LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 35

The Civil War

LUCAN

Bellum Civile

The Civil War

Part One: Books I–V

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with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order

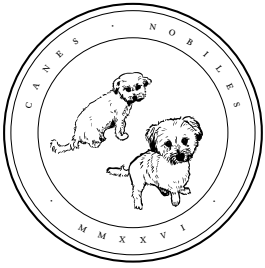


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Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
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The poem is undivided within its books, so the division into episodes and every English section title are this press's. The verses Housman brackets as spurious are not printed, and the numbering passes over them, as it passes over those he omits; Housman prints *u* for consonantal *v*.

CONTENTS

BOOK I

I.1 · Wars Worse Than Civil 9
I.2 · To Nero 11
I.3 · The Causes 14
I.4 · Pompey and Caesar 16
I.5 · The Seeds of War 21
I.6 · The Rubicon 23
I.7 · Ariminum and Curio 26
I.8 · Caesar's Speech 31
I.9 · Laelius' Answer 35
I.10 · The Legions Leave Gaul 38
I.11 · Panic in Rome 43
I.12 · The Portents 47
I.13 · Arruns 52
I.14 · Figulus 56
I.15 · The Matron's Prophecy 58

BOOK II

II.1 · The City in Mourning 61
II.2 · Marius 66

BOOK II

(continued)

II.3 · Sulla's Proscriptions 71
II.4 · The Slaughter at the Sheepfolds 75
II.5 · Brutus Visits Cato 78
II.6 · Cato's Answer 82
II.7 · Marcia 85
II.8 · Italy and the Apennines 90
II.9 · The Towns Yield 93
II.10 · Corfinium 96
II.11 · Pompey's Speech 100
II.12 · Brundisium 105
II.13 · The Blockade 109
II.14 · Pompey Leaves Italy 113

BOOK III

III.1 · Julia's Ghost 117
III.2 · Caesar Seeks Grain 120
III.3 · Caesar Enters Rome 123
III.4 · The Treasury 127
III.5 · Pompey's Allies: Greece and Asia 129
III.6 · Pompey's Allies: The East and Africa 134
III.7 · The Envoys of Massilia 139
III.8 · Caesar Besieges Massilia 143
III.9 · The Sacred Grove 146
III.10 · The Siege Works 150
III.11 · The Fleets Engage 154
III.12 · Deaths at Sea 159
III.13 · Fire and Water 164
III.14 · Argus and the Victory 169

BOOK IV

IV.1 · Ilerda 175
IV.2 · The Flood 178
IV.3 · The Armies Fraternize 184
IV.4 · Petreius Breaks the Peace 189
IV.5 · Thirst 193
IV.6 · Afranius Surrenders 198
IV.7 · The Rafts of Vulteius 204
IV.8 · Vulteius' Speech 209
IV.9 · The Mass Suicide 213
IV.10 · Curio and Antaeus 217
IV.11 · Curio's First Victory 223
IV.12 · The Trap of Juba 227
IV.13 · Curio's Death 232

BOOK V

V.1 · The Senate in Epirus 235
V.2 · Delphi 240
V.3 · The Prophetess 245
V.4 · The Oracle's Meaning 249
V.5 · The Mutiny 252
V.6 · Caesar Faces the Mutineers 257
V.7 · Caesar Consul 262
V.8 · The Calm at Sea 264
V.9 · Caesar Calls Antonius 268
V.10 · Amyclas 272
V.11 · The Storm 277
V.12 · The Fleet Crosses 284
V.13 · Cornelia Sent to Lesbos 287

BOOK I

I.1 · WARS WORSE THAN CIVIL

The poet sings of wars worse than civil on the plains of Emathia, of a powerful people turning its victorious right hand against its own entrails, and of the broken compact of shared rule. He asks the citizens what frenzy made them offer Roman blood to hated nations while Crassus' shade wandered unavenged: the blood spent could have won the whole world from east to west. If Rome so loves unspeakable war, let it first bring the whole world under Latin laws and only then turn its hands on itself; Italy's half-ruined towns and untilled fields are the work of no Pyrrhus or Carthaginian but of civil hands.

Bella per Emathios plus quam ciuilia campos
Wars through Emathian more than civil plains
iusque datum sceleri canimus, populumque potentem
and-right given to-crime we-sing, and-a-people powerful
in sua uictrici conuersum uiscera dextra
into its-own with-victorious turned entrails right-hand
cognatasque acies, et rupto foedere regni
and-kindred battle-lines, and with-broken the-compact of-the-kingship
certatum totis concussi uiribus orbis
fought-out with-all of-the-shaken strength world
in commune nefas, infestisque obuia signis
into common abomination, and-to-hostile opposed standards
signa, pares aquilas et pila minantia pilis.
standards, matched eagles and javelins threatening javelins.
quis furor, o ciues, quae tanta licentia ferri?
what frenzy, O citizens, what so-great license of-steel?
gentibus inuisis Latium praebere cruorem
to-nations hated Latin to-offer blood

cumque superba foret Babylon spolianda tropaeis
and-when proud was Babylon to-be-stripped of-trophies
Ausoniis umbraque erraret Crassus inulta
Ausonian and-as-a-shade wandered Crassus unavenged
bella geri placuit nullos habitura triumphos?
wars to-be-waged it-pleased no going-to-have triumphs?
heu, quantum terrae potuit pelagique parari
alas, how-much of-land could and-of-sea to-be-won
hoc quem ciuiles hauserunt sanguine dextrae,
with-this which civil drained blood hands,
unde uenit Titan et nox ubi sidera condit
whence comes Titan and night where the-stars hides
quaque dies medius flagrantibus aestuat horis
and-where day mid with-blazing seethes hours
et qua bruma rigens ac nescia uere remitti
and where winter stiff and not-knowing by-spring to-be-loosed
astringit Scythico glacialem frigore pontum!
binds with-Scythian icy cold the-sea!
sub iuga iam Seres, iam barbarus isset Araxes
under the-yoke now the-Seres, now barbarian would-have-gone Araxes
et gens siqua iacet nascenti conscia Nilo.
and the-race if-any lies to-the-rising privy Nile.
tum, si tantus amor belli tibi, Roma, nefandi,
then, if so-great love of-war to-you, Rome, unspeakable,
totum sub Latias leges cum miseris orbem,
whole under Latin laws when you-shall-have-sent the-world,
in te uerte manus: nondum tibi defuit hostis.
against yourself turn (your)-hands: not-yet to-you has-been-lacking an-enemy.
at nunc semirutis pendent quod moenia tectis
but now with-half-ruined hang that the-walls roofs

urbibus Italiae lapsisque ingentia muris
in-the-cities of-Italy and-with-fallen huge walls
saxa iacent nulloque domus custode tenentur
stones lie and-by-no houses guardian are-held
rarus et antiquis habitator in urbibus errat,
a-rare and ancient inhabitant in cities wanders,
horrida quod dumis multosque inarata per annos
rough that with-brambles and-many unplowed through years
Hesperia est desuntque manus poscentibus aruis,
Hesperia is and-are-lacking hands to-demanding fields,
non tu, Pyrrhe ferox, nec tantis cladibus auctor
not you, Pyrrhus fierce, nor for-so-great disasters the-author
Poenus erit: nulli penitus descendere ferro
the-Carthaginian will-be: to-no deep to-descend steel
contigit; alta sedent ciuilis uolnera dextrae.
it-has-been-granted; deep sit of-a-civil the-wounds hand.

I.2 · TO NERO

If the fates found no other way for Nero to come, the poet will accept the crimes, Pharsalia and Munda, Perusia and Mutina, as the price, since Rome owes much to the civil wars that brought him. When Nero leaves the earth late, heaven and every god will yield to him whatever realm he chooses; let him sit at the sky's center, lest its balance tip, and then let mankind lay down its arms and peace shut the iron gates of Janus. The poet needs no Apollo or Bacchus to inspire him, for Nero is enough to give strength to Roman song.

quod si non aliam uenturo fata Neroni
but if not other for-going-to-come the-fates Nero
inuenere uiam magnoque aeterna parantur
found a-way and-at-a-great-price eternal are-won

regna deis caelumque suo seruire Tonanti
kingdoms for-the-gods and-heaven to-its-own to-serve Thunderer
non nisi saeuorum potuit post bella gigantum,
not except of-savage could after the-wars giants,
iam nihil, o superi, querimur; scelera ipsa nefasque
now nothing, O gods-above, we-complain; crimes themselves and-abomination
hac mercede placent. diros Pharsalia campos
at-this price please. dire Pharsalia plains
inpleat et Poeni saturentur sanguine manes,
let-fill and of-the-Carthaginian let-be-glutted with-blood the-shades,
ultima funesta concurrant proelia Munda,
last at-deadly let-clash battles Munda,
his, Caesar, Perusina fames Mutinaeque labores
to-these, Caesar, Perusine famine and-of-Mutina toils
accedant fatis et quas premit aspera classes
let-be-added to-the-fates and which presses rugged fleets
Leucas et ardenti seruilia bella sub Aetna,
Leucas and burning servile wars under Aetna,
multum Roma tamen debet ciuilibus armis
much Rome yet owes to-civil arms
quod tibi res acta est. te, cum statione peracta
that for-you the-thing done was. you, when with-the-watch finished
astra petes serus, praelati regia caeli
the-stars you-shall-seek late, of-preferred the-palace heaven
excipiet gaudente polo: seu sceptra tenere
will-receive with-rejoicing sky: whether scepters to-hold
seu te flammigeros Phoebi conscendere currus
or you flame-bearing of-Phoebus to-mount chariot
telluremque nihil mutato sole timentem
and-the-earth nothing with-changed sun fearing

igne uago lustrare iuuet, tibi numine ab omni
with-fire wandering to-traverse it-please, to-you divinity from every
cedetur, iurisque tui natura relinquet
it-will-be-yielded, and-of-right your nature will-leave
quis deus esse uelis, ubi regnum ponere mundi.
what god to-be you-wish, where the-kingship to-set of-the-world.
sed neque in Arctoo sedem tibi legeris orbe
but neither in Arctic a-seat for-yourself choose circle
nec polus auersi calidus qua uergitur Austri,
nor the-pole of-the-turned-away hot where slopes South-Wind,
unde tuam uideas obliquo sidere Romam.
whence your you-may-see with-slanting star Rome.
aetheris inmensi partem si presseris unam,
of-the-ether immense a-part if you-press one,
sentiet axis onus. librati pondera caeli
will-feel the-axis the-load. of-the-balanced the-weights heaven
orbe tene medio; pars aetheris illa sereni
in-the-circle hold middle; the-part of-the-ether that clear
tota uacet nullaeque obstent a Caesare nubes.
whole let-be-empty and-no let-block from Caesar clouds.
tum genus humanum positis sibi consulat armis
then the-race human with-laid-down for-itself let-consult arms
inque uicem gens omnis amet; pax missa per orbem
and-in turn race every let-love; peace sent through the-world
ferrea belligeri conpescat limina Iani.
iron of-war-waging let-shut the-thresholds Janus.
sed mihi iam numen; nec, si te pectore uates
but to-me already a-divinity; nor, if you in-breast prophet
accipio, Cirrhaea uelim secreta mouentem
I-receive, Cirrhaean I-would-wish secrets moving

sollicitare deum Bacchumque auertere Nysa:
to-trouble the-god and-Bacchus to-turn-away from-Nysa:
tu satis ad uires Romana in carmina dandas.
you enough for strength Roman into songs giving.

I.3 · THE CAUSES

The poet sets out to tell the causes of the war: the envious chain of fate, the rule that the highest cannot stand long, and Rome's inability to bear its own weight. As the world will crash into chaos at its last hour, great things fall upon themselves. Rome was made common to three masters, and no partnership in kingship keeps faith; the first walls of the city were wet with a brother's blood, when the prize was only a small refuge.

fert animus causas tantarum expromere rerum,
prompts the-mind the-causes of-so-great to-set-forth events,
inmensumque aperitur opus, quid in arma furentem
and-immense opens the-work, what into arms raging
inpulerit populum, quid pacem excusserit orbi.
drove the-people, what peace shook-out from-the-world.
inuida fatorum series summisque negatum
the-envious of-the-fates chain and-to-the-highest denied
stare diu nimioque graues sub pondere lapsus
to-stand long and-excessive heavy under weight falls
nec se Roma ferens. sic, cum conpage soluta
and-not itself Rome bearing. thus, when with-the-framework loosed
saecula tot mundi suprema coegerit hora
the-ages so-many of-the-world last shall-have-closed hour
antiquum repetens iterum chaos,
ancient seeking-again once-more chaos,

ignea pontum
fiery the-sea
astra petent, tellus extendere litora nolet
stars will-seek, the-earth to-stretch-out shores will-refuse
excutietque fretum, fratri contraria Phoebe
and-will-shake-off the-sea, to-the-brother opposed Phoebe
ibit et obliquum bigas agitare per orbem
will-go and slanting the-team to-drive through circle
indignata diem poscet sibi, totaque discors
disdaining day will-demand for-herself, and-whole discordant
machina diuolsi turbabit foedera mundi.
the-machine of-the-torn-apart will-disturb the-laws world.
in se magna ruunt: laetis hunc numina rebus
upon themselves great-things fall: to-prosperous this the-divinities affairs
crescendi posuere modum. nec gentibus ullis
of-growing have-set limit. nor to-nations any
commodat in populum terrae pelagique potentem
lends against the-people of-land and-of-sea powerful
inuidiam Fortuna suam. tu causa malorum
envy Fortune her-own. you the-cause of-evils
facta tribus dominis communis, Roma, nec umquam
made for-three masters common, Rome, and-not ever
in turbam missi feralia foedera regni.
into a-crowd of-sent deadly compacts kingship.
o male concordes nimiaque cupidine caeci,
O ill harmonious and-by-excessive greed blind,
quid miscere iuuat uires orbemque tenere
why to-mix does-it-delight strengths and-the-world to-hold
in medio? dum terra fretum terramque leuabit
in common? while earth the-sea and-earth will-lift

aer et longi uoluent Titana labores
air and long will-roll Titan labors
noxque diem caelo totidem per signa sequetur,
and-night day in-the-sky as-many through signs will-follow,
nulla fides regni sociis, omnisque potestas
no faith of-kingship among-partners, and-every power
inpatiens consortis erit. nec gentibus ullis
intolerant of-a-sharer will-be. and-not to-nations any
credite nec longe fatorum exempla petantur:
trust nor far of-the-fates examples let-be-sought:
fraterno primi maduerunt sanguine muri.
with-a-brother's first were-wet blood walls.
nec pretium tanti tellus pontusque furoris
nor the-prize of-so-great earth and-sea frenzy
tunc erat: exiguum dominos commisit asylum.
then was: a-small the-masters set-at-odds refuge.

I.4 · POMPEY AND CAESAR

Crassus alone held the two rivals apart, like the Isthmus dividing two seas, and his death at Carrhae loosed Roman frenzy, so that the Parthians gave the conquered a civil war. Julia's death broke the last bond between her father and her husband. Pompey fears that Caesar's new deeds will eclipse his triumphs; Caesar can bear no superior, Pompey no equal. Pompey is the shadow of a great name, an old oak standing by its weight alone; Caesar is a thunderbolt that rages even against its own temples.

temporis angusti mansit concordia discors
of-a-time brief remained harmony discordant
paxque fuit non sponte ducum; nam sola futuri
and-peace was not by-the-will of-the-leaders; for the-only of-the-future

Crassus erat belli medius mora. qualiter undas
Crassus was of-war in-between the-delay. as the-waves
qui secat et geminum gracilis mare separat Isthmos
which cuts and twin slender sea separates Isthmus
nec patitur conferre fretum, si terra recedat,
and-not allows to-join the-straits, if the-land should-withdraw,
Ionium Aegaeo frangat mare, sic, ubi saeua
Ionian on-the-Aegean would-break sea, so, when savage
arma ducum dirimens miserando funere Crassus
arms of-the-leaders parting by-a-pitiable death Crassus
Assyrias Latio maculauit sanguine Carrhas,
Assyrian with-Latin stained blood Carrhae,
Parthica Romanos soluerunt damna furores.
Parthian the-Roman loosed losses frenzies.
plus illa uobis acie, quam creditis, actum est,
more by-that for-you battle, than you-believe, done was,
Arsacidae: bellum uictis ciuile dedistis.
Arsacids: war to-the-conquered civil you-gave.
diuiditur ferro regnum, populique potentis,
is-divided by-steel the-kingship, and-of-the-people powerful,
quae mare, quae terras, quae totum possidet orbem,
which the-sea, which lands, which whole possesses world,
non cepit fortuna duos. nam pignora iuncti
not held the-fortune two. for the-pledges of-joined
sanguinis et diro ferales omine taedas
blood and with-dire deadly omen torches
abstulit ad manes Parcarum Iulia saeua
carried-off to the-shades of-the-Parcae Julia by-cruel
intercepta manu. quod si tibi fata dedissent
intercepted hand. but if to-you the-fates had-given

maiores in luce moras, tu sola furentem
greater in light delays, you alone raging
inde uirum poteras atque hinc retinere parentem
on-one-side the-husband could and on-the-other to-hold-back the-father
armatasque manus excusso iungere ferro,
and-armed hands with-struck-away to-join steel,
ut generos soceris mediae iunxere Sabinae.
as sons-in-law to-fathers-in-law in-the-middle joined the-Sabine-women.
morte tua discussa fides bellumque mouere
by-death your shattered faith and-war to-stir
permissum ducibus. stimulos dedit aemula uirtus.
permitted to-the-leaders. goads gave rival valor.
tu, noua ne ueteres obscurent acta triumphos
you, new lest old should-obscure deeds triumphs
et uictis cedat piratica laurea Gallis,
and to-conquered should-yield the-piratic laurel Gauls,
Magne, times; te iam series ususque laborum
Magnus, you-fear; you now the-chain and-habit of-labors
erigit inpatiensque loci fortuna secundi;
raises and-intolerant of-place fortune second;
nec quemquam iam ferre potest Caesarue priorem
nor anyone now to-bear can or-Caesar superior
Pompeiusue parem. quis iustius induit arma
or-Pompey an-equal. who more-justly put-on arms
scire nefas: magno se iudice quisque tuetur;
to-know is-forbidden: with-a-great himself judge each defends;
uictrix causa deis placuit sed uicta Catoni.
the-victorious cause to-the-gods pleased but the-conquered to-Cato.
nec coiere pares. alter uergentibus annis
nor met equals. the-one with-declining years

in senium longoque togae tranquillior usu
into old-age and-by-long of-the-toga calmer use
dedidicit iam pace ducem, famaeque petitor
unlearned now in-peace the-general, and-of-fame seeker
multa dare in uolgus, totus popularibus auris
many-things gave to the-crowd, wholly by-popular breezes
inpelli plausuque sui gaudere theatri,
to-be-driven and-in-the-applause of-his-own rejoiced theater,
nec reparare nouas uires, multumque priori
nor renewed new strength, and-much to-former
credere fortunae. stat magni nominis umbra,
to-trust fortune. he-stands of-a-great name the-shadow,
qualis frugifero quercus sublimis in agro
such-as fruitful oak lofty in field
exuuias ueteris populi sacrataque gestans
the-spoils of-an-ancient people and-consecrated bearing
dona ducum nec iam ualidis radicibus haerens
gifts of-leaders nor now by-strong roots clinging
pondere fixa suo est, nudosque per aera ramos
by-weight fixed its-own is, and-bare through the-air branches
effundens trunco, non frondibus, efficit umbram,
spreading with-trunk, not with-leaves, makes shade,
et quamuis primo nutet casura sub Euro,
and although at-the-first it-totter going-to-fall under East-Wind,
tot circum siluae firmo se robore tollant,
so-many around woods with-firm themselves strength raise,
sola tamen colitur. sed non in Caesare tantum
alone yet is-revered. but not in Caesar only
nomen erat nec fama ducis, sed nescia uirtus
a-name was nor reputation of-a-general, but not-knowing valor

stare loco, solusque pudor non uincere bello.
to-stand in-place, and-only shame not to-conquer in-war.
acer et indomitus, quo spes quoque ira uocasset,
fierce and untamed, where hope and-where anger had-called,
ferre manum et numquam temerando parcere ferro,
carried the-hand and never in-defiling spared steel,
successus urguere suos, instare fauori
pressed successes his-own, pressed-on the-favor
numinis, inpellens quidquid sibi summa petenti
of-divinity, driving-on whatever to-him the-highest seeking
obstaret gaudensque uiam fecisse ruina,
stood-in-the-way and-rejoicing a-path to-have-made by-ruin,
qualiter expressum uentis per nubila fulmen
as squeezed by-winds through clouds the-thunderbolt
aetheris inpulsi sonitu mundique fragore
of-the-ether struck with-the-sound and-of-the-world with-the-crash
emicuit rupitque diem populosque pauentes
flashed-out and-broke the-day and-peoples fearing
terruit obliqua praestringens lumina flamma:
terrified with-slanting dazzling eyes flame:
in sua templa furit, nullaque exire uetante
against its-own temples it-rages, and-with-no to-go-out forbidding
materia magnamque cadens magnamque reuertens
matter and-great falling and-great returning
dat stragem late sparsosque recolligit ignes.
gives havoc widely and-scattered gathers-again fires.

