

DE NOVIS LIBRIS IUDICIA

Callimaco. Aitia: libro terzo e quarto. Biblioteca di studi antichi 92. A cura di GIULIO MASSIMILLA. Fabrizio Serra editore, Pisa – Roma 2010. ISBN 978-88-6227-282-7. 604 pp. EUR 245.

Consisting of four books of elegiac verse on aetiological issues, the *Aetia* was Callimachus's most important work. A highly influential poem in antiquity, it contains some of Callimachus's most cherished poems, like the two remarkable celebrations of Queen Berenice II, the *Victory of Berenice* and the *Lock of Berenice*. The *Aetia* unfortunately survives in a more or less fragmented state of preservation, but thanks to the papyrus finds our understanding of it has considerably increased during the recent decades. The strength and value of Giulio Massimilla's *Callimaco. Aitia: libro terzo e quarto*, a follow-up to his volume on the first and second books of the *Aetia* (1996), is that it incorporates these new findings into a single volume.

Like the 1996 volume, this one also opens with a bibliography and a perhaps too concise introduction on the arrangement of books III and IV, accompanied by notes on metre and prosody. It is followed by the text of the *Aetia*, which differs little from that of Pfeiffer's 1949 text in *Callimachus I* and that in the *Supplementum Hellenisticum* by Lloyd-Jones – Parsons (1983). However, Massimilla adds a large number of sublinear dots which indicate an uncertain letter. Massimilla has also given a new numbering to the fragments, and the book ends with useful *comparationes numerorum* between Massimilla, Pfeiffer and Lloyd-Jones – Parsons. After the text of the *Aetia* follows an Italian translation of the fragments and an extensive commentary section.

A modern reader of Callimachus must engage in a double detective work because, on the one hand, Callimachus's works survive only in fragments and, on the other hand, the style of the poet was highly allusive. Together with the previous 1996 volume, *Aitia: libro terzo e quarto* provides us with a reliable guide to Callimachus's finest work.

Iiro Laukola

Plutarch. How to Study Poetry (De audiendis poetis). Edited by RICHARD HUNTER – DONALD RUSSELL. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge – New York 2011. ISBN 978-1-107-00204-3 (hb), 978-0-521-17360-5 (pb). IX, 222 pp. GBP 69.99 (hb), GBP 24.99 (pb).

Le nouveau livre de Richard Hunter et Donald Russell appartient à la célèbre collection "Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics" que les deux auteurs connaissent bien, puisqu'ils y ont déjà publié des commentaires de discours de Dion Chrysostome (D.A. Russell), d'idylles de Théocrite et du IIIe livre des *Argonautiques* d'Apollonios de Rhodes (R. Hunter, qui a aussi annoncé la publication