

Short, Short Story Complete on This Page

by T. G. Palaima of Fordham University

Tablet Ja 1

Provenience: unknown / palaeography, distinctively Pylian, Ci, resembling H2, but some peculiarities / clay does not appear to be Messenian / scientific analysis impossible w/o damaging tablet / instrument a bit wider, only slightly so, than normal LB stylus // while tablet itself may be a forgery, sentiments expressed are certainly genuine. *Date*: terminus ante quem, May 29, 1985; terminus post quem, 1952 (Ventris' decipherment)

Transcription from Mycenaean Greek

1. 29 ma-i-o-jo, we-te-i 1985 ta-ka-na a-ko-sa
2. jo-se-pe a-ro-so-po, e-pi-to-ro-qa, a-re-ta e-ne-ka, ke-no-me-no, e-u-ku-pe-na-sa-ti-qa
3. we-te-a₂ 20 na-wa, a-me-ri-ka-ni-ka ko-ra a-ta-na-i, su-ne-pi-to-ro-qa,
4. pi-ra-to-ro-qa, di-do-si, pi-na-ka, do-ro mi-ko-ro, pi-ro me-ka-ro VIR + A1 PIN 1

Classical Greek (and a bit of Modern)

1. 29 Μαίον ἔτει 1985 Θηγάνης ἀρχούσης
2. Ἰώσεφ Ἀλοσόφ ἐπιτρόφω ἀρετῆς ἔνεκα γενομένω [καὶ] εὖ κυβερνήσαντι <τε>
3. ἔτη 20 [τῆν] ναῦν [τῆς] Ἀμερικανικῆς Σχολῆς [ἐν] Ἀθήναις [οἱ] συνεπίτροποι
4. φιλανθρώπως διδούσι [τοῦτον τὸν] πίνακα δῶρον μικρὸν μεγάλω φίλω VIR bonus 1 Pinakas 1

Translation

On the 29th of May in the year 1985 in the archonship of Spitzer, to Joseph Alsop, upon becoming an emeritus trustee and for having expertly guided for 20 years the ship of the American School in Athens, his fellow trustees affectionately present this tablet, a small gift for a great friend. One *good man*. One *tablet*.