Beneath the leaders' causes lay the public seeds of war. Wealth from a conquered world brought luxury and greed; men scorned poverty and joined vast estates where Camillus and the Curii once plowed. Crime became cheap and force the measure of right, and from this came laws passed by compulsion, bought offices, venal elections, devouring usury, shaken credit, and a war that was useful to many.

hae ducibus causae; suberant sed publica belli
these for-the-leaders the-causes; lay-beneath but public of-war
semina, quae populos semper mersere potentis.
seeds, which peoples always have-sunk powerful.
namque, ut opes nimias mundo fortuna subacto
for, when wealth excessive with-the-world fortune subdued
intulit et rebus mores cessere secundis
brought-in and to-circumstances morals yielded prosperous
praedaque et hostiles luxum suasere rapinae,
and-booty and hostile luxury urged plunderings,
non auro tectisue modus, mensasque priores
no for-gold or-for-houses limit, and-tables former
aspernata fames; cultus gestare decoros
scorned hunger; dress to-wear becoming
uix nuribus rapuere mares; fecunda uirorum
scarcely for-brides snatched the-males; fruitful of-men
paupertas fugitur totoque accersitur orbe
poverty is-fled and-from-the-whole is-summoned world
quo gens quaeque perit; tum longos iungere fines
by-which nation each perishes; then long they-joined boundaries
agrorum, et quondam duro sulcata Camilli
of-fields, and once by-hard furrowed of-Camillus

uomere et antiquos Curiorum passa ligones
plowshare and ancient of-the-Curii having-suffered hoes
longa sub ignotis extendere rura colonis.
long under unknown they-extended estates tenants.
non erat is populus quem pax tranquilla iuuaret,
not was that people whom peace tranquil should-please,
quem sua libertas inmotis pasceret armis.
whom its-own liberty with-unmoved should-nourish arms.
inde irae faciles et, quod suasisset egestas,
thence angers easy and, what had-urged want,
uile nefas, magnumque decus ferroque petendum
a-cheap abomination, and-great honor and-by-steel to-be-sought
plus patria potuisse sua, mensuraque iuris
more than-fatherland to-have-been-able its-own, and-the-measure of-right
uis erat: hinc leges et plebis scita coactae
force was: hence laws and of-the-plebs decrees compelled
et cum consulibus turbantes iura tribuni;
and with consuls confounding rights tribunes;
hinc rapti fasces pretio sectorque fauoris
hence snatched the-fasces for-a-price and-the-auctioneer of-favor
ipse sui populus letalisque ambitus urbi
itself of-itself the-people and-deadly canvassing to-the-city
annua uenali referens certamina Campo;
annual in-the-venal bringing-back contests Field;
hinc usura uorax auidumque in tempora fenus
hence usury devouring and-greedy for times interest
et concussa fides et multis utile bellum.
and shaken credit and for-many useful war.

Caesar has crossed the Alps and reaches the little Rubicon, where the huge image of the fatherland, with torn hair and bare arms, appears to him by night and asks where he is carrying her standards. He stops in horror, then prays to Jupiter and the gods of Rome, declaring that he comes not as an enemy but as her soldier. Like a lion that gathers its anger before it charges, he crosses the swollen river and on the far bank declares that he leaves peace and law behind and follows Fortune.

iam gelidas Caesar cursu superauerat Alpes
already icy Caesar in-his-course had-crossed Alps
ingentisque animo motus bellumque futurum
and-huge in-mind upheavals and-war going-to-be
ceperat. ut uentum est parui Rubiconis ad undas, 185
had-conceived. when come it-was of-the-little Rubicon to waves,
ingens uisa duci patriae trepidantis imago
huge seen by-the-leader of-the-fatherland trembling the-image
clara per obscuram uoltu maestissima noctem
bright through dark in-face most-sorrowful night
turrigero canos effundens uertice crines
from-tower-bearing gray pouring head locks
caesarie lacera nudisque adstare lacertis
with-hair torn and-with-bare to-stand-by arms
et gemitu permixta loqui: 'quo tenditis ultra? 190
and with-groaning mingled to-speak: 'where are-you-heading further?
quo fertis mea signa, uiri? si iure uenitis,
where do-you-carry my standards, men? if lawfully you-come,
si ciues, huc usque licet.' tum perculit horror
if citizens, to-here as-far it-is-allowed.' then struck horror
membra ducis, riguere comae gressumque coercens
the-limbs of-the-leader, stiffened (his)-hair and-the-step restraining

languor in extrema tenuit uestigia ripa.
faintness on outermost held footsteps bank.
mox ait ‘o magnae qui moenia prospicis urbis
presently he-says ‘O of-a-great who the-walls look-out-on city
Tarpeia de rupe Tonans Phrygiique penates
Tarpeian from rock Thunderer and-Phrygian household-gods
gentis Iuleae et rapti secreta Quirini
of-the-race Julian and of-snatched-away the-secrets Quirinus
et residens celsa Latiaris Iuppiter Alba
and residing on-lofty Latian Jupiter Alba
Vestalesque foci summique o numinis instar
and-Vestal hearths and-of-highest O divinity the-likeness
Roma, faue coeptis. non te furialibus armis
Rome, favor (my)-undertakings. not you with-frenzied arms
persequor: en, adsum uictor terraque marique
I-pursue: behold, I-am-here a-conqueror and-by-land and-by-sea
Caesar, ubique tuus (liceat modo, nunc quoque) miles.
Caesar, everywhere your (let-it-be-allowed only, now also) soldier.
ille erit ille nocens, qui me tibi fecerit hostem.’
he will-be he guilty, who me to-you shall-have-made an-enemy.’
inde moras soluit belli tumidumque per amnem
then the-delays loosed of-war and-swollen through river
signa tulit propere: sicut squalentibus aruis
the-standards bore quickly: as in-parched fields
aestiferae Libyes uiso leo comminus hoste
of-heat-bearing Libya with-seen the-lion at-close-quarters enemy
subsedit dubius, totam dum colligit iram;
crouched doubtful, whole while he-gathers anger;
mox, ubi se saeuae stimulauit uerbere caudae
presently, when himself of-savage he-goaded with-the-lash tail

erexitque iubam et uasto graue murmur hiatu
and-raised (his)-mane and with-vast heavy roar gape
infremuit, tum torta leuis si lancea Mauri
roared-out, then hurled light if lance of-a-Moor
haereat aut latum subeant uenabula pectus,
should-stick or broad should-enter hunting-spears breast,
per ferrum tanti securus uolneris exit.
through the-steel of-so-great unconcerned wound goes-out.
fonte cadit modico paruisque inpellitur undis
from-a-spring falls modest and-by-small is-driven waves
puniceus Rubicon, cum feruida canduit aestas,
red Rubicon, when fervent has-glowed summer,
perque imas serpit ualles et Gallica certus
and-through lowest creeps valleys and Gallic fixed
limes ab Ausoniis disterminat arua colonis.
boundary from Ausonian divides fields farmers.
tum uires praebebat hiemps atque auxerat undas
then strength was-giving winter and had-increased the-waves
tertia iam grauido pluuialis Cynthia cornu
third now with-heavy rainy Cynthia horn
et madidis Euri resolutae flatibus Alpes.
and by-wet of-the-East-Wind loosened blasts Alps.
primus in obliquum sonipes opponitur amnem
first against slanting the-steed is-set river
excepturus aquas; molli tum cetera rumpit
going-to-receive the-waters; by-easy then the-rest breaks
turba uado faciles iam fracti fluminis undas.
throng ford easy now of-broken river waves.
Caesar, ut aduersam superato gurgite ripam
Caesar, when opposite with-crossed flood bank

attigit, Hesperiae uetitis et constitit aruis,
reached, of-Hesperia on-forbidden and stood fields,
'hic' ait 'hic pacem temerataque iura relinquo;
'here' he-says 'here peace and-violated laws I-leave;
te, Fortuna, sequor. procul hinc iam foedera sunto;
you, Fortune, I-follow. far from-here now compacts let-them-be;
credidimus satis his, utendum est iudice bello.'
we-have-trusted enough to-these, to-be-used it-is as-judge war.'

I.7 · ARIMINUM AND CURIO

Caesar hurries his columns through the night and seizes Ariminum at dawn. Trumpets sound in the forum, the townsmen snatch rusted arms from their household shrines, and when they see the eagles and Caesar they stiffen with fear and lament in silence that their town lies always on the road of war. Fortune supplies causes: the tribunes expelled from Rome arrive with Curio, who urges Caesar not to delay, since Gaul was a small part of the world, a few battles will win him the world, and Pompey means to drive him from power, which he cannot share but can hold alone. His words fire Caesar as shouting drives an Elean horse at the gate.

sic fatus noctis tenebris rapit agmina ductor
thus having-spoken of-night in-the-darkness hurries the-columns the-leader
inpiger, et torto Balearis uerbere fundae
tireless, and than-the-whirled of-the-Balearic lash sling
ocior et missa Parthi post terga sagitta,
swifter and than-sent of-the-Parthian behind backs arrow,
uicinumque minax inuadit Ariminum, et ignes
and-neighboring threatening invades Ariminum, and the-fires
solis Lucifero fugiebant astra relicto.
of-the-sun with-Lucifer were-fleeing the-stars left-behind.

iamque dies primos belli uisura tumultus
and-now the-day first of-war going-to-see tumults
exoritur; sed sponte deum, seu turbidus Auster
rises; but by-the-will of-the-gods, or turbid South-Wind
inpulerat, maestam tenuerunt nubila lucem.
had-driven, sad held clouds light.
constitit ut capto iussus deponere miles
halted when in-the-taken ordered to-lay-down the-soldier
signa foro, stridor lituum clangorque tubarum
standards forum, the-shriek of-clarions and-the-clang of-trumpets
non pia concinuit cum rauco classica cornu.
not dutiful sounded with hoarse war-signals horn.
rupta quies populi, stratisque excita iuuentus
broken the-rest of-the-people, and-from-couches roused youth
deripuit sacris adfixa penatibus arma
snatched-down to-sacred fixed household-gods arms
quae pax longa dabat: nuda iam crate fluentis
which peace long was-giving: with-bare now frame falling-apart
inuadunt clipeos curuataque cuspide pila
they-seize shields and-with-bent point javelins
et scabros nigrae morsu robiginis enses.
and rough of-black with-the-bite rust swords.
ut notae fulsere aquilae Romanaque signa
when known gleamed the-eagles and-Roman standards
et celsus medio conspectus in agmine Caesar,
and lofty middle seen in column Caesar,
deriguere metu, gelidos pauor occupat artus,
they-stiffened with-fear, icy dread seizes limbs,
et tacito mutos uoluunt in pectore questus.
and silent mute they-roll in breast complaints.

‘o male uicinis haec moenia condita Gallis,
‘O ill to-neighboring these walls founded Gauls,
tristi damnata loco! pax alta per omnes
by-a-grim condemned site! peace deep through all
et tranquilla quies populos: nos praeda furentum
and tranquil rest peoples: we the-prey of-the-raging
primaque castra sumus. melius, Fortuna, dedisses
and-the-first camp we-are. better, Fortune, you-would-have-given
orbe sub Eoo sedem gelidaque sub Arcto
world under Eastern a-seat and-icy under Bear
errantisque domos, Latii quam claustra tueri.
and-wandering homes, of-Latium than the-bars to-guard.
nos primi Senonum motus Cimbrumque ruentem
we first of-the-Senones the-risings and-the-Cimbrian rushing
uidimus et Martem Libyes cursumque furoris
saw and Mars of-Libya and-the-course of-frenzy
Teutonici: quotiens Romam fortuna lacessit,
Teutonic: as-often-as Rome fortune provokes,
hac iter est bellis.’ gemitu sic quisque latenti,
this-way the-road is for-wars.’ with-groaning thus each hidden,
non ausus timuisse palam: uox nulla dolori
not having-dared to-have-feared openly: voice no to-grief
credita, sed quantum, uolucres cum bruma coercet,
entrusted, but as-much-as, the-birds when winter constrains,
rura silent, mediusque tacet sine murmure pontus,
the-fields are-silent, and-mid is-still without murmur sea,
tanta quies. noctis gelidas lux soluerat umbras:
so-great quiet. of-night icy the-light had-loosed shadows:
ecce, faces belli dubiaeque in proelia menti
behold, torches of-war and-to-the-doubtful into battles mind

urguentes addunt stimulos cunctasque pudoris
urging add goads and-all of-shame
rumpunt fata moras: iustos Fortuna laborat
break the-fates delays: just Fortune labors
esse ducis motus et causas inuenit armis.
to-be of-the-leader the-moves and causes finds for-arms.
expulit ancipiti discordes urbe tribunos
drove-out from-wavering discordant city tribunes
uicto iure minax iactatis curia Gracchis.
with-conquered right threatening with-brandished the-senate-house Gracchi.
hos iam mota ducis uicinaque signa petentes
these now moved of-the-leader and-near standards seeking
audax uenali comitatur Curio lingua,
bold with-venal accompanies Curio tongue,
uox quondam populi libertatemque tueri
the-voice once of-the-people and-liberty to-guard
ausus et armatos plebi miscere potentes.
having-dared and armed with-the-plebs to-mingle powerful.
utque ducem uarias uoluentem pectore curas
and-when the-leader various rolling in-breast cares
conspexit 'dum uoce tuae potuere iuuari,
he-saw 'while by-(my)-voice your could to-be-helped,
Caesar,' ait 'partes, quamuis nolente senatu
Caesar,' he-says 'the-party, although with-unwilling senate
traximus imperium, tum cum mihi rostra tenere
we-prolonged (your)-command, then when for-me the-rostra to-hold
ius erat et dubios in te transferre Quirites.
right was and doubting to you to-transfer Quirites.
at postquam leges bello siluere coactae
but after the-laws by-war fell-silent compelled

pellimur e patriis laribus patimurque uolentes
we-are-driven from ancestral hearths and-suffer willing
exilium: tua nos faciet uictoria ciues.
exile: your us will-make victory citizens.
dum trepidant nullo firmatae robore partes,
while tremble by-no strengthened strength the-sides,
tolle moras: semper nocuit differre paratis.
remove delays: always has-harmed to-postpone the-prepared.
bellantem geminis tenuit te Gallia lustris,
warring for-twin held you Gaul lustra,
pars quota terrarum! facili si proelia pauca
a-part how-small of-lands! with-easy if battles few
gesseris euentu, tibi Roma subegerit orbem.
you-wage outcome, for-you Rome will-have-subdued the-world.
nunc neque te longi remeantem pompa triumphi
now neither you of-a-long returning the-procession triumph
excipit aut sacras poscunt Capitolia laurus:
receives nor sacred demand the-Capitol laurels:
liuor edax tibi cuncta negat, gentesque subactas
envy devouring to-you all denies, and-nations subdued
uix inpune feres. socerum depellere regno
scarcely with-impunity you-will-carry. the-father-in-law to-drive from-kingship
decretum genero est: partiri non potes orbem,
decided by-the-son-in-law has-been: to-share not you-can the-world,
solus habere potes.' sic postquam fatus, et ipsi
alone to-have you-can.' thus after having-spoken, and to-him-himself
in bellum prono tantum tamen addidit irae
toward war inclined so-much yet added of-anger
accenditque ducem, quantum clamore iuuatur
and-kindled the-leader, as-much-as by-shouting is-helped

Eleus sonipes, quamuis iam carcere clauso
the-Elean steed, although now with-the-gate shut
inmineat foribus pronusque repagula laxet.
it-presses-over the-doors and-leaning the-bars loosens.

