

Of TYPHON & the GODS a NARRATIVE after APOLLODORUS

the gods Old Thunderers destroyed
the giants angry Earth
in anger

fucked Tartarus
did let him father Typhon on her
cave-birth

between man & beast
his size & strength were
greater than earth's other children
human to thighs bulked
large above all
mountains

whose head for largeness
brushed the stars
his hands reached east & west
projected

a hundred dragons heads
down from the thighs snakes
coiled pulled erect
to reach his head
were hissing feathers

on his body
wild hair flew out in
wind from head

to cheeks 't was
like fire in his eye
so tall

old Typhon was
hurled burning rocks
was screeching

hissing
spouted a jet of fire from
his mouth

en route to heaven

2

careening toward sky was Typhon
sighted by gods
escaped him

made for Egypt
there they would change to
animals
one left behind
Old Zeus Bright Sky
far off could volley
thunderbolts
would close in flatten him with adamantine
sickle
there goes monster-
man he's almost
in Syria 's got old Zeus
pursuing (sez)
"he's wounded"
wrestles him now entangling
himself in Typhon's
coils entwined
who grasps the sickle
severs the sinews of
his hands & feet
& hoisted on shoulders
through the sea he hauls
the Thunderer back to
his cavern home
will drop him hide
sinews in bearskin
sets a guard there
"Dragon Lady"
"Dolphin"
"Virgin"
halfway created between
man & beast

3

in sequel
Hermes Pillar God came
& Goat Pan
stole the sinews back
made Zeus a perfect
fit (who saw it?)
's got his strength again
Zeus

in a chariot of wingd
 horses riding down sky hurled
 thunder at Typhon
chased that monster to
 Lame Mountain
 where the Fates would trick him
got him to taste
 “ephemera”
 are fruits they said would
strengthen him
 from there to Thrace again
 pursued battled around
the bloody hill tossed up whole
 mountains Zeus thrust
 back at him by force of
thunderbolt
 a stream of blood
 gushed from
its rocks thereafter called
 Blood Mountain

4

 in flight through
 the Sicilian Sea
old Zeus threw Aetna on him
 “that great mountain”
 to this day erupts with
fire
 thunderbolts
 touched off when thrown
ages before

Salamanca, New York
17.ii.74

OF HERMES FISHERMAN ANOTHER TYPHON FRAGMENT

savior of Zeus but Typhon's
 slayer
 tricked the old snake-
man with promises
 banquets of fish
 (he said)
would draw him from his
 deep hole to the sea's
 edge vulnerable
to their lightnings
 crack-of-fire
 thunderbolts that flattened him
blazed in that heat storm
 beat his hundred heads on
 rocks
carded like wool the yellow
 dunes still red with Typhon's
 blood o Hermes
counselor
 god of fishermen
 among old powers of
the hunt

[*after Oppian*]

OLD MAN BEAVER'S BLESSING SONG

From *Seneca Journal 1: A Poem of Beavers*

*OLD*MAN*BEAVER'S*BLESSING*SONG*
*all*i*want*'s*a*good*5ç*seegar*
heeheeHOHOheeheeHOHOheeheeHOHO
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