

## Egyptian Customs in Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus*

“Oh, what miserable and perfect copies  
have they grown to be of Egyptian ways!  
For there the men sit at home and weave  
while their wives go out to win the daily bread,  
as you do, my daughters.”

--Paul Roche

“So,  
just like Egyptians, aren't they? Heart and soul!  
The same habits, same way they live their lives.  
There it's the men who loll about indoors,  
doing the work of women at the loom,  
but the wives are out ad working,  
winning the daily bread, day, day out.”

--Robert Fagles

“Those two are like in everything  
to the ways of Egypt,  
both in their nature and in how they live.  
For in that country the men sit within doors  
Working at the loom, while the wives go out  
to get the daily bread.”

--David Grene