

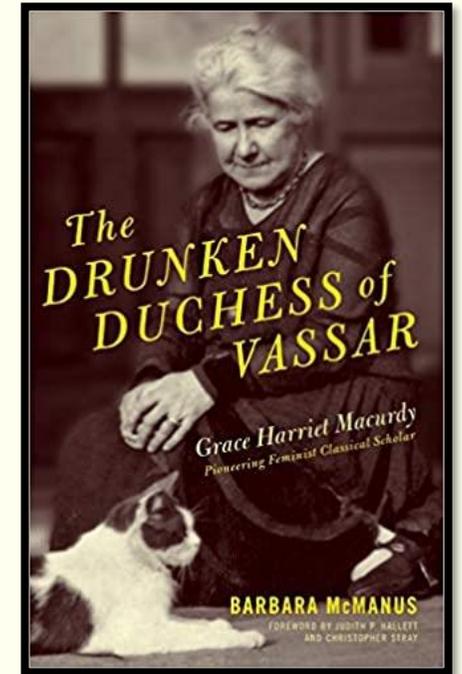
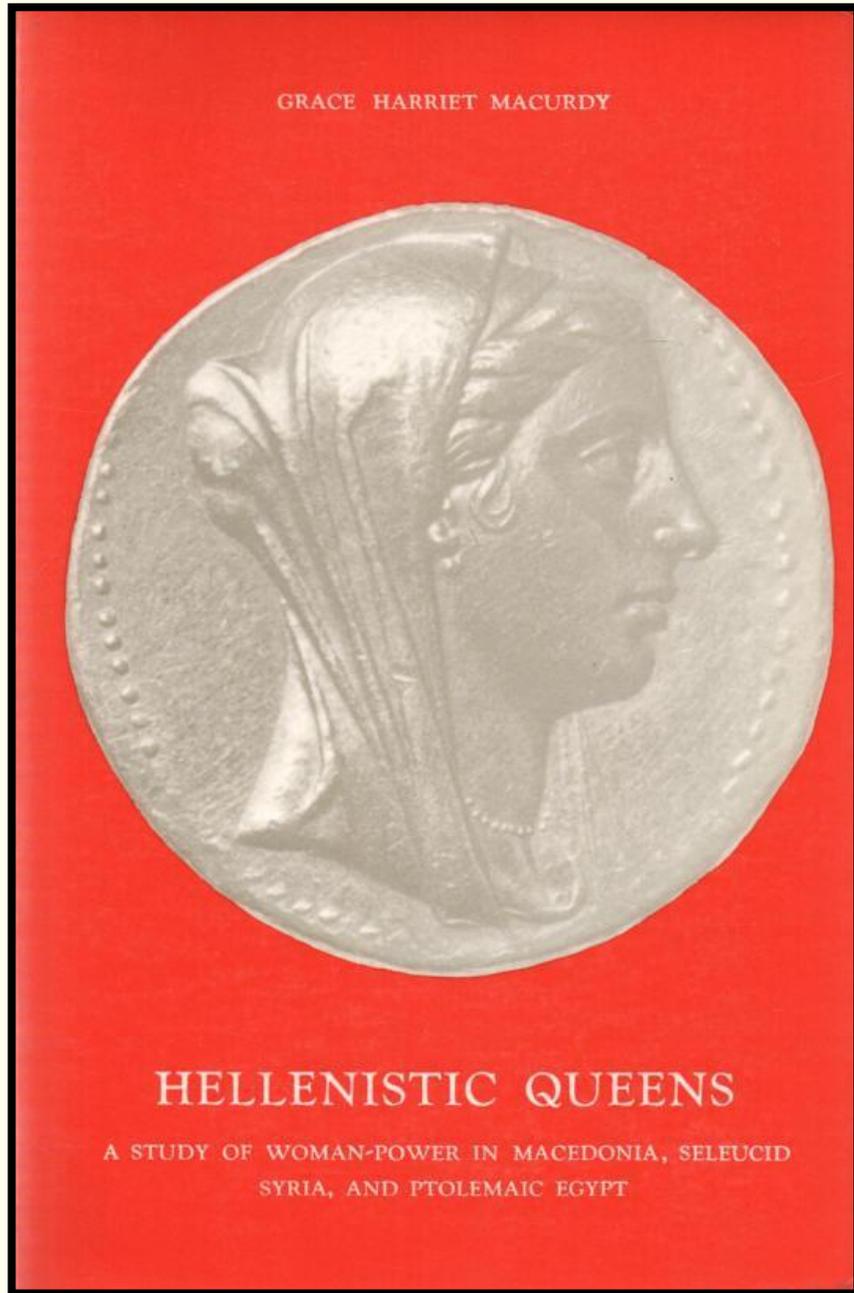
*Power:
Paradigms and Parameters*

