Summary:

BURIED VINE, LUCRATIVE SYRINX: ON LONGUS’ HUMOR AND A TRANSLATION PROBLEM IN I,19 AND III,29

This paper argues that φυτά καταφύτευν in Longus’ Daphnis and Chloe I,19 and III,29 does not mean „to plant trees“, but „to plant (to dig in) seedlings of vine“. The thoughts suggest that the established conjecture by Antoine Kaïris δεφυτεύν for συφυτεύν (III,29,2) is unnecessary. This is discussed together with an analysis of some aspects of Longus’ humor, consisting in the repetition of signal words, whose meaning is ironized or changed by the changing context.

Keywords: Longus; Daphnis and Chloe; humor; textual criticism; oenology

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