

Takhsis

# Third Wedding Library Journal

## LITERARY CLIPPING SERVICE LIBRARY JOURNAL

JAN 1 1972

TAKTSIS, Costas. *The Third Wedding*.  
tr. from Greek by Leslie Finer. 301p.  
Red Dust. Nov. 1971. \$6.95. ISBN 0-  
87376-018-2. LC 79-155440. F

Taktsis' book is a celebration of the

Greek people and the Greek woman in particular, and it roars with life. It is a kind of tribute to the Athenian narrator's third mother-in-law, Hecuba Longos. Written in subjective, earthy, racy monologue, Hecuba's life story takes the reader from the time of the Balkan wars to World War II, and deals with the split between the reactionary and liberal forces of Greece. In a world where men reign supreme and women are forced to accept or react to their decisions, Hecuba tries to hold her own. React she does, and never mildly. She battles with and for her children and refuses to bow to life's indiscriminately dealt blows. It is Hecuba's response to life that is so magnificent—at times foolish and destructive, at times courageous, always intense. Hecuba burns herself out in the struggle. Above all, it is this intensity of life that Taktsis conveys through his breathtaking portrayal of characters and events.—*Lelde Gilman, Biomedical Library, University of California at Los Angeles*