Sheila L. Ager
University of Waterloo



Grace Harriet Macurdy (1932)

Hellenistic Queens: A Study of Woman-Power in Macedonia, Seleucid Syria, and Ptolemaic Egypt



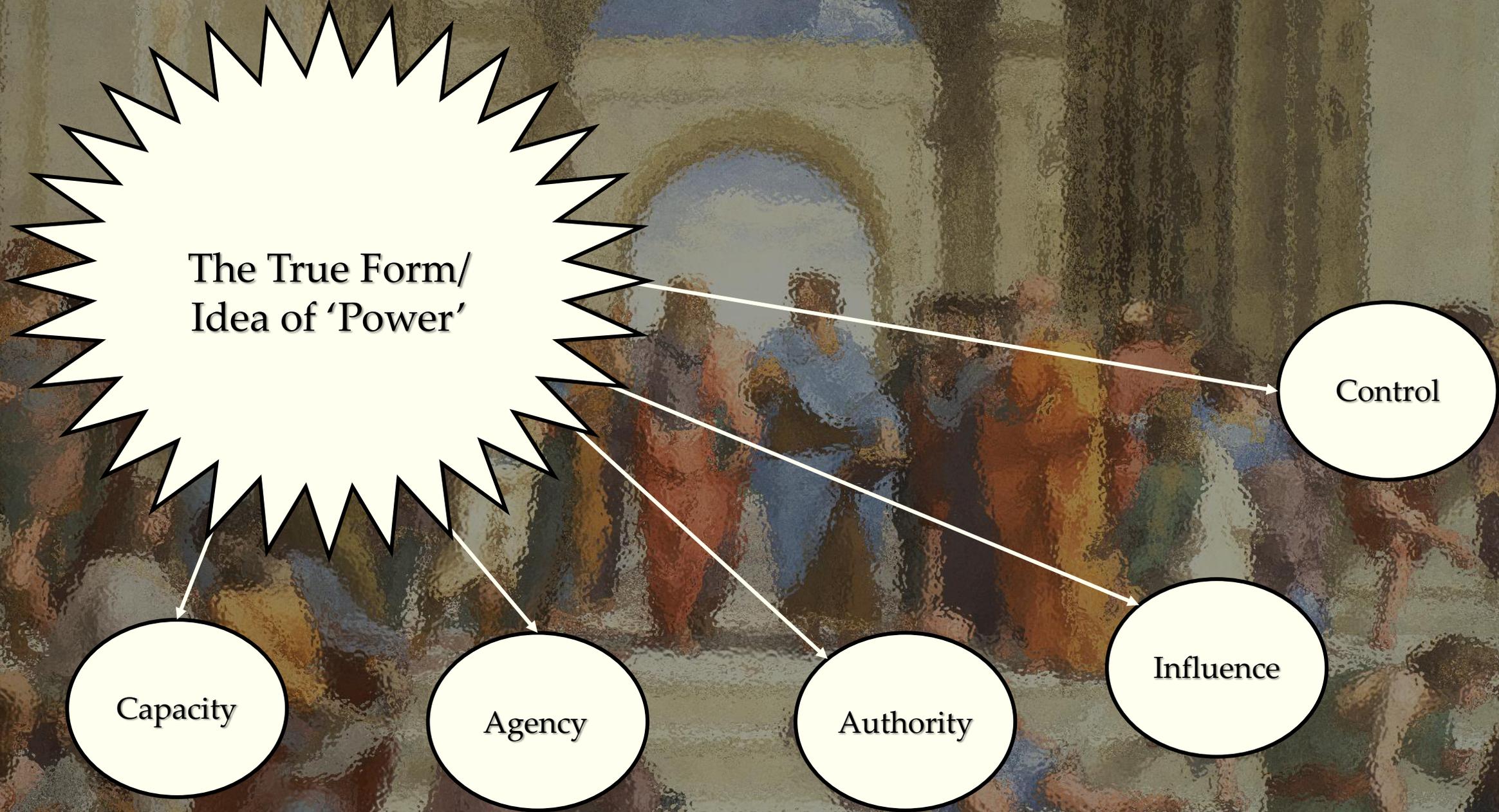
Paradigms & Parameters

- Paradigms – what does power look like?
- Parameters – how do we measure it?

School of Athens
Raphael, 1509-1511



Plato Aristotle



Some Paradigms?

- Capacity – ability, resources.
- Agency – ability to act.

Laodike III in Asia Minor

- **In the same way his sister and queen Laodike constantly shares the same view as the king** in [all circumstances] . . . and in good deeds towards the city she shows [herself] eager and zealous to perform benefactions, and the people has received the greatest / [blessings] from both of them... (Decree of Teos voting honours to Antiochos and Laodike, 204/3 BCE; Austin 191).
- Queen Laodike to the council and people of Iasos, greetings... **since it is my policy to act in accordance with [my brother's] zeal and eagerness ...** I will try to help in securing in every way the other benefits I intend to confer, **acting in accordance with / the wishes of my brother.** (Letter of Laodike to Iasos, 196/5 BCE; Austin 198).

Some Paradigms?

- Capacity – ability, resources.
- Agency – ability to act.
- Authority – delegation of power by right.
- Influence – no authority, but capacity to sway another.

Arsinoë II and Lysimachos