I.8 · CAESAR'S SPEECH

Caesar gathers his soldiers and asks whether their ten years of victories, wounds, and winters under the Alps have earned them this, that Rome arms against them as though Hannibal had crossed the Alps. He scorns a leader softened by long peace with raw recruits, a toga-clad party, talkative Marcellus, and empty Catos, and mocks Pompey's long power and his thirst for blood, learned from Sulla. He asks whether his veterans will get no land, and tells them to raise their standards, since arms give everything to the one who holds them and the gods will not be lacking: they seek neither plunder nor kingship, but to pull down the masters of a city ready to serve.

conuocat armatos extemplo ad signa maniplos,
he-calls-together armed at-once to the-standards maniples,
utque satis trepidum turba coeunte tumultum
and-when enough trembling with-the-crowd gathering tumult
conposuit uoltu dextraque silentia iussit
he-calmed with-face and-with-right-hand silence commanded
'bellorum o socii, qui mille pericula Martis
'of-wars O comrades, who a-thousand dangers of-Mars
mecum' ait 'experti decimo iam uincitis anno,
with-me' he-says 'having-tried in-the-tenth now you-conquer year,
hoc cruor Arctois meruit diffusus in aruis
this blood Northern earned poured-out in fields
uolneraque et mortes hiemesque sub Alpibus actae?
and-wounds and deaths and-winters under Alps spent?

non secus ingenti bellorum Roma tumultu
not otherwise with-huge of-wars Rome tumult
concutitur, quam si Poenus transcenderit Alpes
is-shaken, than if the-Carthaginian had-crossed Alps
Hannibal: inplentur ualidae tirone cohortes,
Hannibal: are-filled strong with-recruit cohorts,
in classem cadit omne nemus, terraque marique
for a-fleet falls every grove, and-by-land and-by-sea
iussus Caesar agi. quid, si mihi signa iacerent
ordered Caesar to-be-hunted. what, if for-me the-standards were-lying
Marte sub aduerso ruerentque in terga feroces
Mars under adverse and-were-rushing on backs fierce
Gallorum populi? nunc, cum fortuna secundis
of-the-Gauls peoples? now, when fortune with-favorable
mecum rebus agat superique ad summa uocantes,
with-me affairs deals and-the-gods-above to the-highest calling,
temptamur. ueniat longa dux pace solutus
we-are-challenged. let-come by-long a-leader peace slackened
milite cum subito partesque in bella togatae
soldiery with sudden and-a-party into wars toga-clad
Marcellusque loquax et nomina uana Catones.
and-Marcellus talkative and names empty Catos.
scilicet extremi Pompeium emptique clientes
of-course worst Pompey and-bought clients
continuo per tot satiabunt tempora regno?
with-continuous through so-many will-glut times kingship?
ille reget currus nondum patientibus annis,
he will-drive chariots with-not-yet allowing years,
ille semel raptos numquam dimittet honores?
he once seized never will-let-go offices?

quid iam rura querar totum suppressa per orbem
why now fields should-I-complain-of whole suppressed through world
ac iussam seruire famem? quis castra timenti
and ordered to-serve famine? who the-camp to-the-fearing
nescit mixta foro, gladii cum triste micantes
knows-not mingled with-the-forum, swords when grim flashing
iudicium insolita trepidum cinxere corona
trial with-unwonted fearful surrounded ring
atque auso medias perrumpere milite leges
and with-daring middle to-break-through soldiery laws
Pompeiana reum clauserunt signa Milonem?
Pompeian accused enclosed standards Milo?
nunc quoque, ne lassum teneat priuata senectus,
now also, lest tired should-hold private old-age,
bella nefanda parat suetus ciuilibus armis
wars unspeakable he-prepares accustomed to-civil arms
et docilis Sullam scelerum uicisse magistrum.
and apt Sulla of-crimes to-have-surpassed the-master.
utque ferae tigres numquam posuere furorem,
and-as wild tigresses never have-laid-aside frenzy,
quas, nemore Hyrcano matrum dum lustra secuntur,
whom, in-grove Hyrcanian of-mothers while lairs they-follow,
altus caesorum pauit cruor armentorum,
deep of-slaughtered fed blood herds,
sic et Sullanum solito tibi lambere ferrum
so also Sullan accustomed in-you to-lick sword
durat, Magne, sitis. nullus semel ore receptus
lasts, Magnus, thirst. no once by-mouth received
pollutas patitur sanguis mansuescere fauces.
polluted allows blood to-grow-tame jaws.

quem tamen inueniet tam longa potentia finem?
what yet will-find so long power end?
quis scelerum modus est? ex hoc iam te, inprobe, regno
what of-crimes limit is? from this now you, shameless-one, kingship
ille tuus saltem doceat descendere Sulla.
that your at-least let-teach to-step-down Sulla.
post Cilicasne uagos et lassi Pontica regis
after the-Cilicians wandering and of-the-weary Pontic king
proelia barbarico uix consummata ueneno
battles by-barbaric scarcely finished poison
ultima Pompeio dabitur prouincia Caesar,
last to-Pompey will-be-given province Caesar,
quod non uictrices aquilas deponere iussus
because not victorious eagles to-lay-down ordered
paruerim? mihi si merces erepta laborum est,
I-obeyed? to-me if the-reward snatched of-labors is,
his saltem longi non cum duce praemia belli
to-these at-least of-long not with the-leader the-prizes war
reddantur; miles sub quolibet iste triumphet.
let-be-paid; soldier under anyone this let-triumph.
conferet exanguis quo se post bella senectus?
will-take bloodless where itself after wars old-age?
quae sedes erit emeritis? quae rura dabuntur
what seat will-be for-the-discharged? what fields will-be-given
quae noster ueteranus aret, quae moenia fessis?
which our veteran may-plow, what walls for-the-weary?
an melius fient piratae, Magne, coloni?
or better will-become the-pirates, Magnus, settlers?
tollite iam pridem uictricia tollite signa:
raise now long-since victorious raise standards:

uiribus utendum est quas fecimus. arma tenenti
with-the-strength to-be-used it-is which we-have-made. arms to-the-one-holding
omnia dat, qui iusta negat. nec numina derunt;
all gives, who just-things denies. nor divinities will-be-lacking;
nam neque praeda meis neque regnum quaeritur armis:
for neither plunder by-my nor kingship is-sought arms:
detrahimus dominos urbi seruire paratae.'
we-drag-down masters from-the-city to-serve ready.'

I.9 · LAELIUS' ANSWER

The soldiers waver between dutifulness to their homes and love of the sword until the chief centurion Laelius speaks. He complains that Caesar has been too patient and swears that he will follow wherever he is led, even to kill a brother, a parent, or a pregnant wife, to plunder temples, or to level Rome itself. The cohorts raise their hands in assent with a roar like a forest bent by the north wind.

dixerat; at dubium non claro murmure uolgus
he-had-spoken; but doubtful with-not clear murmur the-crowd
secum incerta fremit. pietas patriique penates
with-itself uncertain-things mutters. dutifulness and-ancestral household-gods
quamquam caede feras mentes animosque tumentes
although by-slaughter fierce minds and-spirits swelling
frangunt; sed diro ferri reuocantur amore
break; but by-dire of-steel they-are-recalled love
ductorisque metu. summi tum munera pili
and-of-the-leader by-fear. of-the-chief then the-duties rank
Laelius emeritique gerens insignia doni,
Laelius and-of-an-earned bearing the-badges gift,
seruati ciuis referentem praemia quercum,
of-a-saved citizen recalling the-rewards oak,

‘si licet,’ exclamat ‘Romani maxime rector
‘if it-is-allowed,’ he-cries ‘of-the-Roman greatest ruler
nominis, et ius est ueras expromere uoces,
name, and right it-is true to-utter words,
quod tam lenta tuas tenuit patientia uires
that so slow your has-held patience strength
conquerimur. deratne tibi fiducia nostri?
we-complain. was-lacking to-you confidence in-us?
dum mouet haec calidus spirantia corpora sanguis
while moves these warm breathing bodies blood
et dum pila ualent fortes torquere lacerti,
and while javelins are-strong brave to-hurl arms,
degenerem patiere togam regnumque senatus?
degenerate will-you-endure the-toga and-the-kingship of-the-senate?
usque adeo miserum est ciuili uincere bello?
to-such a-degree wretched is in-civil to-conquer war?
duc age per Scythiae populos, per inhospita Syrtis
lead come-on through of-Scythia peoples, through inhospitable of-the-Syrtis
litora, per calidas Libyae sitientis harenas:
shores, through hot of-Libya thirsting sands:
haec manus, ut uictum post terga relinqueret orbem,
this hand, that conquered behind backs it-might-leave world,
Oceani tumidas remo conpescuit undas
of-Ocean swelling with-oar curbed waves
fregit et Arctoo spumantem uertice Rhenum:
broke and with-Northern foaming eddy Rhine:
iussa sequi tam posse mihi quam uelle necesse est.
orders to-follow as-much to-be-able for-me as to-be-willing necessary is.
nec ciuis meus est, in quem tua classica, Caesar,
nor citizen my is, against whom your trumpets, Caesar,

audiero. per signa decem felicia castris
I-shall-have-heard. by the-standards ten fortunate with-camps
perque tuos iuro quocumque ex hoste triumphos,
and-by your I-swear whatever from enemy triumphs,
pectore si fratris gladium iuguloque parentis
in-breast if of-a-brother the-sword and-in-the-throat of-a-parent
condere me iubeas plenaeque in uiscera partu
to-bury me you-should-bid and-of-a-full into the-womb with-birth
coniugis, inuita peragam tamen omnia dextra;
wife, with-unwilling I-shall-carry-out yet all right-hand;
si spoliare deos ignemque inmittere templis,
if to-despoil the-gods and-fire to-send-in to-temples,
numina miscebit castrensis flamma monetae;
the-divinities will-melt-down of-the-camp the-flame mint;
castra super Tusci si ponere Thybridis undas,
camp above of-the-Tuscan if to-place Tiber waves,
Hesperios audax ueniam metator in agros.
Hesperian bold I-shall-come surveyor into fields.
tu quoscumque uoles in planum effundere muros,
you whatever you-wish into level to-pour-out walls,
his aries actus disperget saxa lacertis,
by-these the-ram driven will-scatter the-stones arms,
illa licet, penitus tolli quam iusseris urbem,
that though, utterly to-be-removed which you-order city,
Roma sit.' his cunctae simul adsensere cohortes
Rome be.' to-this all together assented cohorts
elatasque alte, quaecumque ad bella uocaret,
and-raised high, whatever to wars he-should-call,
promisere manus. it tantus ad aethera clamor,
promised hands. goes so-great to the-ether shout,

quantus, piniferae Boreas cum Thracius Ossae
as-great-as, of-pine-bearing Boreas when Thracian Ossa
rupibus incubuit, curuato robore pressae
on-the-crags has-fallen, with-bent oak of-the-pressed
fit sonus aut rursus redeuntis in aethera siluae.
is-made the-sound or again of-returning into the-ether wood.

I.10 · THE LEGIONS LEAVE GAUL

Caesar calls his scattered cohorts out of Gaul and marches on Rome. The poet lists the places they leave: Lake Leman, the Vosges, the Isara, the Atax, the harbor of Hercules, and the shore that the ocean claims by turns. The Gallic peoples rejoice at the Romans' departure, from the Treveri and the Ligurians to those who appease Teutates, Esus, and Taranis with blood. The bards resume their songs and the Druids their rites, teaching that death is only the midpoint of a long life, and the troops set to hold off the Cayci desert the Rhine and leave the world open to its nations.

Caesar, ut acceptum tam prono milite bellum
Caesar, when accepted so with-eager soldiery war
fataque ferre uidet, nequo languore moretur
and-the-fates to-bear sees, lest-by-any languor he-should-delay
fortunam, sparsas per Gallica rura cohortes
fortune, scattered through Gallic countryside cohorts
euocat et Romam motis petit undique signis.
calls-out and Rome with-moved seeks from-everywhere standards.
deseruere cauo tentoria fixa Lemanno
they-deserted by-hollow tents pitched Leman
castraque quae Vosegi curuam super ardua ripam
and-the-camp which of-the-Vosges curving above heights bank

pugnaces pictis cohibebant Lingonas armis.
warlike with-painted were-restraining Lingones arms.
hi uada liquerunt Isarae, qui, gurgite ductus
these the-shallows left of-the-Isara, which, in-flood led
per tam multa suo, famae maioris in amnem
through so many its-own, of-fame greater into river
lapsus ad aequoreas nomen non pertulit undas.
having-slipped to of-the-sea name not carried waves.
soluuntur flaui longa statione Ruteni;
are-released blond from-long station Ruteni;
mitis Atax Latias gaudet non ferre carinas
gentle Atax Latin rejoices not to-bear keels
finis et Hesperiae, promoto limite, Varus;
the-boundary and of-Hesperia, with-advanced frontier, Varus;
quaque sub Herculeo sacratus nomine portus
and-where under Herculean consecrated name the-harbor
urguet rupe caua pelagus: non Corus in illum
presses with-crag hollow the-sea: not Corus over it
ius habet aut Zephyrus, solus sua litora turbat
right has or Zephyrus, alone its-own shores disturbs
Circius et tuta prohibet statione Monoeci:
Circius and from-safe bars station of-Monoecus:
quaque iacet litus dubium quod terra fretumque
and-where lies a-shore doubtful which land and-sea
uindicat alternis uicibus, cum funditur ingens
claim by-alternate turns, when is-poured huge
Oceanus uel cum refugis se fluctibus aufert.
Ocean or when with-retreating itself waves withdraws.
uentus ab extremo pelagus sic axe uolutet
the-wind from farthest the-sea thus pole should-roll

destituatque ferens, an sidere mota secundo
and-should-abandon bearing, or by-star moved second
Tethyos unda uagae lunaribus aestuet horis,
of-Tethys the-wave wandering at-lunar should-surge hours,
flammiger an Titan, ut alentes hauriat undas,
flame-bearing or Titan, that nourishing he-may-drink waves,
erigat Oceanum fluctusque ad sidera ducat,
should-raise Ocean and-billows to stars should-lead,
quaerite, quos agitat mundi labor; at mihi semper
inquire, whom busies of-the-world the-labor; but to-me always
tu, quaecumque moues tam crebros causa meatus,
you, whatever move so frequent cause courses,
ut superi uoluere, late. tum rura Nemetis
as the-gods-above willed, lie-hidden. then the-fields of-the-Nemetes
qui tenet et ripas Atyri, qua litore curuo
who holds and the-banks of-Aturus, where with-shore curved
molliter admissum claudit Tarbellicus aequor,
gently admitted encloses Tarbellian sea,
signa mouet, gaudetque amoto Santonus hoste
standards moves, and-rejoices with-removed the-Santonian enemy
et Biturix longisque leues Suessones in armis,
and the-Biturigan and-long nimble Suessones in arms,
optimus excusso Leucus Remusque lacerto,
best with-shot-out Leucan and-Reman arm,
optima gens flexis in gyrum Sequana frenis,
best race with-bent into circle Sequanian reins,
et docilis rector monstrati Belga couinni,
and skilled driver of-the-shown Belgian war-chariot,
Aruernique, ausi Latio se fingere fratres
and-the-Arverni, having-dared to-Latium themselves to-feign brothers

sanguine ab Iliaco populi, nimiumque rebellis
blood from Ilian peoples, and-too rebellious
Neruius et caesi pollutus foedere Cottae,
the-Nervian and of-slain polluted by-the-treaty Cotta,
et qui te laxis imitantur, Sarmata, bracis
and who you with-loose imitate, Sarmatian, trousers
Vangiones, Batauique truces, quos aere recuruo
Vangiones, and-Batavi fierce, whom with-bronze curved
stridentes acuere tubae; qua Cinga pererrat
shrieking have-roused trumpets; where Cinga wanders-through
gurgite, qua Rhodanus raptum uelocibus undis
with-flood, where Rhone seized with-swift waves
in mare fert Ararim, qua montibus ardua summis
into the-sea carries Arar, where on-mountains high highest
gens habitat cana pendentes rupe Cebennas.
a-race inhabits with-white overhanging crag Cevennes.
tu quoque laetatus conuerti proelia, Treuir,
you also rejoiced to-be-turned battles, Treveran,
et nunc tonse Ligur, quondam per colla decore
and now shorn Ligurian, once over neck graceful
crinibus effusis toti praelate Comatae,
with-locks streaming to-all preferred Long-Haired,
et quibus inmitis placatur sanguine diro
and by-whom pitiless is-appeased with-blood dire
Teutates horrensque feris altaribus Esus
Teutates and-dread with-savage altars Esus
et Taranis Scythicae non mitior ara Dianae.
and Taranis of-Scythian not milder the-altar Diana.
uos quoque, qui fortes animas belloque peremptas
you also, who brave souls and-in-war destroyed

laudibus in longum uates dimittitis aeuum,
with-praises into long bards send-forth age,
plurima securi fudistis carmina, Bardi.
very-many free-of-care poured songs, Bards.
et uos barbaricos ritus moremque sinistrum
and you barbaric rites and-custom sinister
sacrorum, Dryadae, positis repetistis ab armis.
of-sacred-rites, Druids, laid-down have-resumed from arms.
solis nosse deos et caeli numina uobis
alone to-know the-gods and of-heaven the-divinities to-you
aut solis nescire datum; nemora alta remotis
or alone not-to-know is-given; groves deep in-remote
incolitis lucis; uobis auctoribus umbrae
you-inhabit woods; with-you as-authorities the-shades
non tacitas Erebi sedes Ditisque profundi
not silent of-Erebus the-seats and-of-Dis deep
pallida regna petunt: regit idem spiritus artus
pale kingdoms seek: rules the-same spirit limbs
orbe alio; longae, canitis si cognita, uitae
in-world another; of-long, you-sing if things-known, life
mors media est. certe populi quos despicit Arctos
death the-middle is. surely the-peoples whom looks-down-on the-Bear
felices errore suo, quos ille timorum
happy in-error their-own, whom that of-fears
maximus haut urguet leti metus. inde ruendi
greatest not presses of-death the-fear. thence of-rushing
in ferrum mens prona uiris animaeque capaces
upon steel the-mind prone to-the-men and-souls capable
mortis, et ignauum rediturae parcere uitae.
of-death, and cowardly going-to-return to-spare life.

et uos, crinigeros Belgis arcere Caycos
and you, long-haired from-the-Belgians to-keep-off Cayci
oppositi, petitis Romam Rhenique feroces
placed-opposite, seek Rome and-of-the-Rhine fierce
deseritis ripas et apertum gentibus orbem.
you-desert the-banks and open to-nations the-world.

I.11 · PANIC IN ROME

Rumor runs ahead of Caesar and fills Rome with fears of barbarian cavalry and armies from the Rhine. The senate flees and leaves its decrees to the consuls, and the people pour out of the city in a headlong column, as sailors abandon a ship not yet broken. No parent or wife can hold anyone back, and Rome, a city that could have held the human race, is left as easy prey for Caesar, deserted at the mere name of war.

Caesar, ut inmensae conlecto robore uires
Caesar, when immense with-gathered strength forces
audendi maiora fidem fecere, per omnem
of-daring greater-things confidence made, through all
spargitur Italiam uicinaque moenia conplet.
is-spread Italy and-neighboring walls fills.
uana quoque ad ueros accessit fama timores
empty also to true was-added rumor fears
inrupitque animos populi clademque futuram
and-burst-into the-minds of-the-people and-disaster going-to-be
intulit et uelox properantis nuntia belli
brought-in and swift of-hastening messenger war
innumeras soluit falsa in praeconia linguas.
countless loosed false into proclamations tongues.

