

SB 24.16073

P.Berol. 25423

Other editions: Brashear in *Studies Sohlberg*, pp. 376-378

Other translation: Brashear in *Studies Sohlberg*, pp. 383-384

Other texts on the same papyrus: unpublished text and SB 24.16072 on the other side

Marriage contract (synchoreasis)

April/May, 12 BC

(a) *Addressee*

|<sup>1</sup> To Protarchos,

(b1) *Party 1*

|<sup>2</sup> from Thaubarion, the daughter of Dion, a citizen, with |<sup>3</sup> as guardian Euphron, the son of A...,

(b2) *Party 2*

|<sup>4</sup> and from her husband, Hermias, |<sup>5</sup> the son of Dionysios, of the deme of Philometor.

(c) *Joint agreement about the fact of marriage*

|<sup>6</sup> Since both Thaubarion and Hermias have been living together |<sup>7</sup> already for a long time while their |<sup>8</sup> living arrangements were unwritten, – Hermias |<sup>9</sup> having made for Thaubarion |<sup>10</sup> the document they have separate from a ... court – |<sup>11</sup> and now wish that their present affairs |<sup>12</sup> be more secure ... |<sup>13</sup> in a legal document, they agree with |<sup>14</sup> one another on the following terms such that:

(d) *Agreement about the receipt of the dowry by the husband*

since |<sup>15</sup> Hermias has received from Thaubarion in cash and |<sup>16</sup> not through a bank a dowry consisting of 2,000 Ptolmaic silver |<sup>17</sup> drachmas,

(e1) *Agreement about marital duties 1: on the husband's part*

Hermias agrees from now on |<sup>18</sup> to feed and clothe Thaubarion as is appropriate |<sup>19</sup> for a wedded wife in accordance with the means of his |<sup>20</sup> belongings and not to do her harm |<sup>21</sup> nor to throw her out nor to abuse her nor |<sup>22</sup> to bring in another wife besides her nor |<sup>23</sup> to carry out any other prohibited |<sup>24</sup> injustice against her or else, if he |<sup>25</sup> commits one of these things, to return immediately |<sup>26</sup> the aforementioned dowry along with half |<sup>27</sup> as much again, while the right of execution (*of the claim*) belongs to Thaubarion |<sup>28</sup> from Hermias himself and from all |<sup>29</sup> his belongings just as if by virtue of a legal decision,

(e2) *Agreement about marital duties 2: on the wife's part*

and |<sup>30</sup> Thaubarion herself agrees to preserve the appropriate things for |<sup>31</sup> her husband and their joint life and not |<sup>32</sup> to destroy the joint property nor to have |<sup>33</sup> intercourse with another man nor to be absent overnight or for |<sup>34</sup> an entire day from the house without the |<sup>35</sup> permission of Hermias nor to destroy or harm |<sup>36</sup> the joint property nor to have

intercourse with another man <sup>37</sup> or else, if she has done one of these things <sup>38</sup> and been found guilty, to be deprived of the dowry, and Thaubarion agrees <sup>39</sup> that if it happens that they are separated <sup>40</sup> from the marriage, upon receipt of the <sup>41</sup> 2,000 silver drachmas, to forfeit to Hermias <sup>42</sup> all the things in the house, without any delay,

(f) *Joint agreement about an additional marriage contract*

<sup>43</sup> and within 5 working days starting from the <sup>44</sup> day they give each other advance notice, they also agree <sup>45</sup> to draw up a contract concerning cohabitation in the presence of the *hierothytai*, <sup>46</sup> in which the <sup>47</sup> dowry and the customary things will be included,

(g) *Joint agreement about inheritance*

and if <sup>48</sup> Hermias suffer something before (*Thaubarion*), he agrees that all the <sup>49</sup> belongings he will leave behind along with <sup>50</sup> the dowry belong to Thaubarion <sup>51</sup> alone. And if Thaubarion <sup>52</sup> suffer something before (*Hermias*), she agrees that the dowry and <sup>53</sup> all the belongings <sup>54</sup> she will leave behind belong to Hermias <sup>55</sup> alone, while each of them has the power <sup>56</sup> to lay claim concerning these things, as <sup>57</sup> he or she wishes, and if either one dies <sup>58</sup> before the contract is drawn up ..., <sup>62</sup> and if after the contract is drawn up ... <sup>63</sup> they die afterwards, all <sup>64</sup> their belongings belong <sup>65</sup> to their daughters, born from both of them, <sup>66</sup> Philoutarion and Dionysarion, and to <sup>67</sup> any other children born to them from one another in the future <sup>68</sup> in equal shares, while the transgressing (*party*) is liable <sup>69</sup> to the statutory penalty (*to the state*).

(h) *Joint request for registration*

We request (*registration*)

(i) *Date*

<sup>70</sup> Year 18 of Caesar (*Augustus*), Pachon ...