Lysimachos, **by the cajolery of Arsinoë** (περιδρομῆι Ἀρσινόης) slew Agathokles, the best and elder of his sons, initially with a hidden poison but when that had been disgorged thanks to foreknowledge, through the most shameless resolve. He threw him into prison, charged him falsely with a plot against himself, and ordered him to be cut to pieces.

Memnon of Herakleia *BNJ* 434 F1 5.6

(translation Keaveney & Madden)

Some Paradigms?

- Capacity – ability, resources.
- Agency – ability to act.
- Authority – delegation of power by right.
- Influence – no authority, but capacity to sway another.
- Control – exercise of dominance.



Cleopatra Thea &
her son, Antiochos
VIII "Grypos"



After recovering his father's throne and being freed from threats from abroad, Grypos became the target of his mother's treachery. Through her lust for power (cupiditate dominationis) she had already betrayed her husband, Demetrios, and killed her other son; now she took it ill that her prestige was diminished by Grypos' victory, and so she set before him a cup of poison when he was returning from exercise. Grypos, however, had been forewarned of the plot and, pretending to challenge his mother on a point of courtesy, bade her drink it herself. She refused, and he insisted... So the queen was beaten by a crime that recoiled on its author, and died by the poison which she had prepared for another. (Justin 39.2.7-8)

How Hillary Clinton Met Satan

The hideous, diabolical truth about Hillary Clinton



Donald Trump Just Called Hillary Clinton the Devil and Threatened to Prosecute Her

BEN CARSON DOUBLES DOWN ON SATAN-CLINTON CONNECTION

Parameters

- Metrics? Evidence?

