

Oracles Concerning Esarhaddon – (Transcription)

Esarhaddon, king of the lands, fear not! That wind which blows against you – I need only say a word and I can bring it to an end. Your enemies, like a young boar in the month of Simanu, will flee even at your approach. I am the great Belet – I am the goddess Ishtar of Arbela, she who has destroyed your enemies at your mere approach. What order have I given you which you did not rely upon? I am Ishtar of Arbela! I shall lie in wait for your enemies, I shall give them to you. I, Ishtar of Arbela, will go before you and behind you. Fear not! You who are paralyzed (saying), “Only the crying woe can I either get up or sit down.”

(The oracle is) from the woman Ishtar-la-tashiat of Arbela.

O King of Assyria, fear not! The enemy of the king of Assyria I will deliver to slaughter.

(This oracle is) from the woman Sin-qisha-amur of Arbela.

I rejoice over Esarhaddon, my king; Arbela rejoices! (This oracle is) from the woman Rimute-allate of the town Darahuya which is in the mountains.

Fear not! Esarhaddon! I, the god Bel, am speaking to you. I watch over your inner heart as would your mother who brought you forth. Sixty great gods are standing together with me to protect you. The god Sin is at your right, the god Shamash at your left. The sixty great gods are standing around you, ranged for battle. Do not trust human beings! Lift your eyes to me, look at me! I am Ishtar of Arbela; I have turned Ashur’s favor to you. When you were small, I chose you. Fear not! Praise me! Where is there any enemy who overcame you while I remained quiet? Those who are now behind will soon be the leaders. I am the god Nabu, god of the stylus. Praise me!

(This oracle is) from the woman Baia of Arbela.

I am Ishtar of Arbela, O Esarhaddon, king of Assyria. In the cities Ashur, Nineveh, Calah, Arbela I shall grant you many days, endless years. I will light a lamp of elmeshu-stone for Esarhaddon, king of Assyria. O Esarhaddon, legitimate heir, son of the goddess Ninlil! I am ... for you. You shall live well in your palace. Your son and your grandson will exercise rule on the lap of the god Ninurta.

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