

## GLOSSARY

*agapan* To love, esteem (rarely in an erotic manner)

*agapē* Love, affection (rarely sexual)

*agōgē* (pl. *agōgai*) Derived from the verb *agein*, “to lead, to drive,” this handbook rubric designates an erotic spell that burns or tortures the victim (usually female) and thereby leads or drives her away from her home and to the practitioner (usually male)

*charis* In love spells, the outward charm, beauty, or charisma of an attractive person

*charitēsion* (pl. *charitēsia*) A spell or device (usually an amulet or a facial oil) designed to enhance the *charis* of the person who uses it

*defixio* (pl. *defixiones*) A binding spell; the Latin term for Greek *katadesmos* (see below)

*empuron* (pl. *empura*) Literally, an “in-the-fire spell,” usually a type of *agōgē* (see above) that burns herbs or *ousia* (see below) in a fire to force the victim (usually female) out by means of sympathetic or persuasive analogy

*epaoide* (pl. *epaoidai*) The uncontracted, poetic form of the word *epōide* (see below)

*epikleros* (pl. *epikleroi*) An heiress, who according to Athenian law can be forced to marry a relative if the family lacks a male heir to inherit

*epōidē* (pl. *epōidai*) An incantation; literally, “a song sung over or against someone”

*erastēs* (pl. *erastai*) The older, active “lover” who in a male homoerotic relationship pursues and educates his “beloved” (*erōmenos*)

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*erōmenos* (pl. *erōmenoi*) The younger, passive “beloved” in a male homoerotic relationship

*erōs* (pl. *erōtes*) Sexual love, bodily passion

*hetaira* (pl. *hetairai*) Courtesan

*iunx* (pl. *iugges*) A salacious bird and a type of *agōgē* spell that involves a sympathetic or persuasive ritual in which this bird is tied to a wheel. It can also mean “erotic spell.” In the Roman period it can designate spinning tops and *rhomboi* (see below).

*katadesmos* (pl. *katadesmoi*) A binding spell, usually inscribed on a lead tablet and buried underground or deposited in an underground body of water, such as a well

*kestos himas* The magical “perforated strap” that Aphrodite lends to Hera in *Iliad* 14; in later Greek it is designated simply as the *kestos*.

*mēlon* (pl. *mēla*) Any fruit that grows on trees; can refer to apples and quinces, but can also designate tree-fruit with stones, such as peaches and apricots

*nikētikon* (pl. *nikētika*) Victory spell

*oistros* Strong or mad passion

*orgē* Disposition, anger, lust

*ousia* The “material” or “stuff” used in magical spells, e.g., bits of hair, fingernails, or garment threads used to target the victim

*pallakē* (pl. *pallakai*) Mistress

“persuasive analogy” Stanley Tambiah’s useful reformulation of Frazer’s concept of sympathetic magic

*pharmakon* (pl. *pharmaka*) Drug, poison, or incantation

*philein* To love, esteem, be affectionate (generally in a nonerotic manner)

*philia* Affection, love (generally of the nonerotic sort), friendship

*philtron* (pl. *philtrā*) A magic spell that creates *philia*; later used generally to designate any kind of magic spell or potion

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*philtrokatadesmos* (pl. *philtrokatadesmoi*) Literally "a binding love spell," a handbook rubric used to designate a hybrid spell (popular in later antiquity) that combines a love spell (*philtrion*) with a binding spell (*katadesmos*)

*psuche* Commonly designates the human "spirit" or "soul," but in slang and in erotic spells it can also mean "female genitals"

*rhombos* A device whirled at the end of a string, used in the worship of Rhea and Dionysus and in love spells; in later Greek equated or confused with the *iunx* wheel and the spinning top

*satirion* Derived from the word "satyr," denotes plants in the orchid family thought to produce erections and male lust

*stergein* To love, esteem, be affectionate, often of love within the family (never in an erotic manner)

"sympathetic magic" Frazer's term to explain the widespread belief that, e.g., by destroying an image of your enemy, you can destroy him

*sumplegma* (pl. *sumplegmata*) An effigy of a couple entwined in an erotic embrace, used in erotic spells

*thumokatochon* (pl. *thumokatocha*) A handbook rubric designating a spell that binds anger (*thumos*)

*thumos* Spirit, will, anger

*voces magicae* Magical names like "abracadabra" which appear to the uninitiated as gibberish, but which seem to designate the names of powerful supernatural forces