Arsinoë II Philadelphos



*Arsinoë was the greatest politically...
Arsinoë was more like the men of her
line in her power of planning and the
definiteness of her political aims... she
was destined in Egypt to be a queen
exercising the power of a king.*

Grace Macurdy

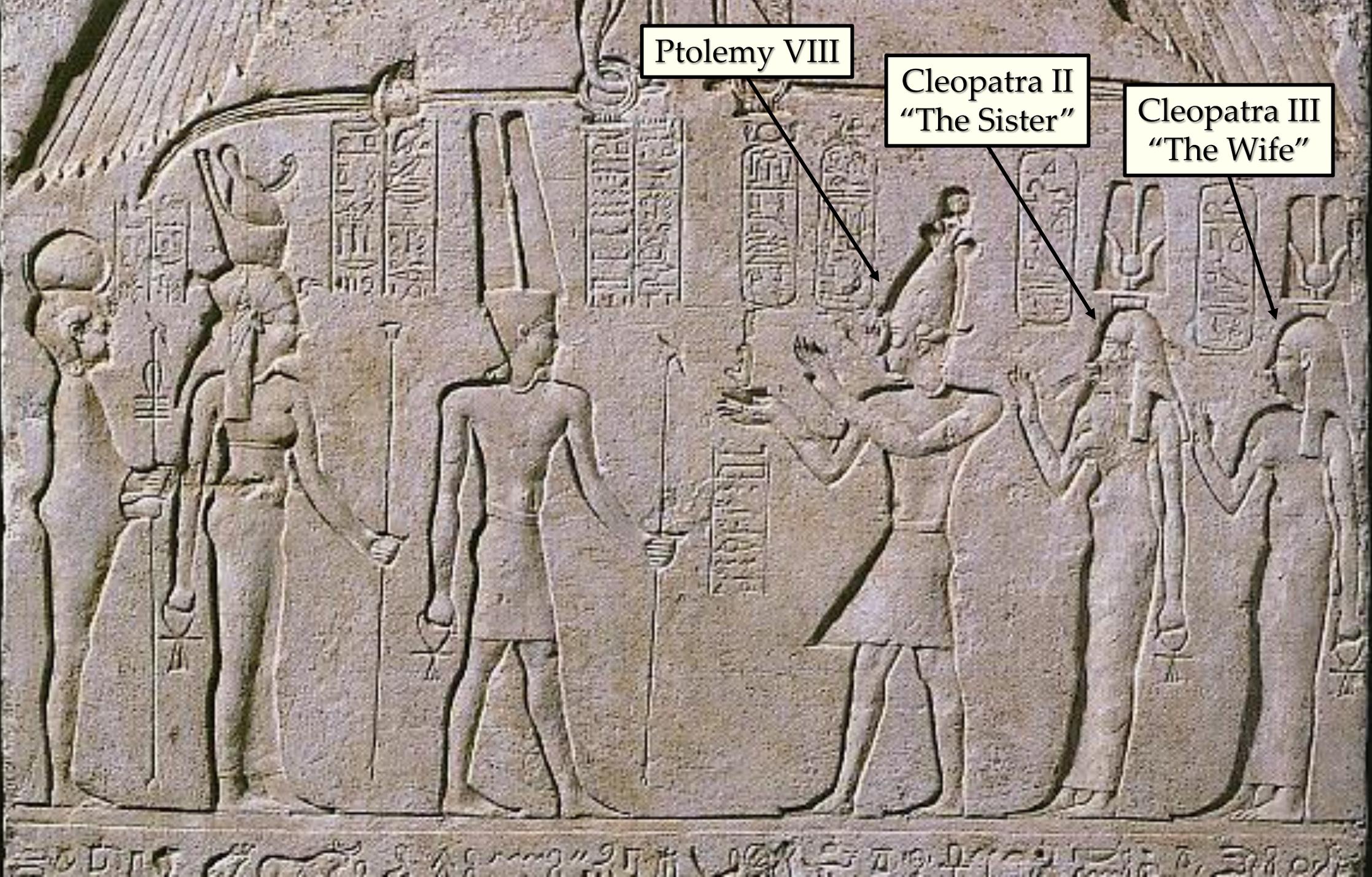
Parameters

- Metrics? Evidence?
- Alignment with the king?
- Independence and orthogonal behaviour

Ptolemy VIII

Cleopatra II
"The Sister"

