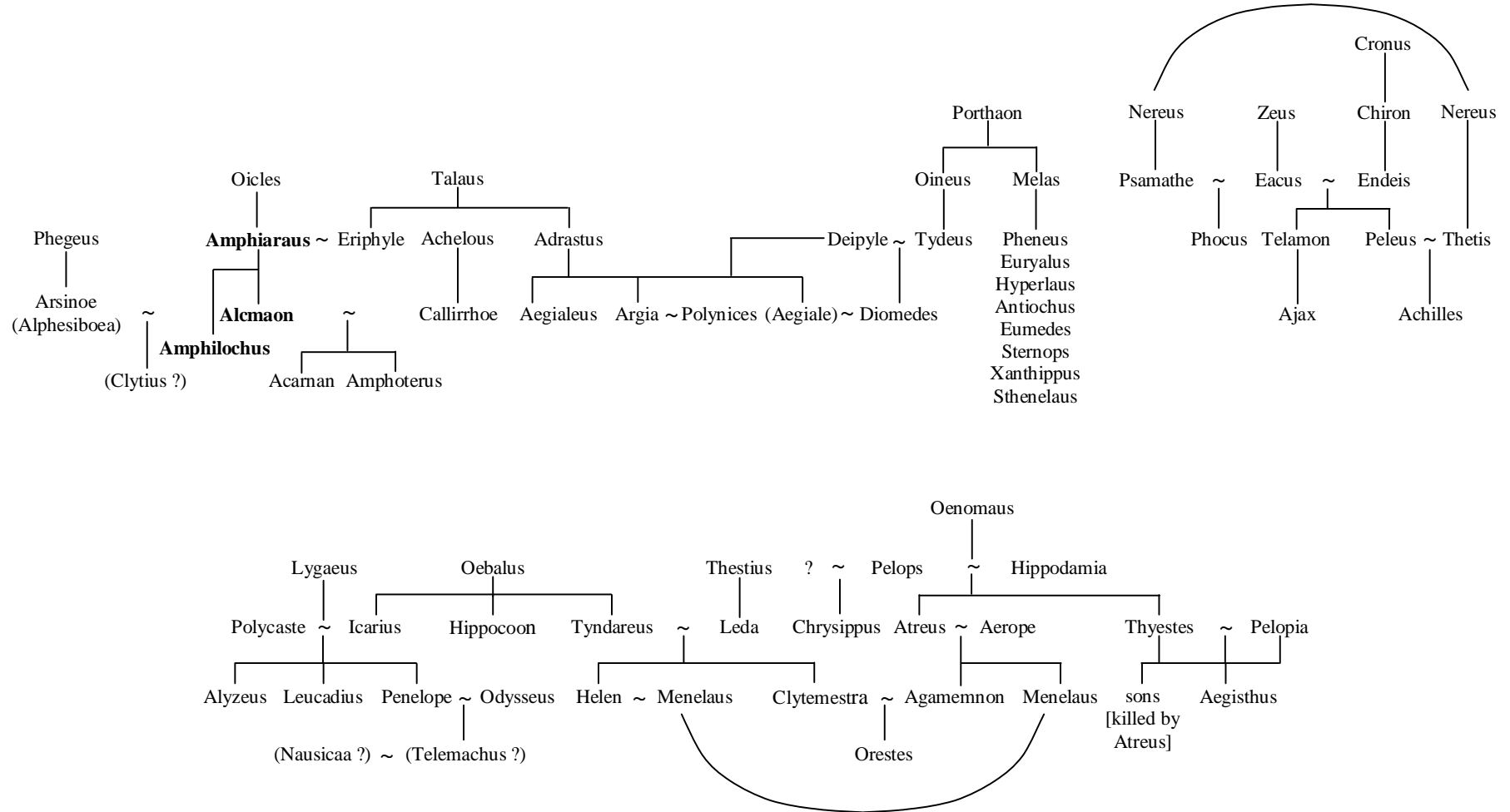


**Alcmeonis: genealogical tables (partly conjectural)**

From: A. Debiasi 'Alcmeonis', in *The Cambridge Companion to the Greek Epic Cycle*, eds. M. Fantuzzi & C. Tsagalis, forthcoming



THE 'NORM OF THE POLYP', THE *ALCMEONIS* AND THE ORACLE OF AMPHIARAUS

1) Pindar fr. 43a Maehler

ὦ τέκνον, ποντίου θηρὸς πετραίου  
χρωτὶ μάλιστα νόον  
προσφέρων πάσαις πολίεσσιν ὁμίλει·  
τῷ παρῶντι δ' ἐπαινῆσαις ἐκῶν  
ἄλλοτ' ἄλλοῖα φρόνει.

*O son, make your mind most like the skin of the rocky sea creature in all the cities you visit; readily praise the person who is present, but think differently at other times.* (tr. W.H. Race).

1-5 Athenaeus 12.513c: τοιοῦτός ἐστι καὶ ὁ παραινῶν Ἀμφιλόχῳ τῷ παιδί·...