est qui tauriferis ubi se Meuania campis
there-is who bull-bearing where itself Mevania plains
explicat audaces ruere in certamina turmas
unfolds bold to-rush into contests squadrons
adferat, et qua Nar Tiberino inlabitur amni
reports, and where Nar into-the-Tiber flows river
barbaricas saeui discurrere Caesaris alas;
barbarian of-savage to-run-about Caesar wings;
ipsum omnes aquilas conlataque signa ferentem
himself all eagles and-gathered standards bearing
agmine non uno densisque incedere castris.
in-column not one and-in-dense to-advance camp.
nec qualem meminere uident: maiorque ferusque
nor such-as they-remember they-see: and-greater and-wild
mentibus occurrit uictoque inmanior hoste.
to-minds he-appears and-than-the-conquered more-monstrous enemy.
hunc inter Rhenum populos Albimque iacentes
him between Rhine peoples and-Elbe lying
finibus Arctois patriaque a sede reuolsos
from-boundaries Northern and-ancestral from seat torn-away
pone sequi, iussamque feris a gentibus urbem
behind to-follow, and-ordered savage by nations the-city
Romano spectante rapi. sic quisque pauendo
with-the-Roman watching to-be-plundered. thus each by-fearing
dat uires famae, nulloque auctore malorum
gives strength to-rumor, and-with-no author of-evils
quae finxere timent. nec solum uolgus inani
what they-feigned they-fear. nor only the-crowd by-empty
percussum terrore pauet, sed curia et ipsi
struck terror trembles, but the-senate-house and themselves

sedibus exiluere patres, inuisaque belli
from-seats leapt the-fathers, and-hated of-war
consulibus fugiens mandat decreta senatus.
to-the-consuls fleeing entrusts the-decrees senate.
tum, quae tuta petant et quae metuenda relinquant
then, what safe they-should-seek and what to-be-feared they-should-leave
incerti, quo quemque fugae tulit impetus urguent
uncertain, where each of-flight has-carried the-impulse they-press-on
praecipitem populum, serieque haerentia longa
headlong the-people, and-in-a-chain clinging long
agmina prorumpunt. credas aut tecta nefandas
columns burst-forth. you-would-think either the-roofs unspeakable
corripuisse faces aut iam quatiente ruina
to-have-seized torches or now with-shaking ruin
nutantes pendere domos, sic turba per urbem
tottering to-hang houses, so the-crowd through the-city
praecipiti lymphata gradu, uelut unica rebus
with-headlong maddened step, as-if the-only for-affairs
spes foret adflictis patrios excedere muros,
hope were stricken ancestral to-leave walls,
inconsulta ruit. qualis, cum turbidus Auster
heedless rushes. such-as, when turbid South-Wind
reppulit a Libycis inmensum Syrtibus aequor
has-driven-back from Libyan immense Syrtes sea
fractaque ueliferi sonuerunt pondera mali,
and-broken of-the-sail-bearing have-sounded weights mast,
desilit in fluctus deserta puppe magister
leaps-down into the-waves with-deserted ship the-helmsman
nauitaque et nondum sparsa conpage carinae
and-the-sailor and with-not-yet scattered framework of-the-keel

naufragium sibi quisque facit, sic urbe relicta
shipwreck for-himself each makes, so with-the-city left
in bellum fugitur. nullum iam languidus aeuo
into war it-is-fled. no now weak with-age
eualuit reuocare parens coniunxue maritum
prevailed to-call-back a-parent or-wife a-husband
fletibus, aut patrii, dubiae dum uota salutis
with-tears, nor ancestral, of-doubtful while vows safety
conciperent, tenuere lares; nec limine quisquam
they-might-frame, held household-gods; nor on-threshold anyone
haesit et extremo tunc forsitan urbis amatae
lingered and with-last then perhaps of-the-city loved
plenus abit uisu: ruit inreuocabile uolgus.
full departs sight: rushes irrevocable the-crowd.
faciles dare summa deos eademque tueri
easy to-give the-highest-things gods and-the-same to-guard
difficiles! urbem populis uictisque frequentem
difficult! a-city with-peoples and-with-conquered thronged
gentibus et generis, coeat si turba, capacem
nations and of-the-race, should-gather if the-throng, capable
humani facilem uenturo Caesare praedam
human easy with-going-to-come Caesar prey
ignauae liquere manus. cum pressus ab hoste
cowardly left hands. when pressed by an-enemy
clauditur externis miles Romanus in oris,
is-shut-in foreign soldier Roman in regions,
effugit exiguo nocturna pericula uallo,
escapes with-small nocturnal dangers rampart,
et subitus rapti munimine caespitis agger
and sudden of-snatched with-defense turf mound

praebet securos intra tentoria somnos:
offers secure within tents sleeps:
tu tantum audito bellorum nomine, Roma,
you only with-heard of-wars name, Rome,
desereris; nox una tuis non credita muris.
are-deserted; night one to-your not entrusted walls.
danda tamen uenia est tantorum danda pauorum:
to-be-given yet pardon is of-so-great to-be-given fears:

I.12 · THE PORTENTS

The gods fill earth, sky, and sea with portents: unknown stars, comets, lightning from a clear sky, an eclipse of the sun, and Etna's fire falling on Italy. The Vestal fire divides like a Theban pyre, the gods weep, beasts lair in the city, cattle speak, and the Sibyl's oracles spread among the people. A Fury circles the city, the shade of Sulla sings grim oracles, and farmers by the Anio flee from Marius rising from his broken tomb.

Pompeio fugiente timent. tum, nequa futuri
with-Pompey fleeing they-fear. then, lest-any of-the-future
spes saltem trepidas mentes leuet, addita fati
hope at-least trembling minds should-lighten, was-added of-a-fate
peioris manifesta fides, superique minaces
worse manifest proof, and-the-gods-above threatening
prodigiis terras inplerunt, aethera, pontum.
with-portents the-lands filled, the-ether, the-sea.
ignota obscurae uiderunt sidera noctes
unknown dark saw stars nights
ardentemque polum flammis caeloque uolantes
and-burning the-pole with-flames and-in-the-sky flying

obliquas per inane faces crinemque timendi
slanting through the-void torches and-the-hair of-the-dreadful
sideris et terris mutantem regna cometen.
star and for-lands changing kingdoms the-comet.
fulgura fallaci micuerunt crebra sereno,
lightnings in-deceptive flashed frequent clear-sky,
et uarias ignis denso dedit aere formas,
and various fire in-dense gave air shapes,
nunc iaculum longo, nunc sparso lumine lampas.
now a-javelin with-long, now with-scattered light a-lamp.
emicuit caelo tacitum sine nubibus ullis
flashed-out from-the-sky silent without clouds any
fulmen et Arctois rapiens de partibus ignem
a-thunderbolt and Northern snatching from parts fire
percussit Latiare caput, stellaeque minores
struck the-Latian head, and-stars lesser
per uacuum solitae noctis decurrere tempus
through empty accustomed of-night to-run-down time
in medium uenere diem, cornuque coacto
into middle came day, and-with-horn drawn-together
iam Phoebe toto fratrem cum redderet orbe
now Phoebe with-whole the-brother when was-reflecting disk
terrarum subita percussa expalluit umbra.
of-the-lands by-sudden struck grew-pale shadow.
ipse caput medio Titan cum ferret Olympo
himself head in-mid Titan when was-carrying Olympus
condidit ardentis atra caligine currus
hid burning with-black gloom chariot
inuoluitque orbem tenebris gentesque coegit
and-wrapped the-world in-darkness and-nations forced

desperare diem; qualem fugiente per ortus
to-despair-of day; such-as with-fleeing through risings
sole Thyesteae noctem duxere Mycenae.
sun Thyestean night drew-on Mycenae.
ora ferox Siculae laxauit Mulciber Aetnae,
the-mouths fierce of-Sicilian loosed Mulciber Aetna,
nec tulit in caelum flammas sed uertice prono
nor bore into the-sky flames but with-summit sloping
ignis in Hesperium cecidit latus. atra Charybdis
the-fire upon Hesperian fell side. black Charybdis
sanguineum fundo torsit mare; flebile saeui
bloody from-the-bottom whirled sea; tearfully savage
latrauere canes. Vestali raptus ab ara
barked dogs. Vestal snatched from altar
ignis, et ostendens confectas flamma Latinas
the-fire, and showing completed flame the-Latin-festival
scinditur in partes geminoque cacumine surgit
is-split into parts and-with-twin peak rises
Thebanos imitata rogos. tum cardine tellus
Theban imitating pyres. then on-its-axis the-earth
subsedit, ueteremque iugis nutantibus Alpes
settled, and-old with-ridges nodding the-Alps
discussere niuem. Tethys maioribus undis
shook-off snow. Tethys with-greater waves
Hesperiam Calpen summumque inpleuit Atlanta.
Hesperian Calpe and-highest filled Atlas.
indigetes fleuisse deos, urbisque laborem
native to-have-wept gods, and-of-the-city the-labor
testatos sudore Lares, delapsaque templis
to-have-witnessed with-sweat the-Lares, and-fallen from-temples

dona suis, dirasque diem foedasse uolucres
gifts their-own, and-dire the-day to-have-fouled birds
accipimus, siluisque feras sub nocte relictis
we-receive, and-with-woods beasts under night left
audaces media posuisse cubilia Roma.
bold mid to-have-placed lairs Rome.
tum pecudum faciles humana ad murmura linguae,
then of-cattle easy human to murmurs tongues,
monstrosique hominum partus numeroque modoque
and-monstrous of-humans births and-in-number and-in-measure
membrorum, matremque suus conterruit infans;
of-limbs, and-the-mother her-own terrified infant;
diraque per populum Cumanae carmina uatis
and-dire through the-people of-the-Cumaean songs prophetess
uolgantur. tum, quos sectis Bellona lacertis
are-spread. then, whom with-cut Bellona arms
saeua mouet, cecinere deos, crinemque rotantes
savage moves, sang the-gods, and-hair whirling
sanguineum populis ululatum tristia Galli.
bloody to-the-peoples howled grim-things the-Galli.
conpositis plenae gemuerunt ossibus urnae.
with-laid-to-rest full groaned bones urns.
tum fragor armorum magnaeque per auia uoces
then a-crash of-arms and-great through pathless voices
auditae nemorum et uenientes comminus umbrae.
heard of-groves and coming close shades.
quique colunt iunctos extremis moenibus agros
and-who till joined to-outermost walls fields
diffugiunt: ingens urbem cingebat Erinys
scatter: huge the-city was-circling Erinys

excutiens pronam flagranti uertice pinum
shaking down-turned with-blazing top pine
stridentisque comas, Thebanam qualis Agauen
and-hissing locks, Theban such-as Agave
inpulit aut saeui contorsit tela Lycurgi
drove or of-savage hurled the-weapons Lycurgus
Eumenis, aut qualem iussu Iunonis iniquae
a-Fury, or such-as by-command of-Juno hostile
horruit Alcides uiso iam Dite Megaeram.
shuddered-at Alcides with-seen already Dis Megaera.
insonuere tubae et, quanto clamore cohortes
sounded trumpets and, with-as-great-as shout cohorts
miscentur, tantum nox atra silentibus auris
are-mingled, so-great night black with-silent breezes
edidit. e medio uisi consurgere Campo
gave-forth. from middle seen to-rise Field
tristia Sullani cecinere oracula manes,
grim Sullan sang oracles shades,
tollentemque caput gelidas Anienis ad undas
and-raising (his)-head icy of-Anio at waves
agricolae fracto Marium fugere sepulchro.
farmers with-broken Marius fled tomb.

Etruscan prophets are summoned, and the oldest, Arruns, orders the monstrous births burned and the city purified by a procession of priests around its bounds. He gathers the scattered fire of the thunderbolt, buries it, and sacrifices a bull, whose blood runs out as venom. The liver is diseased and doubled, with a second head on it, and Arruns cries that the gods below have entered the victim; he wraps the worst in ambiguity and prays that the entrails lie and that Tages, the art's founder, made it all up.

haec propter placuit Tuscos de more uetusto
these because-of it-pleased Tuscan by custom ancient
acciri uates. quorum qui maximus aeuo
to-be-summoned prophets. of-whom who greatest in-age
Arruns incoluit desertae moenia Lucae,
Arruns inhabited of-deserted the-walls Luca,
fulminis edoctus motus uenasque calentis
of-the-thunderbolt taught the-motions and-the-veins warm
fibrarum et monitus errantis in aere pinnae,
of-entrails and the-warnings of-a-wandering in air feather,
monstra iubet primum quae nullo semine discors
monsters he-orders first which with-no seed discordant
protulerat natura rapi sterilique nefandos
had-brought-forth nature to-be-seized and-from-barren unspeakable
ex utero fetus infaustis urere flammis.
out-of womb offspring with-ill-omened to-burn flames.
mox iubet et totam pauidis a ciuibus urbem
presently he-orders and whole fearful by citizens the-city
ambiri et festo purgantes moenia lustro
to-be-gone-around and with-festal purifying walls lustration

longa per extremos pomeria cingere fines
long through outermost the-pomerium to-encircle bounds
pontifices, sacri quibus est permissa potestas.
the-pontiffs, of-the-sacred to-whom is permitted power.
turba minor ritu sequitur succincta Gabino,
the-throng lesser in-rite follows girt Gabine,
Vestalemque chorum ducit uittata sacerdos
and-the-Vestal chorus leads filleted priestess
Troianam soli cui fas uidisse Mineruam.
Trojan alone to-whom lawful to-have-seen Minerva.
tum, qui fata deum secretaque carmina seruant
then, who the-fates of-the-gods and-secret songs keep
et lotam paruo reuocant Almone Cybeben,
and washed in-little recall Almo Cybebe,
et doctus uolucres augur seruare sinistras
and skilled birds augur to-watch left-hand
septemuirque epulis festus Titiique sodales
and-the-septemvir at-feasts festive and-Titian brotherhood
et Salius laeto portans ancilia collo
and the-Salian on-glad carrying shields neck
et tollens apicem generoso uertice flamen.
and raising the-cap on-noble head the-flamen.
dumque illi effusam longis anfractibus urbem
and-while they sprawling with-long windings the-city
circumeunt Arruns dispersos fulminis ignes
go-around Arruns scattered of-the-thunderbolt fires
colligit et terrae maesto cum murmure condit
gathers and in-the-earth sad with murmur buries
datque locis numen; sacris tunc admouet aris
and-gives to-the-places divinity; to-sacred then he-brings altars

electa ceruice marem. iam fundere Bacchum
with-chosen neck a-male. now to-pour Bacchus
coeperat obliquoque molas inducere cultro,
he-had-begun and-with-slanting meal to-draw-on knife,
inpatiensque diu non grati uictima sacri,
and-impatient long of-not welcome the-victim rite,
cornua succincti premerent cum torua ministri,
the-horns girt were-pressing when fierce attendants,
deposito uictum praebebat poplite collum.
with-lowered conquered offered knee neck.
nec cruor emicuit solitus, sed uolnere laxo
nor blood spurted usual, but from-wound loose
diffusum rutilo dirum pro sanguine uirus.
poured-out ruddy dire instead-of blood venom.
palluit attonitus sacris feralibus Arruns
grew-pale astonished at-rites deadly Arruns
atque iram superum raptis quaesiuit in extis.
and the-anger of-the-gods-above snatched sought in entrails.
terruit ipse color uatem; nam pallida taetris
terrified itself the-color the-prophet; for pale with-foul
uiscera tincta notis gelidoque infecta cruore
entrails tinged marks and-with-cold stained gore
plurimus asperso uariabat sanguine liuor.
abundant with-sprinkled was-mottling blood livid-color.
cernit tabe iecur madidum, uenasque minaces
he-sees with-decay the-liver wet, and-veins threatening
hostili de parte uidet. pulmonis anheli
hostile from part sees. of-the-lung panting
fibra latet, paruusque secat uitalia limes.
the-lobe lies-hidden, and-small cuts the-vitals boundary.

cor iacet, et saniem per hiantis uiscera rimas
the-heart lies, and pus through gaping entrails cracks
emittunt, produntque suas omenta latebras.
send-out, and-betray their-own the-caul hiding-places.
quodque nefas nullis inpune apparuit extis,
and-what portent in-no with-impunity has-appeared entrails,
ecce, uidet capiti fibrarum increscere molem
behold, he-sees on-the-head of-the-lobes to-grow a-mass
alterius capitis. pars aegra et marcida pendet,
of-another head. part sick and flabby hangs,
pars micat et celeri uenas mouet inproba pulsu.
part throbs and with-quick the-veins moves unruly pulse.
his ubi concepit magnorum fata malorum
from-these when he-grasped of-great the-fates evils
exclamat 'uix fas, superi, quaecumque mouetis,
he-cries 'scarcely lawful, gods-above, whatever you-set-moving,
prodere me populis; nec enim tibi, summe, litaui,
to-betray me to-the-peoples; nor indeed to-you, highest, I-have-sacrificed-well,
Iuppiter, hoc sacrum, caesique in pectora tauri
Jupiter, this rite, and-of-the-slain into the-breast bull
inferni uenere dei. non fanda timemus,
infernal have-come gods. not to-be-spoken we-fear,
sed uenient maiora metu. di uisa secundent,
but will-come greater than-fear. the-gods the-things-seen may-make-favorable,
et fibris sit nulla fides, sed conditor artis
and in-entrails be no faith, but the-founder of-the-art
finxerit ista Tages.' flexa sic omina Tuscus
may-have-feigned these Tages.' twisted thus omens the-Tuscan
inuoluens multaque tegens ambage canebat.
wrapping and-in-much covering ambiguity was-chanting.

The astrologer Figulus declares that either the stars move without law or a plague is ripe for Rome. He reads the sky: Saturn and the Lion are quiet, but Mars alone holds heaven while Jupiter sets and Venus dims, and Orion's sword gleams too bright. Madness of arms is at hand, crime will be called valor, and the frenzy will last many years; peace will come only with a master, so Rome must prolong its civil war while it is still free.

at Figulus, cui cura deos secretaque caeli
but Figulus, to-whom a-care the-gods and-the-secrets of-heaven
nosse fuit, quem non stellarum Aegyptia Memphis
to-know was, whom not of-the-stars Egyptian Memphis
aequaret uisu numerisque sequentibus astra,
could-equal in-sight and-with-numbers following the-stars,
'aut hic errat' ait 'nulla cum lege per aeuum
'either this wanders' he-says 'no with law through the-ages
mundus et incerto discurrunt sidera motu,
the-universe and with-uncertain run-about the-stars motion,
aut, si fata mouent, urbi generique paratur
or, if the-fates move, for-the-city and-for-the-race is-prepared
humano matura lues. terraene dehiscent
human a-ripe plague. will-the-lands gape
subsidentque urbes, an tollet feruidus aer
and-will-sink cities, or will-take-away fervent air
temperiem? segetes tellus infida negabit,
temperance? crops the-earth faithless will-deny,
omnis an infusis miscebitur unda uenenis?
all or with-poured-in will-be-mixed water poisons?
quod cladis genus, o superi, qua peste paratis
what of-disaster kind, O gods-above, with-what plague do-you-prepare

saeuitiam? extremi multorum tempus in unum
savagery? the-last of-many time into one
conuenere dies. summo si frigida caelo
have-met days. in-highest if cold heaven
stella nocens nigros Saturni accenderet ignis,
star harmful black of-Saturn were-kindling fires,
Deucalioneos fudisset Aquarius imbres
Deucalion's would-have-poured Aquarius rains
totaque diffuso latuisset in aequore tellus.
and-whole spread-out would-have-lain-hidden in sea the-earth.
si saeuum radiis Nemeaeum, Phoebe, Leonem
if savage with-rays Nemean, Phoebus, Lion
nunc premeres, toto fluerent incendia mundo
now you-were-pressing, in-whole would-flow fires world
succensusque tuis flagrasset curribus aether.
and-kindled by-your would-have-blazed chariot the-ether.
hi cessant ignes. tu, qui flagrante minacem
these are-idle fires. you, who with-blazing threatening
Scorpion incendis cauda chelasque peruris,
Scorpion inflame tail and-the-claws scorch,
quid tantum, Gradiue, paras? nam mitis in alto
what so-great, Gradivus, do-you-prepare? for mild in the-height
Iuppiter occasu premitur, Venerisque salubre
Jupiter in-setting is-sunk, and-of-Venus healthful
sidus hebet, motuque celer Cyllenius haeret,
star is-dim, and-in-motion swift the-Cyllenian sticks,
et caelum Mars solus habet. cur signa meatus
and heaven Mars alone holds. why the-constellations courses
deseruere suos mundoque obscura feruntur,
have-deserted their-own and-in-the-universe dim are-borne,

ensiferi nimium fulget latus Orionis?
of-sword-bearing too-much gleams the-side Orion?
inminet armorum rabies, ferrique potestas
impends of-arms the-madness, and-of-steel the-power
confundet ius omne manu, scelerique nefando
will-confound right all by-hand, and-to-crime unspeakable
nomen erit uirtus, multosque exibit in annos
the-name will-be valor, and-many will-go-out into years
hic furor. et superos quid prodest poscere finem?
this frenzy. and the-gods-above what does-it-profit to-ask-for an-end?
cum domino pax ista uenit. duc, Roma, malorum
with a-master peace that comes. draw-out, Rome, of-evils
continuam seriem clademque in tempora multa
continuous series and-disaster into times many
extrahe ciuili tantum iam libera bello.'
prolong by-civil only now free war.'

