

**SAPPHO AND PHAON; A
TRAGEDY, SET FORTH WITH A
PROLOGUE, INTUCTION,
PRELUDE, INTERLUDES, AND
EPILOGUE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649376469

Sappho and Phaon; a tragedy, set forth with a prologue, intuction, prelude, interludes, and epilogue by Percy MacKaye

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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PERCY MACKAYE

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SAPPHO AND PHAON



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A Tragedy

SET FORTH WITH A PROLOGUE, INDUCTION,
PRELUDE, INTERLUDES, AND EPILOGUE

BY

PERCY MACKAYE

New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

LONDON: MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.

1907

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1911/07

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Set up and electrotyped. Published May, 1907.

Norwood Press

J. S. Cushing & Co. — Berwick & Smith Co.
Norwood, Mass., U.S.A.

ΤΟ ΜΑΡΙΟΝ

*σύν μοι πίνε, σιγήβα, συνέρα,
συστεφανηφόρει,
σύν μοι μαινομένω μαίνεο,
σύν σώφρονι σωφρόνει.*

PREFATORY NOTE

As the manuscript of this play is in press, the report comes from Italy that the momentous project of Professor Charles Waldstein, of Cambridge, England, for the excavation of Herculaneum is once more — after some years of vicissitude — in suspense.

Whether that incomparable undertaking, mysterious with the promise of hidden beauty and human revelation, shall be destined to fulfilment, remains for the civilizations, and preëminently for the Italian government, to determine.

In so far as some of its potential aspects have been inspirational to the inductive portions of this play, the author desires to extend his grateful acknowledgments to Professor Waldstein for having provided him with frequent authentic information regarding the Herculaneum project, and to express his hope that the conception of that project — one of the noblest modern uses of the imagination — may yet attain to its legitimate aim and acclamation.

The writer wishes, also, to express his sincere appreciation to Professor Francis W. Kelsey, of the University of Michigan (translator of Mau's "Pompeii"), for criticism of archæological details in the Prologue and Induction; to Robert Eames Faulkner, of Keene, New Hampshire, for his fine instigations to the knowledge of those alluring *Sapphic Fragments*, which breathe to-day the passionate presence of Sappho herself; to Barry Faulkner, for the cover design of this volume.

The stage rights of the play, in America, are owned by Mr. Harrison Grey Fiske, for Madame Bertha Kalich.

P. M-K.

CORNISH, NEW HAMPSHIRE,
March, 1907.



DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

I. OF THE PROLOGUE

- *MEDBERY, an American
PIETRA DI SELVA, an Italian
DR. ZWEIFEL, a German
- } Archæologists engaged in
the excavation at Hercu-
laneum.
- ITALIAN LABOURERS.

II. OF THE INDUCTION

- *ACTIUS, a Pompeian player (enacting Phaon in the Tragedy).
SOREX, a pantomimist, from Pompeii (enacting Hercules in
the Interludes of the Tragedy).
HERACLIUS, training-master (Choregus) of the players,
mimes, and pantomimists at Varius' private theatre in
Herculaneum.
VARIUS, the Roman dramatic poet, author (suppositionally)
of the Tragedy.
Q. HORATIUS FLACCUS (Horace), the Roman Satirist.
P. VERGILIUS MARO (Virgil), the poet of the Georgics
and Eclogues.
*NÆVOLEIA, a mime (enacting Sappho in the Tragedy).

III. OF THE PRELUDE

- PROLOGUS (announcing Varius' Tragedy before the Herculaneum curtain).
Varius, Horace, Virgil, Mæcenas, Pollio, Guests of Varius,
Citizens of Herculaneum (all as mutes).