλοῦντα·
+ ἐναντίον 1.9.6 (κἂν μὴ φιλήσῃ...)
- 1.10.3 παῖς γὰρ καὶ παρθένος ὅμοιοι μὲν εἰσιν εἰς αἰδῶ·
+ παράφρασις 1.10.3 (πρὸς δὲ τὴν τῆς Ἀφροδίτης...)
+ ἐναντίον 1.10.4 (γυναῖκας μὲν γὰρ...)
+ αἰτία 1.10.4 (κἂν ὑποσχέσθαι...)
- * 7.9.2 (ἀποθανεῖν,) ὅπερ φύσει τῶν ἀτυχούντων ἐστὶ φάρμακον·

Gnomai used by Melite

1st p.

- * 5.26.2. ἔρως ἀτυχῶν καὶ μαίνεται.

1st p. + 2nd p.

- * 5.16.3 (2) πᾶς δὲ τόπος τοῖς ἐρῶσι θάλαμος·
οὐδὲν γὰρ ἄβατον τῷ θεῷ.
- * 5.26.3 μόνοι δὲ οἶδασιν οἱ ἐρῶντες τὰ τῶν ὁμοίων τραύματα.
+ ἐναντίον 5.26.3 (τοῖς δὲ ἄλλοις ἀνθρώποις...)
- * 6.10.4 Φήμη δὲ καὶ Διαβολή δύο συγγενῆ κακά·
+ αἰτία 6.10.4 (θυγάτηρ ἢ Φήμη...)
+ παράφρασις 6.10.5 (ὅταν οὖν ἡ Διαβολή...)

Gnomai used by Menelaus

3rd p.

- * 2.35.3 καὶ γὰρ ἀπλούστεροι παῖδες γυναικῶν, καὶ τὸ κάλλος αὐτοῖς δριμύτερον εἰς ἡδονήν.
- * 2.36.1 ποθεινὸν γὰρ αἰεὶ τὸ ἀκόρεστον.
+ ἐναντίον 2.36.1 (τὸ μὲν γὰρ εἰς χρῆσιν...)
+ παράδειγμα 2.36.2 (καὶ τὸ ῥόδον...)
- * 2.36.2 καὶ τὸ ῥόδον διὰ τοῦτο τῶν ἄλλων εὐμορφότερόν ἐστι φυτῶν, ὅτι τὸ κάλλος αὐτοῦ φεύγει ταχύ.
- 2.38.2 γυναικὶ μὲν γὰρ πάντα ἐπίπλαστα, καὶ τὰ ῥήματα καὶ τὰ σχήματα·
+ παράφρασις 2.38.2 (κἂν εἶναι δόξη καλή...)
+ ἐναντίον 2.38.3 (τὸ δὲ κάλλος τὸ παιδικόν...)
- * 4.8.5 ἐρῶν γὰρ τις, εἰς ὅσον μὲν ἔχει τὴν ἐλπίδα τοῦ τυχεῖν, φέρει, ὡς εἰς αὐτὸ τὸ τυχεῖν ἀποτεινόμενος.
+ ἐναντίον 4.8.5 (ἐὰν δὲ ἀπογνῶ...)

Gnomai used by Sosthenes

3rd p.

- * 6.17.4 (2) παλαιὸν γὰρ ἔρωτα μαραίνει νέος ἔρως·
γυνὴ δὲ μάλιστα τὸ παρὸν φιλεῖ, τοῦ δὲ ἀπόντος, ἕως καινὸν οὐχ εὔρε, μνημονεύει·
+ παράφρασις 6.17.4 (προσλαβοῦσα δὲ ἕτερον...)

- * 6.13.4 χρηστότης γὰρ τυγχάνουσα μὲν χάριτος ἔτι μᾶλλον αὐξεται,
προπηλακισθεῖσα δὲ εἰς ὀργὴν ἐρεθίζεται.

Gnomê used by Satyrus

- * 2nd p. 2.4.5 ἕρωσ [...] δειλίας οὐκ ἀνέχεται.
+ αἰτία 2.4.5 (ὄρᾱς αὐτοῦ τὸ...)

Gnomê used by Charicles

- * 3rd p. 1.7.4. πονηρὸν μὲν γὰρ γυνή, κἂν εὐμορφος ᾖ·
+ ἐναντίον 1.7.4 (ἐὰν δὲ καὶ ἀμορφίαν...)

Gnomê used by Leucippe

- * 1st p. 2.25.2 Φόβος γὰρ γλώττης ἐστὶ δεσμός.

Gnomê used by Sostratus

- * 1st p. 8.4.4 ἔπειτα τῶν ἔργων παρελθόντων ἢ διήγησις τὸν οὐκέτι πάσχοντα
ψυχαγωγεῖ μᾶλλον ἢ λυπεῖ.

Gnomê used by the priest of Artemis

- * 3rd p. 8.9.9 οὐδενὸς γὰρ οὐδεὶς ἐστὶν ἄνευ κρίσεως δυνατώτερος.