

Demosthenes *Against Zenothemis* (Dem. 32.1-3)
AGE Ch. 27

This is the beginning of a legal speech stemming from a dispute over a loan used to back the security of a shipload of grain. The speaker is a man named Demon, a cousin of the famous orator Demosthenes, who probably composed the speech. Demon is being sued by a man named Zenothemis, a man from Massalia (now Marseille in southern France). In this speech, Zenon contends that the suit is inadmissible and should be thrown out of court.

NOTE: Some forms of οὗτος in this passage have an extra *iota*, called the DEICTIC IOTA (S 333g), which literally means “pointing *iota*.” The forms translate something like *this here*.

Ἄνδρες δικασταί, βούλομαι, παραγεγραμμένος μὴ εἰσαγώγιμον εἶναι τὴν δίκην, περὶ τῶν νόμων πρῶτον εἰπεῖν, καθ’ οὓς παρεγραψάμην. οἱ νόμοι κελεύουσιν, ὧς ἄνδρες δικασταί, τὰς δίκας εἶναι τοῖς ναυκλήροις καὶ τοῖς ἐμπόροις τῶν Ἀθήναζε καὶ τῶν Ἀθήνηθεν συμβολαίων, καὶ περὶ ὧν ἂν ὧσι συγγραφαί· ἂν δέ τις παρὰ ταῦτα δικάζεται, μὴ εἰσαγώγιμον εἶναι τὴν δίκην.
τουτῶι τοίνυν Ζηνοθέμιδι πρὸς μὲν ἐμὲ ὅτι οὐδὲν ἦν συμβόλαιον οὐδὲ συγγραφή, καὶ τὸς ὁμολογεῖ ἐν τῷ ἐγκλήματι· δανεῖσαι δὲ φησιν Ἡγεστράτῳ ναυκλήρῳ, [and that after Hegestratos was lost at sea], ἡμᾶς τὸ ναῦλον σφετερίσασθαι· τουτὶ τὸ ἐγκλημ’ ἐστίν. ἐκ δὲ τοῦ αὐτοῦ λόγου τὴν τε δίκην οὐκ εἰσαγώγιμον οὔσαν μαθήσεσθε, καὶ τὴν ὅλην ἐπιβουλήν καὶ πονηρίαν τουτουῖ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὄψεσθε. δέομαι δ’ ὑμῶν πάντων, ὧς ἄνδρες δικασταί, εἴπερ ἄλλῳ τινὶ πώποτε πράγματι τὸν νοῦν προσέσχετε, καὶ τούτῳ προσέχειν· ἀκούσεσθε γὰρ ἀνθρώπου τόλμαν καὶ πονηρίαν οὐ τὴν τυχοῦσαν, ἄνπερ ἐγὼ τὰ πεπραγμέν’ αὐτῷ πρὸς ὑμᾶς πολλάκις εἰπεῖν δυνηθῶ. οἶμαι δέ.

Ἀθήναζε to Athens
Ἀθήνηθεν from Athens
ἄλλο –ου τό other
ἂν marks a hypothetical situation
ἂν, ἄνπερ ~ εἰ
δανεῖσαι (inf act) made a loan
δέομαι ask (+ gen. of person addressed)
δικάζω sue, bring to court
δικάζεται ~ δικάζεται
δικαστής –οῦ ὁ juror
δή now
δυνηθῶ (1st sg) have the ability
ἐγκλημα –ματος τό charge, accusation, complaint
εἰσαγώγιμος –ου ὁ/ἡ admissible
εἰπεῖν ~ λέγειν
εἴπερ ~ εἰ
ἐμπορος –ου ὁ businessman
ἐπιβουλή –ῆς ἡ plot
Ζηνόθεμις –ιδις ὁ Zenothemis
Ἡγέστρατος –ου ὁ Hegestratos
ἦν (3rd sg) was
καὶ τὸς = καὶ αὐτός
ναύκληρος –ου ὁ ship master

ναῦλον –ου τό cargo
οἶμαι think (yes)
ὅλη –ης ἡ whole, entire
οὔσα –ας ἡ ~ εἶναι
παραγεγραμμένος –ου ὁ countercharging
[followed by indirect statement]
παρεγραψάμην (1st sg) was charged
πεπραγμένον –ου τό what was done + αὐτῷ
“by him”
πολλάκις often
πονηρία –ας ἡ wickedness
προσέσχετε ~ προσέχετε
προσέχω νοῦν pay attention
πρῶτον first
πώποτε ever
συγγραφή –ῆς ἡ written contract
συμβόλαιον –ου τό contract
σφετερίσασθαι (inf act) misappropriate
τοίνυν so now...
τόλμα –ης ἡ daring
τουτὶ ~ τοῦτο
τυχοῦσα –ης ἡ random
ὧσι ~ εἰσι