I.15 · THE MATRON'S PROPHECY

A matron seized by Apollo runs through the city like a Bacchant and cries out what she sees. Snatched over the earth, she sees Philippi beneath Haemus, Roman battle-lines fighting without an enemy, and a headless trunk lying on the sand of the Nile. She is borne to the Syrtes and Libya, over the Alps and Pyrenees, and back to Rome, where an impious war is waged in the senate. She asks to see new shores, since she has already seen Philippi, and falls exhausted.

terruerant satis haec pauidam praesagia plebem,
had-terrified enough these fearful presages the-plebs,
sed maiora premunt. nam, qualis uertice Pindi
but greater-things press. for, such-as from-the-summit of-Pindus

Edonis Ogygio decurrit plena Lyaeo,
an-Edonian with-Ogygian runs-down full Lyaeus,
talis et attonitam rapitur matrona per urbem
such also astonished is-swept a-matron through city
uocibus his prodens urguentem pectora Phoebum:
with-words these betraying pressing breast Phoebus:
'quo feror, o Paean? qua me super aethera raptam
'where am-I-borne, O Paean? on-what me above the-ether snatched
constituis terra? uideo Pangaea niuosis
do-you-set land? I-see Pangaeus with-snowy
cana iugis latosque Haemi sub rupe Philippos.
white ridges and-broad of-Haemus under the-crag Philippi.
quis furor hic, o Phoebe, doce, quo tela manusque
what frenzy this, O Phoebus, teach, why weapons and-hands
Romanae miscent acies bellumque sine hoste est.
Roman mingle battle-lines and-war without enemy is.
quo diuersa feror? primos me ducis in ortus,
where elsewhere am-I-borne? first me you-lead into risings,
qua mare Lagei mutatur gurgite Nili:
where the-sea of-the-Lagean is-changed by-the-flood Nile:
hunc ego, fluminea deformis truncus harena
this-one I, on-river shapeless trunk sand
qui iacet, agnosco. dubiam super aequora Syrtim
who lies, recognize. doubtful over seas Syrtis
arentemque feror Libyen, quo tristis Enyo
and-parched I-am-borne Libya, whither grim Enyo
transtulit Emathias acies. nunc desuper Alpis
has-transferred Emathian battle-lines. now over Alps
nubiferae colles atque aeriam Pyrenen
of-cloud-bearing the-hills and airy Pyrenees

abripimur. patriae sedes remeamus in urbis,
we-are-swept-off. of-the-native the-seats we-return into city,
inpiaque in medio peraguntur bella senatu.
and-impious in mid are-carried-out wars senate.
consurgunt partes iterum, totumque per orbem
rise-up the-parties again, and-whole through world
rursus eo. noua da mihi cernere litora ponti
again I-go. new grant to-me to-see shores of-the-sea
telluremque nouam: uidi iam, Phoebe, Philippos.'
and-land new: I-have-seen already, Phoebus, Philippi.'
haec ait, et lasso iacuit deserta furore.
these-things she-says, and with-weary lay deserted frenzy.

BOOK II

II.1 · THE CITY IN MOURNING

The gods' anger is plain, and nature gives signs of war; the poet asks Jupiter why he lets mortals foresee disaster, and prays that whatever he prepares come suddenly, so that the fearful may still hope. Rome suspends its business, the magistrates lay aside their insignia, and a silent grief spreads like that of a house at a death. Matrons crowd the temples, beating their breasts, and one bids them weep now, while the outcome hangs, since they must rejoice whoever wins. The men going to war wish they had been born for Cannae and the Trebia, and pray that the gods strike both leaders before they deserve it.

Iamque irae patuere deum manifestaque belli
And-now the-angers lay-open of-the-gods and-manifest of-war
signa dedit mundus legesque et foedera rerum
signs gave the-universe and-the-laws and compacts of-things
praescia monstrifero uertit natura tumultu
foreknowing with-portent-bearing overturned nature tumult
indixitque nefas. cur hanc tibi, rector Olympi,
and-proclaimed the-abomination. why this to-you, ruler of-Olympus,
sollicitis uisum mortalibus addere curam,
to-anxious did-it-seem mortals to-add care,
noscant uenturas ut dira per omina clades?
they-should-know going-to-come that dire through omens disasters?
siue parens rerum, cum primum informia regna
whether the-parent of-things, when first shapeless realms
materiamque rudem flamma cedente recepit,
and-matter raw with-flame yielding received,
fixit in aeternum causas, qua cuncta coercet
fixed for eternity causes, by-which all he-constrains

se quoque lege tenens, et saecula iussa ferentem
himself also by-law holding, and ages ordered bearing
fatorum inmoto diuisit limite mundum,
of-the-fates with-unmoved divided boundary the-universe,
siue nihil positum est, sed fors incerta uagatur
or nothing laid-down is, but chance uncertain wanders
fertque refertque uices et habet mortalia casus,
and-brings and-brings-back changes and holds mortal-things chance,
sit subitum quodcumque paras; sit caeca futuri
let-be sudden whatever you-prepare; let-be blind of-the-future
mens hominum fati; liceat sperare timenti.
the-mind of-men fate; let-it-be-allowed to-hope to-the-fearing.
ergo, ubi concipiunt quantis sit cladibus orbi
therefore, when they-grasp with-how-great would-be disasters to-the-world
constatura fides superum, ferale per urbem
going-to-cost the-faith of-the-gods-above, deathly through the-city
iustitium; latuit plebeio tectus amictu
suspension-of-business; lay-hidden in-plebeian covered cloak
omnis honos, nullos comitata est purpura fasces.
every office, no accompanied has purple fasces.
tum questus tenuere suos magnusque per omnis
then complaints held-back their-own and-great through all
errauit sine uoce dolor. sic funere primo
wandered without voice grief. so at-death first
attonitae tacuere domus, cum corpora nondum
stunned are-silent houses, when bodies not-yet
conclamata iacent nec mater crine soluto
mourned-aloud lie nor the-mother with-hair loosed
exigit ad saeuos famularum bracchia planctus,
drives to cruel of-the-maids arms beatings,

sed cum membra premit fugiente rigentia uita
but when limbs she-presses with-fleeing stiffening life
uoltusque exanimes oculosque in morte minaces,
and-face lifeless and-eyes in death threatening,
necdum est ille dolor nec iam metus: incubat amens
not-yet is that grief nor now fear: she-lies-over frantic
miraturque malum. cultus matrona priores
and-marvels-at the-evil. dress the-matron former
deposuit maestaeque tenent delubra cateruae:
laid-aside and-sad hold the-shrines crowds:
hae lacrimis sparsere deos, hae pectora duro
these with-tears sprinkled the-gods, these breasts on-hard
adflixere solo, lacerasque in limine sacro
dashed ground, and-torn on threshold sacred
attonitae fudere comas uotisque uocari
stunned poured-out hair and-by-vows to-be-called
adsuetas crebris feriunt ululatibus aures.
accustomed with-frequent strike wailings ears.
nec cunctae summi templo iacuere Tonantis:
nor all of-the-highest in-the-temple lay Thunderer:
diuisere deos, et nullis defuit aris
they-divided the-gods, and to-no was-lacking altars
inuidiam factura parens. quarum una madentis
reproach going-to-make a-parent. of-whom one wet
scissa genas, planctu liuentis atra lacertos,
torn cheeks, with-beating bruised black arms,
'nunc', ait 'o miserae, contundite pectora, matres,
'now', she-says 'O wretched, beat breasts, mothers,
nunc laniate comas neue hunc differte dolorem
now tear hair and-do-not this put-off grief

et summis seruate malis. nunc flere potestas
and for-the-highest keep evils. now to-weep the-power
dum pendet fortuna ducum: cum uicerit alter
while hangs the-fortune of-the-leaders: when shall-have-conquered one
gaudendum est.' his se stimulis dolor ipse lacessit.
to-be-rejoiced it-is.' with-these itself goads grief itself provokes.
nec non bella uiri diuersaque castra petentes
nor not wars the-men and-opposite camps seeking
effundunt iustas in numina saeua querellas.
pour-out just against divinities savage complaints.
'o miserae sortis, quod non in Punica nati
'O of-wretched lot, that not into Punic born
tempora Cannarum fuimus Trebiaeque iuuentus.
times of-Cannae we-were and-of-the-Trebia the-youth.
non pacem petimus, superi: date gentibus iras,
not peace we-seek, gods-above: give to-nations angers,
nunc urbes excite feras; coniuret in arma
now cities rouse fierce; let-conspire into arms
mundus, Achaemeniis decurrant Medica Susis
the-world, from-Achaemenian let-run-down Median Susa
agmina, Massageten Scythicus non adliget Hister,
columns, the-Massagete Scythian not let-bind Hister,
fundat ab extremo flauos Aquilone Suebos
let-pour from farthest blond North-Wind Suebi
Albis et indomitum Rheni caput; omnibus hostes
Elbe and untamed of-the-Rhine the-head; to-all enemies
reddite nos populis: ciuile auertite bellum.
make us peoples: civil turn-away war.
hinc Dacus, premat inde Getes; occurrat Hiberis
on-this-side the-Dacian, let-press on-that the-Getan; let-meet the-Iberians

alter, ad Eoas hic uertat signa pharetras;
the-other, toward Eastern this let-turn standards quivers;
nulla uacet tibi, Roma, manus. uel, perdere nomen
no let-be-idle for-you, Rome, hand. or, to-destroy the-name
si placet Hesperium, superi, conlatus in ignes
if it-pleases Hesperian, gods-above, gathered into fires
plurimus ad terram per fulmina decidat aether.
in-fullest-mass to earth through thunderbolts let-fall the-ether.
saeue parens, utrasque simul partesque ducesque,
savage parent, both together and-parties and-leaders,
dum nondum meruere, feri. tantone nouorum
while not-yet they-have-deserved, strike. by-so-great of-new
prouentu scelerum quaerunt uter imperet urbi?
harvest of-crimes do-they-ask which should-rule the-city?
uix tanti fuerat ciuilia bella mouere
scarcely of-such-worth it-had-been civil wars to-stir
ut neuter.' talis pietas peritura querellas
that neither.' such dutifulness going-to-perish complaints
egerit. at miseros angit sua cura parentes,
uttered. but wretched torments its-own care parents,
oderuntque grauis uiuacia fata senectae
and-they-hate of-heavy long-lived fates old-age
seruatosque iterum bellis ciuilibus annos.
and-saved again for-wars civil years.

An old man, fearing the past will return, recalls Marius. The exile hid in the marshes and wasted in chains in prison; the executioner sent to kill him froze and let the sword fall, for Marius was being kept for many deaths. He lay among the ruins of Carthage, gathered Libyan anger, freed slave gangs, and took the city. Nobles and plebs, old men and infants were slaughtered; Baebius was torn apart by a ring of hands, Antonius' head was set on a feast table, Fimbria mangled the Crassi, and Scaevola was killed before Vesta's hearth. Marius died in his seventh consulship, and then came the dead of the Sacred Harbor and the Colline Gate.

atque aliquis magno quaerens exempla timori
and someone for-great seeking examples fear
'non alios' inquit 'motus tum fata parabant
'not other' he-says 'upheavals then the-fates were-preparing
cum post Teutonicos uictor Libycosque triumphos
when after Teutonic victor and-Libyan triumphs
exul limosa Marius caput abdidit ulua.
an-exile in-muddy Marius (his)-head hid sedge.
stagna auidi texere soli laxaeque paludes
the-pools of-greedy covered soil and-loose marshes
depositum, Fortuna, tuum; mox uincula ferri
the-deposit, Fortune, your; presently chains of-iron
exedere senem longusque in carcere paedor.
ate-away the-old-man and-long in prison filth.
consul et euersa felix moriturus in urbe
consul and overturned fortunate going-to-die in city
poenas ante dabat scelerum. mors ipsa refugit
penalties beforehand was-paying of-crimes. death itself fled-back-from
saepe uirum, frustraque hosti concessa potestas
often the-man, and-in-vain to-the-enemy granted power

sanguinis inuisi, primo qui caedis in actu
of-blood hated, first who of-slaughter in act
deriguit ferrumque manu torpente remisit.
stiffened and-steel with-hand numb let-go.
uiderat inmensam tenebroso in carcere lucem
he-had-seen immense gloomy in prison a-light
terribilisque deos scelerum Mariumque futurum,
and-terrible gods of-crimes and-Marius going-to-be,
audieratque pauens "fas haec contingere non est
and-had-heard trembling "lawful this to-touch not is
colla tibi; debet multas hic legibus aeui
neck for-you; owes many this-man to-the-laws of-age
ante suam mortes: uanum depone furorem."
before his-own deaths: empty lay-down frenzy."
si libet ulcisci deletae funera gentis,
if it-pleases to-avenge of-destroyed the-deaths race,
hunc, Cimbri, seruate senem. non ille fauore
this, Cimbri, preserve old-man. not he by-favor
numinis, ingenti superum protectus ab ira,
of-divinity, huge of-the-gods-above protected by anger,
uir ferus et Romam cupienti perdere fato
a-man fierce and Rome to-desiring to-destroy fate
sufficiens. idem pelago delatus iniquo
sufficient. the-same by-sea carried-down hostile
hostilem in terram uacuisque mapalibus actus
hostile onto land and-in-empty huts driven
nuda triumphati iacuit per regna Iugurthae
bare of-the-triumphed-over lay through kingdoms Jugurtha
et Poenos pressit cineres. solacia fati
and Carthaginian pressed ashes. consolations of-fate

Carthago Mariusque tulit, pariterque iacentes
Carthage and-Marius bore, and-equally lying
ignouere deis. Libycas ibi colligit iras.
forgave the-gods. Libyan there he-gathers angers.
ut primum fortuna redit, seruilia soluit
when first fortune returns, servile he-loosed
agmina, conflato saeuas ergastula ferro
columns, with-forged savage slave-prisons iron
exeruere manus. nulli gestanda dabantur
thrust-out hands. to-none to-be-carried were-given
signa ducis, nisi qui scelerum iam fecerat usum
the-standards of-the-leader, unless who of-crimes already had-made practice
adtuleratque in castra nefas. pro fata, quis ille,
and-had-brought into camp abomination. O fates, what that,
quis fuit ille dies, Marius quo moenia uictor
what was that day, Marius on-which walls victor
corripuit, quantoque gradu mors saeua cucurrit!
seized, and-with-how-great step death savage ran!
nobilitas cum plebe perit, lateque uagatus
the-nobility with the-plebs perishes, and-widely wandered
ensis, et a nullo reuocatum pectore ferrum.
the-sword, and from no recalled breast steel.
stat cruor in templis multaque rubentia caede
stands blood in temples and-with-much reddening slaughter
lubrica saxa madent. nulli sua profuit aetas:
slippery stones are-wet. to-no-one his-own profited age:
non senis extremum piguit uergentibus annis
not of-an-old-man the-last it-irked with-declining years
praecepisse diem, nec primo in limine uitae
to-have-anticipated day, nor first on threshold of-life

infantis miseri nascentia rumpere fata.
of-an-infant wretched being-born to-break fates.
crimine quo parui caedem potuere mereri?
by-crime what little-ones slaughter could to-deserve?
sed satis est iam posse mori. trahit ipse furoris
but enough it-is now to-be-able to-die. drags itself of-frenzy
impetus, et uisum lenti quaesisse nocentem.
the-impulse, and it-seemed of-a-slow to-have-sought the-guilty.
in numerum pars magna perit, rapuitque cruentus
into number part great perishes, and-snatched bloody
uictor ab ignota uoltus ceruice recisos
victor from unknown faces neck cut-off
dum uacua pudet ire manu. spes una salutis
while with-empty it-shames to-go hand. hope one of-safety
oscula pollutae fixisse trementia dextrae.
kisses on-polluted to-have-fixed trembling right-hand.
mille licet gladii mortis noua signa sequantur,
a-thousand though swords of-death new signals follow,
degener o populus, uix saecula longa decorum
degenerate O people, scarcely ages long honorable
sic meruisse uiris, nedum breue dedecus aeui
thus to-have-earned for-men, much-less brief disgrace of-life
et uitam dum Sulla redit. cui funera uolgi
and life until Sulla returns. to-whom the-deaths of-the-crowd
flere uacet? uix te sparsum per uiscera, Baebi,
to-weep is-there-leisure? scarcely you scattered through entrails, Baebius,
innumeras inter carpentis membra coronae
countless among tearing limbs of-the-ring
discessisse manus, aut te, praesage malorum
to-have-parted hands, or you, foreteller of-evils

Antoni, cuius laceris pendentia canis
Antonius, whose with-torn hanging gray-hairs
ora ferens miles festae rorantia mensae
face carrying a-soldier on-festal dripping table
inposuit. truncos lacerauit Fimbria Crassos;
placed. headless mangled Fimbria the-Crassi;
saeua tribunicio maduerunt robora tabo.
savage with-tribunician were-wet dungeon-planks gore.
te quoque neclectum uiolatae, Scaeuola, Vestae
you also neglected of-violated, Scaevola, Vesta
ante ipsum penetrale deae semperque calentis
before the-very inner-shrine of-the-goddess and-ever glowing
mactauere focos; paruom set fessa senectus
they-slew hearths; little but weary old-age
sanguinis effudit iugulo flammisque pepercit.
of-blood poured from-the-throat and-the-flames spared.
septimus haec sequitur repetitis fascibus annus.
seventh these follows with-resumed fasces year.
ille fuit uitae Mario modus, omnia passo
that was of-life for-Marius the-limit, all having-suffered
quae peior fortuna potest, atque omnibus uso
which worse fortune can, and all having-used
quae melior, mensoque hominis quid fata paterent.
which better, and-having-measured of-man what the-fates lay-open.
iam quot apud Sacri cecidere cadauera Portum
now how-many at Sacred fell corpses Harbor
aut Collina tulit stratas quot porta cateruas,
or Colline bore laid-low how-many gate crowds,
tum cum paene caput mundi rerumque potestas
then when almost the-head of-the-world and-of-things the-power

mutauit translata locum, Romanaque Samnis
changed transferred place, and-Roman the-Samnite
ultra Caudinas sperauit uolnera Furcas!
beyond Caudine hoped-for wounds Forks!

II.3 · SULLA'S PROSCRIPTIONS

Sulla came as avenger and drained the little blood left in the city, like a physician who cuts too deep. Hatred was given license: slaves killed masters, sons fathers, brothers brothers, and men fled into tombs or killed themselves first. The leaders' heads were heaped in the forum, more than Thrace or Libya ever saw. The old man remembers searching through all the corpses of Sulla's peace for his brother's head. A Marius was mutilated limb by limb as an offering to Catulus' shade, and the whole people of Praeneste fell at once.