2) Theognidean Sylloge, 213-218, part. 215-217 (cf. also 1071-1074)

πουλύπου ὀργὴν ἴσχε πολυπλόκου, ὅς ποτὶ πέτρῃ,  
τῇ προσομιλήσῃ, τοῖος ἰδεῖν ἐφάνη·  
νῦν μὲν τῇδ' ἐφέπου, τότε δ' ἄλλοῖος χροῶα γίνου.

*Adopt the mood of the cunning octopus which seems to resemble the rock to which it clings. Now follow along in this direction, now take on a different complexion* (tr. D.E. Gerber).

### 3) Fragmentum Epicum Adespotum ('Homerus' fr. 3 Davies; *Thebais* fr. 4 Bernabé = 8\* West)

πουλύποδός μοι, τέκνον, ἔχων νόον, Ἀμφίλοχ' ἦρως,  
τοῖσιν ἐφαρμόζειν, τῶν κεν κατὰ δῆμον ἴκηαι,  
ἄλλοτε δ' ἄλλοῖος τελέθειν καὶ χροίῃ ἔπεσθαι.

*Pray hold to the octopus' outlook, Amphilocheus my son,  
and adapt it to whatever people you come among;  
be changeable, and go along with the color.* (tr. M.L. West)

1-2 Athenaeus 7.317a = Clearchus fr. 75 Wehrli; cf. Eustath. *Od.* 1541.36

1-2 Antigonus of Caryistus, *Mirab.* 25a (*Paradox. Gr. Rel.* p. 46 Giannini): ὅθεν δῆλον καὶ ὁ ποιητὴς τὸ θρυλούμενον ἔγραψεν· “πουλύποδος ὢς, τέκνον, ἔχων ἐν στήθεσι θυμόν, / τοῖσιν ἐφαρμόζειν”

3 Zenobius 1.24 (*Paroem. Gr.* 1.7.10 Leutsch-Schneidewin)

3 Diogenianus 1.23 (*Paroem. Gr.* 1.184.12 Leutsch-Schneidewin)

### 4) Pausanias 5.17.7

*Next is wrought the house of Amphiarauus, and baby Amphilocheus is being carried by some old woman or other (καὶ Ἀμφίλοχον φέρει νήπιον πρεσβῦτις ἥτις δῆ). In front of the house stands Eriphyle with the necklace, and by her are her daughters Eurydice and Demonassa, and the boy Alcmaeon naked (καὶ Ἀλκμαίων παῖς γυμνός). [...] Amphiarauus already has one foot on the chariot and his sword drawn; he is turned towards Eriphyle in such a transport of anger that he can scarcely refrain from striking her.* (tr. W.H.S. Jones – H.A. Ormerod)

### 5) Apollodorus 3.7.2 = *Alcmeonis* fr. °11 Bernabé

*Having chosen Alcmaeon as their leader, they made war on Thebes. The men who took part in the expedition were these: Alcmaeon and Amphilocheus, sons of Amphiarauus (Ἀλκμαίων καὶ Ἀμφίλοχος Ἀμφιαράου); Aegialeus, son of Adrastus; Diomedes, son of Tydeus; Promachus, son of Parthenopaeus; Sibenelus, son of Capaneus; Thersander, son of Polyneices; and Euryalus, son of Mecisteus.* (tr. J.G. Frazer)

6) Strabo 10.2.26; 7.7.7 = Ephorus *FGrHist* 70 F 123a-b = *Alcm.* fr. 99 [I-II] Bernabé

*Ephorus, then, makes Acarnania subject to Alcmaeon even before the Trojan War; and he not only declares that the Amphiloebian Argos was founded by him, but also says that Acarnania was named after Alcmaeon's son Acarnan, and the Amphiloebians after Alcmaeon's brother Amphiloebus (ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ Ἀμφιλόχου).*

*Alcmaeon stayed in Acarnania, founded Argos, and named it Amphiloebicum after his brother (ἐπώνυμον τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ).* (tr. H.L. Jones)

7) Pindar, *Pythian* 8.38-55

*... you earn the very words  
which Oikles' son once spoke in riddles as he beheld  
the sons standing firm in battle at seven-gated Thebes,*

*when the Epigonoï came from Argos  
on a second expedition.*

*Thus he spoke as they fought:*

*“By nature the noble resolve from fathers  
shines forth in their sons. I clearly see  
Alkman wielding the dappled serpent on his flashing  
shield in the forefront at the gates of Kadmos.*

*But he who suffered in a former defeat,  
the hero Adrastos,  
is now met with news  
of better omen, but in his own household  
he will fare otherwise: for he alone from the Danaan army  
will gather the bones of his dead son and with the favor  
of the gods will come with his host unharmed*

*to the spacious streets of Abas”.* (tr. W.H. Race)

8) *Etymologicum Gudianum* s.v. **Ζαγρεύς** = *Alcmeonis* fr. 3 Bernabé/West

Cf. *Anecd. Oxon.* 2.443.8 Cramer

πότνια Γῆ, Ζαγρεῦ τε θεῶν πανυπέρτατε πάντων

*Mistress Earth, and Zagreus highest of all the gods* (tr. M.L. West)