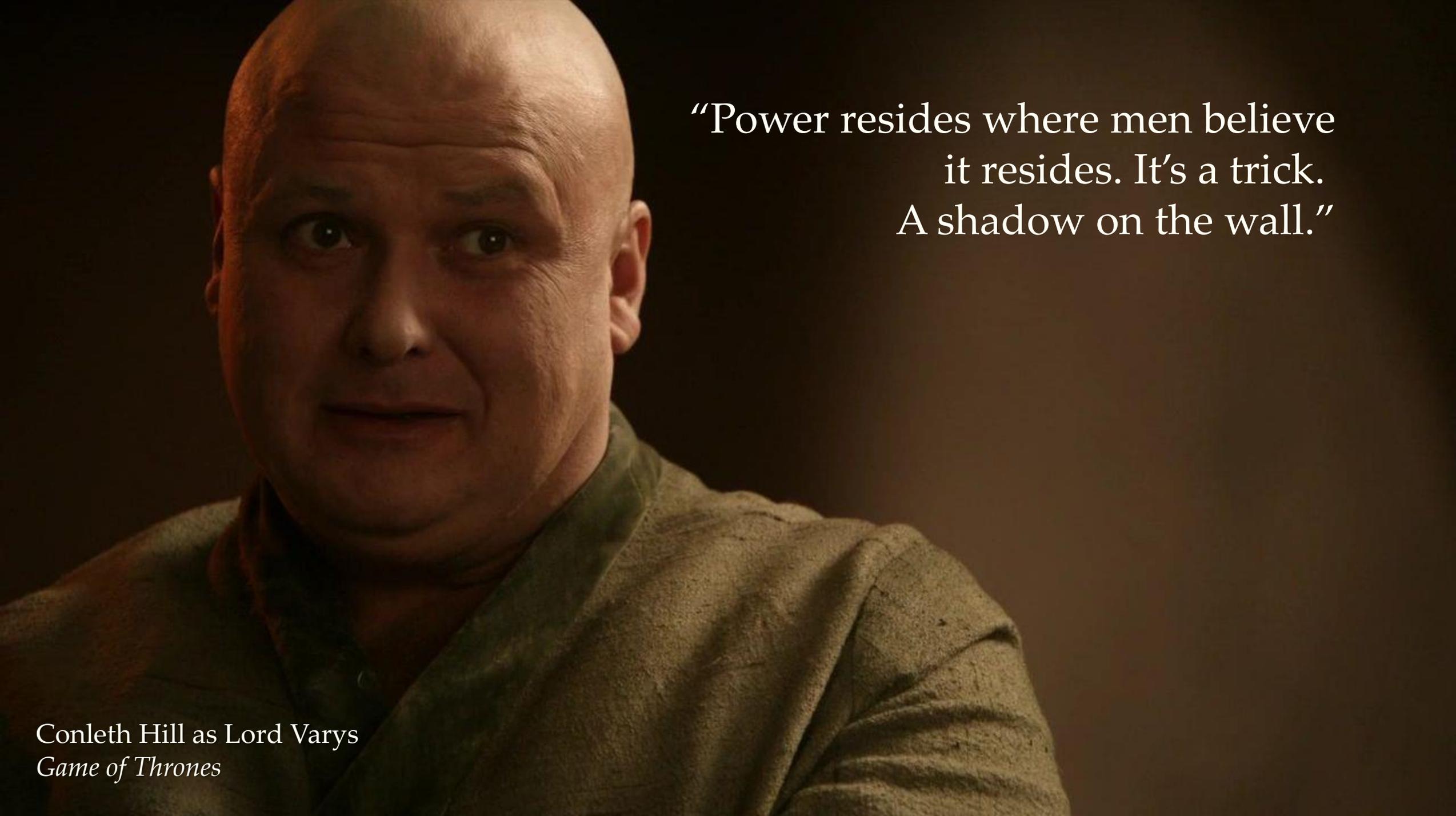
Cleopatra III
"The Wife"





*All authority, in a great degree,
exists in opinion: royal authority
most of all.*

*Edmund Burke,
Fourth Letter on a Regicide Peace*



“Power resides where men believe
it resides. It’s a trick.
A shadow on the wall.”

Conleth Hill as Lord Varys
Game of Thrones