Sulla quoque inmensis accessit cladibus ultor.
Sulla also to-immense was-added disasters an-avenger.
ille quod exiguum restabat sanguinis urbi
he what little remained of-blood to-the-city
hausit; dumque nimis iam putria membra recidit
drained; and-while too-much now rotten limbs he-cuts-back
excessit medicina modum, nimiumque secuta est,
exceeded the-medicine measure, and-too-far followed has,
qua morbi duxere, manus. periere nocentes,
where of-the-disease led, the-hand. perished the-guilty,
sed cum iam soli possent superesse nocentes.
but when now alone could to-survive the-guilty.
tum data libertas odiis, resolutaque legum
then given license to-hatreds, and-loosed of-laws
frenis ira ruit. non uni cuncta dabantur
from-reins anger rushed. not to-one all-things were-given

sed fecit sibi quisque nefas: semel omnia uictor
but made for-himself each abomination: once all-things the-victor
iusserat. infandum domini per uiscera ferrum
had-ordered. unspeakable of-the-master through entrails steel
exegit famulus, nati maduere paterno
drove the-slave, sons were-wet with-paternal
sanguine, certatum est cui ceruix caesa parentis
blood, contended it-was to-whom the-neck cut of-the-parent
cederet, in fratrum ceciderunt praemia fratres.
should-fall, for of-brothers fell the-rewards brothers.
busta repleta fuga, permixtaque uiua sepultis
tombs filled by-flight, and-mixed living with-buried
corpora, nec populum latebrae cepere ferarum.
bodies, nor the-people the-lairs held of-beasts.
hic laqueo fauces elisaque guttura fregit,
this-one with-noose jaws and-crushed throat broke,
hic se praecipiti iaculatus pondere dura
this-one himself with-headlong having-hurled weight on-hard
dissiluit percussus humo, mortesque cruento
burst-apart struck ground, and-deaths from-bloody
uictori rapuere suas; hic robora busti
victor snatched their-own; this-one the-timbers of-the-pyre
exstruit ipse sui necdum omni sanguine fuso
builds himself of-his-own and-not-yet with-all blood poured
desilit in flammas et, dum licet, occupat ignes.
leaps-down into flames and, while it-is-allowed, seizes the-fires.
colla ducum pilo trepidam gestata per urbem
the-necks of-leaders on-javelin trembling carried through city
et medio congesta foro: cognoscitur illic
and in-mid heaped forum: is-recognized there

quidquid ubique iacet. scelerum non Thracia tantum
whatever anywhere lies. of-crimes not Thrace so-much
uidit Bistonii stabulis pendere tyranni,
saw of-the-Bistonian in-the-stables to-hang tyrant,
postibus Antaei Libye, nec Graecia maerens
on-the-doorposts of-Antaeus Libya, nor Greece mourning
tot laceros artus Pisaea fleuit in aula.
so-many torn limbs Pisan wept in hall.
cum iam tabe fluunt confusaque tempore multo
when now with-decay they-run and-confused by-time much
amisere notas, miserorum dextra parentum
have-lost marks, of-wretched the-hand parents
colligit et pauido subducit cognita furto.
gathers and with-fearful withdraws recognized theft.
meque ipsum memini, caesi deformia fratris
and-me myself I-remember, of-a-slain disfigured brother
ora rogo cupidum uetitisque inponere flammis,
face on-pyre eager and-to-forbidden to-place flames,
omnia Sullanae lustrasse cadauera pacis
all of-the-Sullan to-have-surveyed corpses peace
perque omnis truncos, cum qua ceruice recisum
and-through all trunks, with which neck cut-off
conueniat, quaesisse, caput. quid sanguine manes
should-fit, to-have-sought, the-head. why with-blood the-shades
placatos Catuli referam? cum uictima tristis
appeased of-Catulus should-I-tell? when a-victim grim
inferias Marius forsan nolentibus umbris
as-funeral-offering Marius perhaps to-unwilling shades
pendit inexpleto non fanda piacula busto,
pays to-insatiable not to-be-spoken atonements tomb,

cum laceros artus aequataque uolnera membris
when torn limbs and-equaled wounds to-limbs
uidimus et toto quamuis in corpore caeso
we-saw and whole although in body slashed
nil animae letale datum, moremque nefandae
no to-life fatal given, and-the-custom of-unspeakable
dirum saeuitiae, pereuntis parcere morti.
dire cruelty, of-the-dying to-spare death.
auolsae cecidere manus exsectaque lingua
torn-off fell hands and-cut-out tongue
palpitat et muto uacuum ferit aera motu.
quivers and with-mute empty strikes air motion.
hic aures, alius spiramina naris aduncae
this-one ears, another the-breathing-holes of-nose hooked
amputat, ille cauis euoluit sedibus orbes
cuts-off, that-one from-hollow rolls-out seats eyeballs
ultimaque effodit spectatis lumina membris.
and-last digs-out with-watched eyes limbs.
uix erit ulla fides tam saeui criminis, unum
scarcely will-be any belief of-so savage crime, one
tot poenas cepisse caput. sic mole ruinae
so-many punishments to-have-taken head. thus by-the-mass of-ruin
fracta sub ingenti miscentur pondere membra,
broken under huge are-mingled weight limbs,
nec magis informes ueniunt ad litora trunci
nor more shapeless come to shores trunks
qui medio periere freto. quid perdere fructum
who in-mid perished strait. why to-lose the-fruit
iuuit et, ut uilem, Marii confundere uoltum?
did-it-help and, as worthless, of-Marius to-confound the-face?

ut scelus hoc Sullae caedesque ostensa placeret
that crime this to-Sulla and-slaughter shown should-please
agnoscendus erat. uidit Fortuna colonos
to-be-recognized he-was. saw Fortune settlers
Praenestina suos cunctos simul ense recepto
Praenestine her-own all at-once with-sword received
unius populum pereuntem tempore mortis.
of-one a-people perishing in-the-time death.

II.4 · THE SLAUGHTER AT THE SHEEPFOLDS

The flower of Italy was killed in the Sheepfolds: famine, sea, or plague had often destroyed as many young men at once, but never as a punishment, while Sulla watched from above without fear. The corpses choked the Tiber, and the blood forced its own way into the river and out to the Tyrrhenian Sea. For this Sulla was called fortunate and given a tomb in the Field of Mars. The old man fears worse to come, since neither of the new leaders will be content with what contented Sulla.

tum flos Hesperiae, Latii iam sola iuuentus,
then the-flower of-Hesperia, of-Latium now the-only youth,
concidit et miserae maculauit ouilia Romae.
fell and of-wretched stained the-sheepfolds Rome.
tot simul infesto iuuenes occumbere leto
so-many at-once by-hostile young-men to-succumb death
saepe fames pelagique furor subitaeque ruinae
often famine and-of-the-sea fury and-sudden collapses
aut terrae caelique lues aut bellica clades,
or of-earth and-of-sky plague or war's disaster,
numquam poena fuit. densi uix agmina uolgi
never a-punishment was. of-the-dense scarcely the-columns crowd

inter et exangues inmissa morte cateruas
among and bloodless with-sent-in death crowds
uictores mouere manus; uix caede peracta
the-victors moved hands; scarcely with-slaughter finished
procumbunt, dubiaque labant ceruice; sed illos
they-fall-forward, and-with-doubtful totter neck; but them
magna premit strages peraguntque cadauera partem
great presses the-heap and-carry-out corpses part
caedis: uiua graues elidunt corpora trunci.
of-the-slaughter: living heavy crush bodies trunks.
intrepidus tanti sedit securus ab alto
undaunted of-so-great sat untroubled from on-high
spectator sceleris: miseri tot milia uolgi
spectator crime: of-wretched so-many thousands crowd
non timuit iussisse mori. congesta recepit
not feared to-have-ordered to-die. heaped received
omnia Tyrrhenus Sullana cadauera gurges.
all Tyrrhenian Sullan corpses flood.
in fluuium primi cecidere, in corpora summi.
into the-river the-first fell, onto bodies the-last.
praecipites haesere rates, et strage cruenta
headlong stuck boats, and by-heap bloody
interruptus aquae fluxit prior amnis in aequor,
interrupted of-water flowed the-former stream into sea,
ad molem stetit unda sequens. iam sanguinis alti
at the-mass stood the-water following. now of-blood deep
uis sibi fecit iter campumque effusa per omnem
force for-itself made a-way and-the-plain poured through all
praecipitique ruens Tiberina in flumina riuo
and-with-headlong rushing Tiber into waters stream

haerentis adiuuit aquas; nec iam alueus amnem
sticking helped waters; nor now the-bed the-river
nec retinent ripae, redditque cadauera campo.
nor hold banks, and-gives-back corpses to-the-plain.
tandem Tyrrhenas uix eluctatus in undas
at-last Tyrrhenian scarcely having-struggled-out into waves
sanguine caeruleum torrenti diuidit aequor.
with-blood blue with-rushing divides sea.
hisne salus rerum, felix his Sulla uocari,
for-these salvation of-things, fortunate for-these Sulla to-be-called,
his meruit tumulum medio sibi tollere Campo?
for-these earned a-tomb in-mid for-himself to-raise Field?
haec rursus patienda manent, hoc ordine belli
these-things again to-be-suffered remain, in-this order of-war
ibitur, hic stabit ciuilibus exitus armis.
it-will-be-gone, this will-stand for-civil outcome arms.
quamquam agitant grauiora metus, multumque coitur
although stir heavier-things fears, and-much it-is-met
humani generis maiore in proelia damno.
of-the-human race with-greater into battles loss.
exulibus Mariis bellorum maxima merces
for-exiled Marii of-wars the-greatest reward
Roma recepta fuit, nec plus uictoria Sullae
Rome recovered was, nor more victory of-Sulla
praestitit inuisas penitus quam tollere partes:
furnished hated utterly than to-remove parties:
hos alio, Fortuna, uocas, olimque potentes
these elsewhere, Fortune, you-call, and-long powerful
concurrunt. neuter ciuilia bella moueret
they-clash. neither civil wars would-stir

contentus quo Sulla fuit.' sic maesta senectus
content with-what Sulla was.' thus sad old-age
praeteritique memor flebat metuensque futuri.
and-of-the-past mindful was-weeping and-fearing of-the-future.

II.5 · BRUTUS VISITS CATO

Brutus is not shaken and goes by night to his kinsman Cato, whom he finds awake and fearing for everyone but himself. He asks whether Cato will keep the peace or join the civil war, since everyone else is drawn to it by his own interest. Brutus urges Cato to stand apart like the heavenly stars, since storms trouble only the lower air, and warns that Caesar will be glad to see so great a citizen in arms: if Cato joins Pompey, Caesar will be the only free man in the world. If Cato does take up arms for the laws, Brutus will be the enemy not of Pompey or Caesar but of whoever wins.

at non magnanimi percussit pectora Bruti
but not of-great-souled struck the-breast Brutus
terror et in tanta pauidi formidine motus
terror and in so-great of-a-fearful dread upheaval
pars populi lugentis erat, set nocte sopora,
part of-the-people mourning was, but at-night drowsy,
Parrhasis obliquos Helice cum uerteret axes,
Parrhasian slanting Helice when was-turning axles,
atria cognati pulsat non ampla Catonis.
the-halls of-kinsman knocks-at not ample Cato.
inuenit insomni uoluentem publica cura
finds with-sleepless revolving public care
fata uirum casusque urbis cunctisque timentem
the-fates the-man and-the-falls of-the-city and-for-all fearing
securumque sui, farique his uocibus orsus:
and-untroubled for-himself, and-to-speak with-these words began:

‘omnibus expulsae terris olimque fugatae
‘from-all of-expelled lands and-long put-to-flight
uirtutis iam sola fides, quam turbine nullo
virtue now the-only support, which by-whirlwind no
excutiet fortuna tibi, tu mente labantem
will-shake-out fortune from-you, you in-mind tottering
derige me, dubium certo tu robore firma.
direct me, doubtful with-sure you strength strengthen.
namque alii Magnum uel Caesaris arma sequantur,
for others Magnus or of-Caesar the-arms may-follow,
dux Bruto Cato solus erit. pacemne tueris
leader for-Brutus Cato alone will-be. peace do-you-guard
inconcussa tenens dubio uestigia mundo,
unshaken holding in-doubtful footsteps world,
an placuit ducibus scelerum populique furentis
or has-it-pleased with-the-leaders of-crimes and-of-the-people raging
cladibus inmixtum ciuile absoluere bellum?
with-disasters mingled civil to-acquit war?
quemque suae rapiunt scelerata in proelia causae:
each their-own snatch criminal into battles causes:
hos polluta domus legesque in pace timendae,
these a-polluted house and-laws in peace to-be-feared,
hos ferro fugienda fames mundique ruinae
these by-steel to-be-fled famine and-in-the-world’s ruin
permiscenda fides. nullum furor egit in arma;
to-be-confounded credit. none frenzy drove into arms;
castra petunt magna uicti mercede: tibi uni
camp they-seek by-great won pay: to-you alone
per se bella placent? quid tot durare per annos
for themselves wars please? why so-many to-last through years

profuit inmunem corrupti moribus aeui?
profited exempt of-a-corrupt from-the-morals age?
hoc solum longae pretium uirtutis habebis:
this alone of-long reward virtue you-will-have:
accipient alios, facient te bella nocentem.
will-receive others, will-make you wars guilty.
ne tantum, o superi, liceat feralibus armis,
let-not so-much, O gods-above, be-allowed to-deadly arms,
has etiam mouisse manus. nec pila lacertis
these even to-have-moved hands. nor javelins by-arms
missa tuis caeca telorum in nube ferentur:
sent your blind of-missiles in cloud will-be-borne:
ne tanta in cassum uirtus eat, ingeret omnis
lest so-great in vain valor should-go, will-heap all
se belli fortuna tibi. quis nolet in isto
itself of-war fortune on-you. who will-not-wish on that
ense mori, quamuis alieno uolnere labens,
sword to-die, although by-another's wound sinking,
et scelus esse tuum? melius tranquilla sine armis
and the-crime to-be yours? better tranquil without arms
otia solus ages, sicut caelestia semper
leisure alone you-will-lead, as heavenly always
inconcussa suo uoluuntur sidera lapsu.
unshaken in-their-own are-rolled stars gliding.
fulminibus propior terrae succenditur aer,
by-thunderbolts nearer to-the-earth is-kindled the-air,
imaque telluris uentos tractusque coruscos
and-the-lowest of-the-earth winds and-tracts flashing
flammarum accipiunt; nubes excedit Olympus.
of-flames receive; the-clouds rises-above Olympus.

lege deum minimas rerum discordia turbat,
by-the-law of-the-gods the-least of-things discord disturbs,
pacem magna tenent. quam laetae Caesaris aures
peace great-things hold. how glad of-Caesar ears
accipient tantum uenisse in proelia ciuem!
will-receive so-great to-have-come into battles a-citizen!
nam praelata suis numquam diuersa dolebit
for preferred to-his-own never opposing will-grieve
castra ducis Magni. nimium placet ipse Catoni,
camp of-the-leader Magnus. too-much pleases himself to-Cato,
si bellum ciuile placet. pars magna senatus
if war civil pleases. part great of-the-senate
et duce priuato gesturus proelia consul
and with-a-leader private going-to-wage battles consul
sollicitant proceresque alii; quibus adde Catonem
urge and-chiefs other; to-whom add Cato
sub iuga Pompei, toto iam liber in orbe
under the-yoke of-Pompey, whole now free in world
solus Caesar erit. quod si pro legibus arma
alone Caesar will-be. but if for laws arms
ferre iuuat patriis libertatemque tueri
to-bear it-pleases ancestral and-liberty to-guard
nunc neque Pompei Brutum neque Caesaris hostem,
now neither of-Pompey Brutus nor of-Caesar the-enemy,
post bellum uictoris habes.' sic fatur; at illi
after war of-the-victor you-have.' thus he-speaks; but to-him
arcano sacras reddit Cato pectore uoces.
from-secret sacred returns Cato breast words.

Cato answers that civil war is the greatest crime, but valor will follow where the fates lead. No one could watch the universe fall and keep his hands folded; he will follow Rome to its funeral like a father mourning his sons, and pursue the empty shade of Liberty. He prays that his single life might atone for the Romans' sins, as Decius' did, and resolves to follow Pompey, so that if Pompey wins he will not think he won for himself. His words fire young Brutus with too great a love of civil war.

'summum, Brute, nefas ciuilia bella fatemur,
'the-highest, Brutus, abomination civil wars we-confess,
sed quo fata trahunt uirtus secura sequetur.
but where the-fates drag valor untroubled will-follow.
crimen erit superis et me fecisse nocentem.
a-charge it-will-be against-the-gods-above even me to-have-made guilty.
sidera quis mundumque uelit spectare cadentem
stars who and-the-universe would-wish to-watch falling
expers ipse metus? quis, cum ruat arduus aether,
free himself of-fear? who, when should-fall lofty ether,
terra labet mixto coeuntis pondere mundi,
the-earth should-totter with-mingled of-the-collapsing weight universe,
complossas tenuisse manus? gentesne furorem
clasped to-have-held hands? will-nations frenzy
Hesperium ignotae Romanaque bella sequentur
Hesperian unknown and-Roman wars follow
diductique fretis alio sub sidere reges,
and-parted by-straits other under star kings,
otia solus agam? procul hunc arcete furorem,
leisure alone shall-I-lead? far this keep-off frenzy,
o superi, motura Dahas ut clade Getasque
O gods-above, going-to-move the-Dahae that by-the-disaster and-Getae

securo me Roma cadat. ceu morte parentem
with-untroubled me Rome should-fall. as by-death a-parent
natorum orbatum longum producere funus
of-sons bereaved long to-lead-forth the-funeral
ad tumulos iubet ipse dolor, iuuat ignibus atris
to the-tombs bids itself grief, it-pleases in-fires black
inseruisse manus constructoque aggere busti
to-have-inserted hands and-with-built the-heap of-the-pyre
ipsum atras tenuisse faces, non ante reuellar
himself black to-have-held torches, not before I-shall-be-torn-away
exanimem quam te conplectar, Roma; tuumque
lifeless than you I-embrace, Rome; and-your
nomen, Libertas, et inanem persequar umbram.
name, Liberty, and empty I-shall-follow shade.
sic eat: inmites Romana piacula diui
thus let-it-go: pitiless Roman atonements gods
plena ferant, nullo fraudemus sanguine bellum.
full let-take, of-no let-us-cheat blood war.
utinam caelique deis Erebique liceret
would-that and-of-heaven to-the-gods and-of-Erebus it-were-allowed
hoc caput in cunctas damnatum exponere poenas!
this head to all condemned to-expose punishments!
deuotum hostiles Decium pressere cateruae:
devoted hostile Decius pressed crowds:
me geminae figant acies, me barbara telis
me twin let-pierce battle-lines, me barbarian with-missiles
Rheni turba petat, cunctis ego peruius hastis
of-the-Rhine throng let-seek, to-all I open spears
excipiam medius totius uolnera belli.
shall-receive in-the-middle of-whole the-wounds war.

hic redimat sanguis populos, hac caede luatur
this let-ransom blood the-peoples, by-this slaughter let-be-atoned
quidquid Romani meruerunt pendere mores.
whatever Roman have-earned to-pay morals.
ad iuga cur faciles populi, cur saeua uolentes
to yokes why ready the-peoples, why savage willing
regna pati pereunt? me solum inuadite ferro,
kingships to-endure perish? me alone attack with-steel,
me frustra leges et inania iura tuentem.
me in-vain laws and empty rights guarding.
hic dabit hic pacem iugulus finemque malorum
this will-give this peace throat and-an-end of-evils
gentibus Hesperiis: post me regnare uolenti
to-nations Hesperian: after me to-reign to-the-one-wishing
non opus est bello. quin publica signa ducemque
not need is of-war. why-not public standards and-leader
Pompeium sequimur? nec, si fortuna fauebit,
Pompey do-we-follow? nor, if fortune will-favor,
hunc quoque totius sibi ius promittere mundi
him also of-whole for-himself right to-promise world
non bene conpertum est: ideo me milite uincat
not well ascertained is: therefore with-me soldier let-him-conquer
ne sibi se uicisse putet.' sic fatur, et acris
lest for-himself himself to-have-conquered he-think.' thus he-speaks, and fierce
irarum mouit stimulos iuuenisque calorem
of-angers stirred goads and-of-the-youth the-heat
excitat in nimios belli ciuilis amores.
rouses into excessive of-war civil loves.

