The Drunken Deity (Punic Names in the Hellenic Myths)

Henri Volohonsky
where once upon a time
the town Kineret stood
there the god Kinor and his spouse both ruled
and just nearby
lay the beach Kineret
and the lake Kineret
was full of wine
like a nightingale’s violine
and there ruled god Kinor
who was called king Agenor

a suburb of that urban site
was called Bet Said
or Bethsaida i.e. Sidon
and from immemorial time in this Sidon
ruled the king god Kinor
who was named Agenor
and lake Kineret splashes there
where
rules the king named a god
Agenor
Agenor's daughter was a famous beautiful girl
one may say she was not unhandsome at all
she was a young lady of European appearance
drawing circles with her bottom up in the air dance
her name was Europe—
an undeniable fact and a clear truth
in the West only she used to perform
and when was grasped in the West by Erebus's mouth
the Bull Aleph Taurus
she didn't dare to look neither to the North
nor to the South

but her brother Cadmus was from the Eastern shore
he tried to sail and she managed to disappear
his name was Cadmus meaning the Eastern
and he was perpetually drunk at easter
Cadmus's wife tried to be Harmonia or Harmony
whom one may call Hermonia or Harmony
deriving her name from Mt Hermon
just as from that Bull Aleph-Taurus could be
their daughter Hashmal
as a hot Ashemal was she burned
as a fire was she flamed
as a torch was she blazed
as a flame was she fired
as Semela was she torched
she prematurely gave birth—
in this way was she tortured
and blazed from the central hottest heat
was she looked at like a knot around
to which was bound Hashmal Ashemal
to her ardour of embers as if those were real
the resinous Semela whistling with zeal

in this way appears
the one who bears
the name Iao Iahu Iakh
Iah Ioh Iewo Ihwh
Wakh Uakh Uah Iowakh
eh ah Agenor's grandgrandson
Cadmus's grandson
Semela's son
oh hooray the last sound
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