At dawn Marcia comes from the tomb of Hortensius, to whom Cato had given her after she bore him three children, and asks to be his wife again in name, so that her tomb may read 'Cato's Marcia' and she may share his cares. They are married without festivities, garlands, or wedding dress, with Brutus as the only witness; Cato keeps his mourning beard and does not renew their marriage bed. The poet describes Cato's way of life: to keep measure, to follow nature, to give his life to his country, and to believe himself born for the whole world.

interea Phoebo gelidas pellente tenebras
meanwhile with-Phoebus icy driving-off darkness
pulsatae sonuere fores, quas sancta relicto
struck sounded the-doors, which holy with-left
Hortensi maerens inrupit Marcia busto.
of-Hortensius mourning burst-in Marcia tomb.
quondam uirgo toris melioris iuncta mariti,
once a-maiden to-the-bed of-a-better joined husband,
mox, ubi conubii pretium mercesque soluta est
presently, when of-the-marriage the-price and-wages paid was
tertia iam suboles, alios fecunda penates
third now offspring, other fruitful household
inpletura datur geminas et sanguine matris
going-to-fill is-given twin and with-the-blood of-the-mother
permixtura domos; sed, postquam condidit urna
going-to-mingle houses; but, after she-laid in-the-urn
supremos cineres, miserando concita uoltu,
last ashes, with-pitiable roused face,
effusas laniata comas contusaque pectus
streaming torn hair and-bruised breast

uerberibus crebris cineresque ingesta sepulchri,
with-blows frequent and-ashes heaped-on of-the-tomb,
non aliter placitura uiro, sic maesta profatur:
not otherwise going-to-please the-husband, thus sad speaks-out:
'dum sanguis inerat, dum uis materna, peregi
'while blood was-in, while strength maternal, I-carried-out
iussa, Cato, et geminos excepi feta maritos:
orders, Cato, and twin I-received pregnant husbands:
uisceribus lassis partuque exhausta reuertor
with-womb weary and-by-childbirth exhausted I-return
iam nulli tradenda uiro. da foedera prisci
now to-no to-be-handed husband. give the-compacts of-former
inlibata tori, da tantum nomen inane
unimpaired bed, give only the-name empty
conubii; liceat tumulo scripsisse "Catonis
of-marriage; let-it-be-allowed on-tomb to-have-written "of-Cato
Marcia", nec dubium longo quaeratur in aeuo
Marcia", nor doubtful long let-it-be-asked in age
mutarim primas expulsa an tradita taedas.
whether-I-changed first driven-out or handed-over torches.
non me laetorum sociam rebusque secundis
not me of-joys partner and-in-affairs prosperous
accipis: in curas uenio partemque laborum.
you-receive: into cares I-come and-share of-labors.
da mihi castra sequi: cur tuta in pace relinquar
grant to-me camp to-follow: why safe in peace should-I-be-left
et sit ciuili propior Cornelia bello?'
and should-be to-civil nearer Cornelia war?'
hae flexere uirum uoces, et, tempora quamquam
these bent the-man words, and, the-times although

sint aliena toris iam fato in bella uocante,
are unsuited to-marriage now with-fate to wars calling,
foedera sola tamen uanaque carentia pompa
compacts only yet and-empty lacking pomp
iura placent sacrisque deos admittere testes,
rights please and-to-the-rites the-gods to-admit as-witnesses,
festa coronato non pendent limine serta,
festive from-garlanded not hang threshold wreaths,
infulaque in geminos discurrit candida postes,
and-the-fillet over twin runs white doorposts,
legitimaeque faces, gradibusque adclinis eburnis
and-lawful torches, and-on-steps leaning ivory
stat torus et picto uestes discriminat auro,
stands the-couch and with-painted coverings marks-off gold,
turritaque premens frontem matrona corona
and-with-turreted pressing brow matron crown
translata uitat contingere limina planta;
carried-across avoids to-touch threshold with-foot;
non timidum nuptae leuiter tectura pudorem
not timid of-the-bride lightly going-to-cover modesty
lutea demissos uelarunt flammea uoltus,
saffron lowered veiled bridal-veil face,
balteus aut fluxos gemmis astrinxit amictus,
a-girdle or flowing with-gems bound robes,
colla monile decens umerisque haerentia primis
neck necklace becoming and-to-shoulders clinging top
suppara nudatos cingunt angusta lacertos.
shifts bared girdle narrow arms.
sicut erat, maesti seruat lugubria cultus
as she-was, of-sad she-keeps mourning dress

quoque modo natos hoc est amplexa maritum.
and-in-what way sons in-this has embraced the-husband.
obsita funerea celatur purpura lana,
covered with-funereal is-hidden purple wool,
non soliti lusere sales, nec more Sabino
not usual played jests, nor in-custom Sabine
excepit tristis conuicia festa maritus.
received grim taunts festive husband.
pignora nulla domus, nulli coiere propinqui:
pledges none of-the-house, no gathered relatives:
iunguntur taciti contentique auspice Bruto.
they-are-joined silent and-content with-auspice-taker Brutus.
ille nec horrificam sancto dimouit ab ore
he neither bristling holy removed from face
caesariem duroque admisit gaudia uoltu
hair and-to-stern admitted joys face
(ut primum tolli feralia uiderat arma,
(when first to-be-raised deadly he-had-seen arms,
intonsos rigidam in frontem descendere canos
unshorn stiff onto brow to-descend gray-hairs
passus erat maestamque genis increscere barbam:
allowed had and-sad on-cheeks to-grow beard:
uni quippe uacat studiis odiisque carenti
to-him-alone for there-is-leisure partisanship and-hatreds lacking
humanum lugere genus), nec foedera prisci
human to-mourn race), nor compacts of-former
sunt temptata tori: iusto quoque robur amori
were tried bed: to-just also strength love
restitit. hi mores, haec duri inmota Catonis
resisted. these the-morals, this of-hard unmoved Cato

secta fuit, seruare modum finemque tenere
the-way was, to-keep measure and-limit to-hold
naturamque sequi patriaeque inpendere uitam
and-nature to-follow and-for-the-fatherland to-spend life
nec sibi sed toti genitum se credere mundo.
nor for-himself but for-whole born himself to-believe world.
huic epulae uicisse famem, magnique penates
to-him feasts to-have-conquered hunger, and-great household
summouisse hiemem tecto, pretiosaque uestis
to-have-kept-off winter with-roof, and-precious clothing
hirtam membra super Romani more Quiritis
rough limbs over of-a-Roman in-the-manner Quirite
induxisse togam, Venerisque hic unicus usus,
to-have-drawn-on toga, and-of-Venus this the-only use,
progenies: urbi pater est urbique maritus,
offspring: to-the-city father he-is and-to-the-city husband,
iustitiae cultor, rigidi seruator honesti,
of-justice cultivator, of-rigid preserver honor,
in commune bonus; nullosque Catonis in actus
in common good; and-no of-Cato into acts
subrepsit partemque tulit sibi nata uoluptas.
crept and-a-share took for-itself born pleasure.

Pompey withdraws to Capua and makes it his base. The poet describes the Apennines, rising through the middle of Italy between the two seas, and the rivers that run from them on either side, the Metaurus, the Po, the Tiber, the Volturnus, and the rest, until the range ends at Pelorus in Sicily.

interea trepido discedens agmine Magnus
meanwhile with-trembling departing column Magnus
moenia Dardanii tenuit Campana coloni,
the-walls of-the-Dardanian held Campanian settler,
haec placuit belli sedes, hinc summa mouentem
this pleased of-war the-seat, from-here the-whole moving
hostis in occursum sparsas extendere partis,
of-the-enemy to meeting scattered to-extend forces,
umbrosis mediam qua collibus Appenninus
with-shady middle where hills the-Apennine
erigit Italiam nulloque a uertice tellus
raises Italy and-no from summit the-earth
altius intumuit propiusque accessit Olympo.
higher has-swelled and-nearer approached Olympus.
mons inter geminas medius se porrigit undas
the-mountain between twin midway itself stretches waves
inferni superique maris, collesque coercent
of-the-lower and-of-the-upper sea, and-the-hills bound
hinc Tyrrhena uado frangentes aequora Pisae,
on-this-side Tyrrhenian on-the-shoal breaking seas Pisae,
illinc Dalmaticis obnoxia fluctibus Ancon.
on-that-side to-Dalmatian exposed waves Ancona.
fontibus hic uastis inmensos concipit amnes
from-springs here vast immense it-conceives rivers

fluminaque in gemini spargit diuortia ponti
and-streams into of-twin scatters the-partings sea
(in laeuum cecidere latus ueloxque Metaurus
(on left fell side and-swift Metaurus
Crustumiumque rapax et iuncto Sapis Isauro
and-Crustumium rapid and with-joined Sapis Isaurus
Senaque et Hadriacas qui uerberat Aufidus undas;
and-Sena and Adriatic which lashes Aufidus waves;
quoque magis nullum tellus se soluit in amnem
and-than-which more no the-earth itself dissolves into river
Eridanus fractas deuoluit in aequora siluas
Eridanus broken rolls-down into seas forests
Hesperiamque exhaurit aquis. hunc fabula primum
and-Hesperia drains of-waters. this the-story first
populea fluuium ripas umbrasse corona,
with-poplar the-river banks to-have-shaded crown,
cumque diem pronum transuerso limite ducens
and-when day downward on-crosswise track leading
succendit Phaethon flagrantibus aethera loris,
set-afire Phaethon with-blazing ether reins,
gurgitibus raptis penitus tellure perusta,
with-floods snatched-away utterly with-the-earth scorched,
hunc habuisse pares Phoebeis ignibus undas.
this-one to-have-had equal to-Phoebean fires waves.
non minor hic Nilo, si non per plana iacentis
not lesser this than-the-Nile, if not over the-flats of-lying
Aegypti Libycas Nilus stagnaret harenas;
Egypt Libyan the-Nile flooded sands;
non minor hic Histro, nisi quod, dum permeat orbem,
not lesser this than-the-Hister, except that, while it-traverses the-world,

Hister casuros in quaelibet aequora fontes
Hister going-to-fall into any seas springs
accipit et Scythicas exit non solus in undas.
receives and Scythian goes-out not alone into waves.
dexteriora petens montis decliuia Thybrim
the-righthand seeking of-the-mountain slopes Tiber
unda facit Rutubamque cauum. delabitur inde
water makes and-Rutuba hollow. glides-down thence
Vulturnusque celer nocturnaeque editor aurae
and-Volturnus swift and-of-nocturnal producer breeze
Sarnus et umbrosae Liris per regna Maricae
Sarnus and of-shady Liris through realms Marica
Vestinis inpulsus aquis radensque Salerni
by-Vestine driven waters and-grazing of-Salernum
tesca Siler nullasque uado qui Macra moratus
wastelands Silarus and-no by-ford which Macra having-delayed
alnos uicinae procurrit in aequora Lunae).
alders of-neighboring runs-forth into seas Luna).
longior educto qua surgit in aera dorso,
longer with-drawn-up where it-rises into air ridge,
Gallica rura uidet deuexasque excipit Alpes.
Gallic fields it-sees and-sloping receives Alps.
tunc Umbris Marsisque ferax domitusque Sabello
then for-Umbrians and-Marsians fertile and-tamed by-Sabellian
uomere, piniferis amplexus rupibus omnis
plowshare, with-pine-bearing embracing crags all
indigenas Latii populos, non deserit ante
native of-Latium peoples, not leaves before
Hesperiam, quam cum Scyllaeis clauditur undis,
Hesperia, than when by-Scyllaean it-is-closed waves,

extenditque suas in templa Lacinia rupes,
and-extends its-own to temple Lacinian crags,
longior Italia, donec confinia pontus
longer than-Italy, until the-borders the-sea
solueret incumbens terrasque repelleret aequor,
loosened pressing-upon and-the-lands drove-back the-water,
at postquam gemino tellus elisa profundo est,
but after by-twin the-land crushed deep has-been,
extremi colles Siculo cessere Peloro.
the-last hills to-Sicilian yielded Pelorus.

II.9 · THE TOWNS YIELD

Caesar wants no road he has not won with blood and prefers breaking gates to entering them. The wavering towns of Latium fortify their walls; their people lean toward Magnus, and their loyalty holds against fear as the sea keeps the swell of a former wind, but terror easily turns them. Libo flees from Etruria, Thermus from Umbria, Sulla's son and Varus abandon their posts, Lentulus is driven from Asculum, and Scipio deserts the citadel of Nuceria, though the legions Pompey had once lent Caesar are camped there.

Caesar in arma furens nullas nisi sanguine fuso
Caesar into arms raging no except with-blood shed
gaudet habere uias, quod non terat hoste uacantis
rejoices to-have roads, that not he-treads of-enemy empty
Hesperiae fines uacuosque inrumpat in agros
of-Hesperia bounds and-empty bursts into fields
atque ipsum non perdat iter consertaque bellis
and itself not wastes march and-joined to-wars
bella gerat. non tam portas intrare patentis
wars wages. not so-much gates to-enter open

quam fregisse iuuat, nec tam patiente colono
as to-have-broken it-pleases, nor so-much with-allowing farmer
arua premi quam si ferro populetur et igni.
fields to-be-trodden as if with-steel he-ravages and fire.
concessa pudet ire uia ciuemque uideri.
by-granted it-shames to-go road and-a-citizen to-seem.
tunc urbes Latii dubiae uarioque fauore
then cities of-Latium doubtful and-with-varying favor
ancipites, quamquam primo terrore ruentis
wavering, although at-the-first terror of-rushing
cessurae belli, denso tamen aggere firmant
going-to-yield war, with-dense yet mound strengthen
moenia et abrupto circumdant undique uallo,
walls and with-steep surround everywhere rampart,
saxorumque orbes et quae super eminus hostem
and-of-stones balls and which from-above from-afar the-enemy
tela petant altis murorum turribus aptant.
missiles may-seek on-lofty of-walls towers fit.
pronior in Magnum populus, pugnatque minaci
more-inclined toward Magnus the-people, and-fights threatening
cum terrore fides, ut, cum mare possidet Auster
with terror loyalty, as, when the-sea possesses South-Wind
flatibus horrisonis, hunc aequora tota secuntur,
with-blasts horrid-sounding, it seas whole follow,
si rursus tellus pulsu laxata tridentis
if again the-earth by-the-blow loosened of-the-trident
Aeolii tumidis inmittat fluctibus Eurum,
Aeolian on-swollen should-send waves East-Wind,
quamuis icta nouo, uentum tenuere priorem
although struck by-new, the-wind have-kept former

aequora, nubiferoque polus cum cesserit Euro
the-seas, and-to-cloud-bearing the-sky when has-yielded East-Wind
uindicat unda Notum. facilis sed uertere mentes
claims the-water South-Wind. easy but to-turn minds
terror erat, dubiamque fidem fortuna ferebat.
terror was, and-doubtful loyalty fortune was-bearing.
gens Etrusca fuga trepidi nudata Libonis,
the-race Etruscan by-the-flight of-trembling stripped Libo,
iusque sui pulso iam perdidit Umbria Thermo.
and-right of-itself with-routed already lost Umbria Thermus.
nec gerit auspiciis ciuilia bella paternis
nor wages by-auspices civil wars paternal
Caesaris audito conuersus nomine Sulla.
of-Caesar with-heard turned name Sulla.
Varus, ut admotae pulsarunt Auximon alae,
Varus, when brought-up struck Auximum wings,
per diuersa ruens neclecto moenia tergo,
through opposite rushing with-neglected walls rear,
qua siluae, qua saxa, fugit. depellitur arce
where woods, where rocks, flees. is-driven from-the-citadel
Lentulus Asculea; uictor cedentibus instat
Lentulus of-Asculum; the-victor on-the-yielding presses
deuertitque acies, solusque ex agmine tanto
and-diverts battle-lines, and-alone from column so-great
dux fugit et nullas ducentia signa cohortes.
the-leader flees and no leading standards cohorts.
tu quoque nudatam commissae deseris arcem,
you also stripped of-entrusted desert citadel,
Scipio, Nuceriae, quamquam firmissima pubes
Scipio, of-Nuceria, although the-strongest youth

his sedeat castris, iam pridem Caesaris armis
in-this sits camp, now long-ago from-Caesar's arms
Parthorum seducta metu, qua Gallica damna
of-the-Parthians withdrawn by-fear, with-which Gallic losses
suppleuit Magnus, dumque ipse ad bella uocaret
made-good Magnus, and-until himself to wars he-should-call
donauit socero Romani sanguinis usum.
gave to-the-father-in-law of-Roman blood the-use.

II.10 · CORFINIUM

Domitius holds Corfinium and orders the bridge over the river cut, but Caesar scorns the delay and sends his cavalry and infantry across. As Caesar's siege towers rise, the gates open, and Domitius' own troops drag him before Caesar, where he holds his neck straight and demands the sword. Caesar pardons him and frees him to fight again; the poet laments that fortune did not spare Roman shame by his death, since pardon is the worst punishment for a citizen who followed the senate, while Domitius inwardly resolves to rush into battle and escape Caesar's gift by death.

at te Corfini ualidis circumdata muris
but you of-Corfinium with-strong surrounded walls
tecta tenent, pugnax Domiti; tua classica seruat
roofs hold, combative Domitius; your trumpets serves
oppositus quondam polluto tiro Miloni.
opposed once to-polluted recruit Milo.
ut procul inmensam campo consurgere nubem
when afar immense on-the-plain to-rise a-cloud
ardentisque acies percussis sole corusco
and-burning battle-lines with-struck by-sun flashing
conspexit telis, 'socii, decurrite' dixit
he-saw weapons, 'comrades, run-down' he-said

‘fluminis ad ripas undaeque inmergite pontem.
‘of-the-river to the-banks and-in-the-water sink the-bridge.
et tu montanis totus nunc fontibus exi
and you from-mountain whole now springs go-out
atque omnis trahe, gurges, aquas, ut spumeus alnos
and all draw, flood, waters, that foaming alder-planks
discussa conpage feras. hoc limite bellum
with-shattered framework you-may-carry. at-this boundary war
haereat, hac hostis lentus terat otia ripa.
let-stick, on-this the-enemy slow let-wear-away leisure bank.
praecipitem cohibete ducem: uictoria nobis
headlong restrain leader: victory for-us
hic primum stans Caesar erit.’ nec plura locutus
here first standing Caesar will-be.’ nor more having-spoken
deuoluit rapidum nequiquam moenibus agmen.
rolled-down swift in-vain from-the-walls column.
nam prior e campis ut conspicit amne soluto
for first from plains when sees with-river loosed
rumpi Caesar iter calida proclamat ab ira
to-be-broken Caesar march hot cries-out from anger
‘non satis est muris latebras quaesisse pauori?
‘not enough is-it in-walls hiding-places to-have-sought for-fear?
obstruitis campos fluuiisque arcere paratis,
do-you-block plains and-with-rivers to-bar prepare,
ignaui? non, si tumido me gurgite Ganges
cowards? not, if with-swollen me flood Ganges
summoueat, stabit iam flumine Caesar in ullo
should-remove, will-stand now river Caesar at any
post Rubiconis aquas. equitum properate cateruae,
after of-the-Rubicon waters. of-cavalry hasten squadrons,

ite simul pedites, ruiturum ascendite pontem.'
go together infantry, going-to-fall mount bridge.'
haec ubi dicta, leuis totas accepit habenas
these when said, light whole received reins
in campum sonipes, crebroque simillima nimbo
onto plain the-steed, and-to-dense most-like storm
trans ripam ualidi torserunt tela lacerti.
across bank strong hurled missiles arms.
ingreditur pulsa fluuium statione uacantem
enters with-driven-off the-river guard empty
Caesar, et ad tutas hostis conpellitur arces.
Caesar, and to safe the-enemy is-driven citadels.
et iam moturas ingentia pondera turris
and now going-to-move huge weights towers
erigit, et mediis subrepit uinea muris:
raises, and to-middle creeps-under shed walls:
ecce, nefas belli, reseratis agmina portis
behold, abomination of-war, with-unbarred columns gates
captiuum traxere ducem, ciuisque superbi
captive dragged leader, and-of-a-citizen proud
constitit ante pedes. uoltu tamen alta minaci
stood before the-feet. with-face yet lofty threatening
nobilitas recta ferrum ceruice poposcit.
nobility with-straight steel neck demanded.
scit Caesar poenamque peti ueniamque timeri.
knows Caesar and-punishment to-be-sought and-pardon to-be-feared.
'uiue, licet nolis, et nostro munere' dixit
'live, though you-be-unwilling, and by-our gift' he-said
'cerne diem. uictis iam spes bona partibus esto
'see day. to-conquered now hope good party be

exemplumque mei. uel, si libet, arma retempta,
and-example of-me. or, if it-pleases, arms try-again,
et nihil hac uenia, si uiceris, ipse paciscor.’
and nothing by-this pardon, if you-conquer, myself I-bargain.’
fatur et astrictis laxari uincula palmis
he-speaks and from-bound to-be-loosed chains hands
imperat. heu, quanto melius uel caede peracta
commands. alas, how-much better even with-slaughter finished
parcere Romano potuit fortuna pudori!
to-spare Roman could fortune shame!
poenarum extremum ciui, quod castra secutus
of-punishments the-last for-a-citizen, that the-camp followed
sit patriae Magnumque ducem totumque senatum,
has of-the-fatherland and-Magnus leader and-whole senate,
ignosci. premit ille grauis interritus iras,
to-be-pardoned. presses-down he heavy undaunted angers,
et secum ‘Romamne petes pacisque recessus
and with-himself ‘Rome will-you-seek and-of-peace retreats
degener? in medios belli non ire furores
degenerate? into middle of-war not to-go frenzies
iam dudum moriture paras? rue certus et omnis
now long going-to-die are-you-preparing? rush determined and all
lucis rumpe moras et Caesaris effuge munus.’
of-light break delays and of-Caesar escape the-gift.’

Pompey addresses his troops: they fight for the senate against a criminal, as Rome fought Catiline, and Caesar has chosen to join Cinna and Marius rather than Camillus and the Metelli, and will fall like Lepidus, Carbo, and Sertorius. He boasts that his old blood is still warm, that he has reached every height a free people can give, and mocks Caesar's flight from the Rhine and the Britons. He has driven the pirates from the sea, hunted the untamed king to his death, and set his trophies in every quarter of the world. Only civil war remains for his father-in-law.

nescius interea capti ducis arma parabat
unaware meanwhile of-the-captured leader arms was-preparing
Magnus, ut inmixto firmaret robore partis.
Magnus, that with-mingled-in he-might-strengthen force the-party.
iamque secuturo iussurus classica Phoebo
and-now with-going-to-follow going-to-order trumpet-calls Phoebus
temptandasque ratus moturi militis iras
and-to-be-tested thinking of-the-going-to-move soldier angers
adloquitur tacitas ueneranda uoce cohortes.
addresses silent with-venerable voice cohorts.
'o scelerum ultores melioraque signa secuti,
'O of-crimes avengers and-better standards having-followed,
o uere Romana manus, quibus arma senatus
O truly Roman band, to-whom arms the-senate
non priuata dedit, uotis deposcite pugnam.
not private gave, with-prayers demand battle.
ardent Hesperii saeuis populatibus agri,
burn Hesperian with-savage ravagings fields,
Gallica per gelidas rabies ecfunditur Alpes,
Gallic through icy madness pours-out Alps,

iam tetigit sanguis pollutos Caesaris enses.
already has-touched blood polluted of-Caesar swords.
di melius, belli tulimus quod damna priores:
gods better, of-war we-have-borne that the-losses first:
coeperit inde nefas, iam iam me praeside Roma
let-have-begun thence the-abomination, now now with-me as-protector Rome
supplicium poenamque petat. neque enim ista uocari
punishment and-penalty let-seek. nor indeed these to-be-called
proelia iusta decet, patriae sed uindicis iram;
battles just it-befits, of-the-fatherland but avenging anger;
nec magis hoc bellum est, quam quom Catilina parauit
nor more this war is, than when Catiline prepared
arsuras in tecta faces sociusque furoris
going-to-burn against roofs torches and-partner of-frenzy
Lentulus exertique manus uaesana Cethegi.
Lentulus and-of-bared hand mad Cethegus.
o rabies miseranda ducis! cum fata Camillis
O madness pitiable of-the-leader! when the-fates with-Camilli
te, Caesar, magnisque uelint miscere Metellis,
you, Caesar, and-with-great wish to-mingle Metelli,
ad Cinnas Mariosque uenis. sternere profecto
to Cinnas and-Mariuses you-come. you-will-be-laid-low surely
ut Catulo iacuit Lepidus, nostrasque securis
as by-Catulus lay Lepidus, and-our axes
passus Sicanio tegitur qui Carbo sepulchro,
having-suffered in-Sicanian is-covered who Carbo tomb,
quique feros mouit Sertorius exul Hiberos.
and-who fierce stirred Sertorius exile Iberians.
quamquam, siqua fides, his te quoque iungere, Caesar,
although, if-any belief, to-these you also to-join, Caesar,

inuideo nostrasque manus quod Roma furenti
I-begrudge and-our hands that Rome to-raging
opposuit. Parthorum utinam post proelia sospes
opposed. of-the-Parthians would-that after battles safe
et Scythicis Crassus uictor remeasset ab oris,
and Scythian Crassus victor had-returned from regions,
ut simili causa caderes, quoi Spartacus, hosti.
that in-like cause you-might-fall, to-whom Spartacus, to-the-enemy.
te quoque si superi titulis accedere nostris
you also if the-gods-above to-titles to-be-added our
iusserunt, ualet, en, torquendo dextera pilo,
have-ordered, is-strong, look, in-hurling right-hand javelin,
feruidus haec iterum circa praecordia sanguis
fervent this again around heart blood
incaluit; disces non esse ad bella fugaces
has-grown-hot; you-will-learn not to-be to wars fleeing
qui pacem potuere pati. licet ille solutum
who peace could to-endure. though he slack
defectumque uocet, ne uos mea terreat aetas:
and-worn-out call, let-not you my frighten age:
dux sit in his castris senior, dum miles in illis.
the-leader let-be in this camp older, provided the-soldier in that.
quo potuit ciuem populus perducere liber
to-where could a-citizen a-people to-bring free
ascendi, supraque nihil nisi regna reliqui.
I-have-climbed, and-above nothing except kingship I-have-left.
non priuata cupis, Romana quisquis in urbe
not private-things you-desire, Roman whoever in city
Pompeium transire paras. hinc consul uterque,
Pompey to-pass prepare. on-this-side consul each,

hinc acies statura ducum est. Caesarne senatus
on-this-side the-battle-line going-to-stand of-leaders is. Caesar of-the-senate
uictor erit? non tam caeco trahis omnia cursu
victor will-be? not so blind you-drag all course
teque nihil, Fortuna, pudet. multisne rebellis
and-you nothing, Fortune, shames. for-many rebellious
Gallia iam lustris aetasque inpensa labori
Gaul now lustra and-age spent on-labor
dant animos? Rheni gelidis quod fugit ab undis
give courage? of-the-Rhine icy that he-fled from waves
Oceanumque uocans incerti stagna profundi
and-Ocean calling of-uncertain the-pools deep
territa quaesitis ostendit terga Britannis?
terrified to-sought showed back Britons?
an uanae tumuere minae quod fama furoris
or empty swelled threats because the-rumor of-frenzy
expulit armatam patriis e sedibus urbem?
expelled armed ancestral from seats city?
heu demens, non te fugiunt, me cuncta secuntur.
alas madman, not you they-flee, me all follow.
qui cum signa tuli toto fulgentia ponto,
who when standards I-bore over-whole gleaming sea,
ante bis exactum quam Cynthia conderet orbem,
before twice completed than Cynthia hid disk,
omne fretum metuens pelagi pirata reliquit
every strait fearing of-the-sea the-pirate left
angustaque domum terrarum in sede poposcit.
and-narrow a-home of-lands in seat demanded.
idem per Scythici profugum diuortia ponti
the-same through of-Scythian fugitive partings sea

indomitum regem Romanaque fata morantem
untamed king and-Roman fates delaying
ad mortem Sulla felicior ire coegi.
to death than-Sulla more-fortunate to-go I-forced.
pars mundi mihi nulla uacat, sed tota tenetur
part of-the-world for-me no is-empty, but whole is-held
terra meis, quocumque iacet sub sole, tropaeis:
earth by-my, wherever it-lies under sun, trophies:
hinc me uictorem gelidas ad Phasidos undas
on-this-side me victor icy at of-Phasis waves
Arctos habet, calida medius mihi cognitus axis
the-Bear has, in-hot middle to-me known zone
Aegypto atque umbras nusquam flectente Syene,
Egypt and shadows nowhere bending Syene,
occasus mea iura timent Tethynque fugacem
the-western-lands my laws fear and-Tethys fleeing
qui ferit Hesperius post omnia flumina Baetis,
which strikes Hesperian after all rivers Baetis,
me domitus cognouit Arabs, me Marte feroces
me tamed knew the-Arab, me in-Mars fierce
Heniochi notique erepto uellere Colchi,
Heniochi and-known for-snatched fleece Colchians,
Cappadoces mea signa timent et dedita sacris
Cappadocians my standards fear and devoted to-rites
incerti Iudaea dei mollisque Sophene,
of-an-uncertain Judaea god and-soft Sophene,
Armenios Cilicasque feros Taurumque subegi:
Armenians and-Cilicians fierce and-Taurus I-subdued:
quod socero bellum praeter ciuile reliqui?'
what for-father-in-law war except civil have-I-left?'

The troops receive his words without a cheer, and Pompey, sensing their fear, withdraws to Brundisium like a beaten bull retreating into the woods to regain its strength. The poet describes the harbor and its sheltering island. Pompey sends his elder son to rouse the kings and peoples of the East and the consuls to raise forces in Epirus and Greece while winter grants a truce.

uerba ducis nullo partes clamore secuntur
the-words of-the-leader with-no the-party shout follows
nec matura petunt promissae classica pugnae.
nor early seek of-promised trumpet-calls battle.
sensit et ipse metum Magnus, placuitque referri
felt also himself the-fear Magnus, and-it-pleased to-be-carried-back
signa nec in tantae discrimina mittere pugnae
standards nor into of-so-great the-hazards to-send battle
iam uictum fama non uisi Caesaris agmen.
already conquered by-the-report not of-seen Caesar column.
pulsus ut armentis primo certamine taurus
driven as from-the-herds in-first contest a-bull
siluarum secreta petit uacuosque per agros
of-woods the-secrets seeks and-empty through fields
exul in aduersis explorat cornua truncis
an-exile on opposing tests horns trunks
nec redit in pastus, nisi cum ceruice recepta
nor returns to pastures, unless when with-neck recovered
excussi placuere tori, mox reddita uictor
tested have-pleased muscles, presently restored victor
quoslibet in saltus comitantibus agmina tauris
any into glades with-accompanying the-herds bulls

inuito pastore trahit, sic uiribus inpar
with-unwilling herdsman drags, so in-strength unequal
tradidit Hesperiam profugusque per Apula rura
handed-over Hesperia and-fugitive through Apulian countryside
Brundisii tutas concessit Magnus in arces.
of-Brundisium safe withdrew Magnus into citadels.
urbs est Dictaeis olim possessa colonis,
a-city there-is by-Dictaean once possessed settlers,
quos Creta profugos uexere per aequora puppes
whom from-Crete fugitive carried over seas ships
Cecropiae uictum mentitis Thesea uelis.
Cecropian conquered with-lying Theseus sails.
hinc latus angustum iam se cogentis in artum
here the-side narrow now itself drawing into narrow
Hesperiae tenuem producit in aequora linguam,
of-Hesperia thin extends into seas tongue,
Hadriacas flexis claudit quae cornibus undas.
Adriatic with-bent closes which horns waves.
nec tamen hoc artis inmissum faucibus aequor
nor yet this into-narrow let-in jaws sea
portus erat, si non uiolentos insula Coros
a-harbor was, if not violent an-island Cori
exciperet saxis lassasque refunderet undas.
received with-rocks and-weary poured-back waves.
hinc illinc montes scopulosae rupis aperto
on-this-side on-that mountains of-rocky cliff to-open
opposuit natura mari flatusque remouit,
set-against nature sea and-blasts removed,
ut tremulo starent contentae fune carinae.
that with-trembling might-stand held cable keels.

hinc late patet omne fretum, seu uela ferantur
from-here widely lies-open all strait, whether sails be-borne
in portus, Corcyra, tuos, seu laeua petatur
into harbors, Corcyra, your, or on-the-left be-sought
Illyris Ionias uergens Epidamnos in undas.
Illyrian Ionian sloping Epidamnus into waves.
hoc fuga nautarum, cum totas Hadria uires
this the-refuge of-sailors, when whole Adriatic strength
mouit et in nubes abiere Ceraunia cumque
has-moved and into clouds have-gone Ceraunia and-when
spumoso Calaber perfunditur aequore Sason.
with-foaming Calabrian is-drenched sea Sason.
ergo, ubi nulla fides rebus post terga relictis
therefore, when no trust in-things behind backs left
nec licet ad duros Martem conuertere Hiberos,
nor it-is-allowed toward hard Mars to-turn Iberians,
cum mediae iaceant inmensis tractibus Alpes,
since in-the-middle lie with-immense tracts Alps,
tum subole e tanta natum cui firmior aetas
then offspring out-of so-great the-son to-whom firmer age
adfatur. 'mundi iubeo temptare recessus:
he-addresses. 'of-the-world I-bid to-try the-recesses:
Euphraten Nilumque moue, quo nominis usque
Euphrates and-Nile stir, where of-name right-up
nostri fama uenit, quas est uolgata per urbes
our the-fame came, which is spread through cities
post me Roma ducem. sparsos per rura colonos
after me Rome leader. scattered through countryside settlers
redde mari Cilicas; Pharios hinc concute reges
give-back to-the-sea Cilicians; Pharian from-here rouse kings

Tigranemque meum; nec Pharnacis arma relinquas
and-Tigranes my; nor of-Pharnaces the-arms leave
admoneo nec tu populos utraque uagantis
I-advise nor you peoples in-both wandering
Armenia Pontique feras per litora gentis
Armenia and-of-Pontus fierce along shores races
Riphaeasque manus et quas tenet aequore denso
and-Riphaean bands and which holds with-water dense
pigra palus Scythici patiens Maeotia plaustri
sluggish swamp of-Scythian enduring Maeotic wagon
et — quid plura moror? totos mea, nate, per ortus
and why more do-I-delay? whole my, son, through the-East
bella feres totoque urbes agitabis in orbe
wars you-will-carry and-whole cities you-will-rouse in world
perdomitas; omnes redeant in castra triumphi.
subdued; all let-return into camp triumphs.
at uos, qui Latios signatis nomine fastos,
but you, who Latin mark with-name calendars,
primus in Epirum Boreas agat; inde per arua
first into Epirus Boreas let-drive; thence through fields
Graiorum Macetumque nouas adquirite uires
of-the-Greeks and-of-Macedonians new acquire forces
dum paci dat tempus hiemps.' sic fatur, et omnes
while to-peace gives time winter.' thus he-speaks, and all
iussa gerunt soluuntque cauas a litore puppes.
orders carry-out and-loose hollow from shore ships.

Caesar, believing nothing done while anything remains, pursues his son-in-law and tries to block the harbor mouth with a mole. The sea swallows the rocks, and he chains together timber rafts, as the Persian king once bridged the Hellespont. Pompey breaks the works with ships and catapults, then plans a secret escape by night: the fleet slips out in silence as Pompey prays to Fortune to let him at least lose Italy, but the fates scarcely allow it, and the sea roars under the many beaks.

at numquam patiens pacis longaeque quietis
but never enduring of-peace and-of-long rest
armorum, nequid fatis mutare liceret,
of-arms, lest-anything for-the-fates to-change might-be-allowed,
adsequitur generique premit uestigia Caesar.
follows-close and-of-the-son-in-law presses the-tracks Caesar.
sufficerent aliis primo tot moenia cursu
would-suffice for-others in-first so-many walls course
rapta, tot oppressae depulsis hostibus arces,
seized, so-many crushed with-driven-off enemies citadels,
ipsa, caput mundi, bellorum maxima merces,
itself, the-head of-the-world, of-wars the-greatest reward,
Roma capi facilis; sed Caesar in omnia praeceps,
Rome to-be-taken easy; but Caesar into all headlong,
nil actum credens cum quid superesset agendum,
nothing done believing when anything remained to-be-done,
instat atrox et adhuc, quamuis possederit omnem
presses fierce and still, although he-has-possessed all
Italiam, extremo sedeat quod litore Magnus,
Italy, on-farthest sits because shore Magnus,
communem tamen esse dolet; nec rursus aperto
shared yet to-be he-grieves; nor again on-open

uult hostes errare freto, sed molibus undas
wishes the-enemy to-wander strait, but with-masses the-waves
obstruit et latum deiectis rupibus aequor.
blocks and broad with-thrown-down rocks sea.
cedit in inmensum cassus labor; omnia pontus
goes into the-immense vain labor; all the-sea
haurit saxa uorax montesque inmiscet harenis,
swallows stones greedy and-mountains mingles with-sands,
ut, maris Aeolii medias si celsus in undas
as, of-the-sea Aeolian middle if lofty into waves
depellatur Eryx, nullae tamen aequore rupes
should-be-thrust Eryx, no yet from-the-sea rocks
emineant, uel si conuolso uertice Gaurus
would-stand-out, or if with-wrenched summit Gaurus
decidat in fundum penitus stagnantis Auerni.
should-fall into the-bottom deep of-stagnant Avernus.
ergo, ubi nulla uado tenuit sua pondera moles,
therefore, when no on-the-shoal held its-own weights mass,
tunc placuit caesis innectere uincula siluis
then it-pleased with-felled to-tie chains woods
roboraque inmensis late religare catenis.
and-oaks with-immense widely to-bind chains.
talis fama canit tumidum super aequora Persen
such rumor sings swollen over seas the-Persian
construxisse uias, multum cum pontibus ausis
to-have-built roads, much when by-bridges dared
Europamque Asiae Sestonque admouit Abydo
and-Europe to-Asia and-Sestos brought-near to-Abydos
incessitque fretum rapidi super Hellesponti,
and-strode the-strait of-swift over Hellespont,

non Eurum Zephyrumque timens, cum uela ratisque
not East-Wind and-Zephyr fearing, when sails and-ships
in medium deferret Athon. sic ora profundi
into the-middle he-carried Athos. thus the-mouths of-the-deep
artantur casu nemorum; tunc aggere multo
are-narrowed by-the-fall of-groves; then with-mound much
surgit opus longaeque tremunt super aequora turres.
rises the-work and-long tremble over seas towers.
Pompeius tellure noua conpressa profundi
Pompey with-land new compressed of-the-deep
ora uidens curis animum mordacibus angit,
the-mouths seeing with-cares the-mind biting torments,
ut reseret pelagus spargatque per aequora bellum.
how he-may-unbar the-sea and-scatter over seas war.
saepe Noto plenae tensisque rudentibus actae
often by-South-Wind full and-with-stretched ropes driven
ipsa maris per claustra rates fastigia molis
the-very of-the-sea through bars ships the-tops of-the-mass
discussere salo spatiumque dedere carinis
shattered into-the-brine and-space gave to-keels
tortaque per tenebras ualidis ballista lacertis
and-wound through darkness by-strong ballista arms
multifidas iaculata faces. ut tempora tandem
many-split having-shot torches. when times at-last
furtiuae placuere fugae, ne litora clamor
of-stealthy pleased flight, lest the-shores the-shout
nauticus exagitet neu bucina diuidat horas
nautical should-rouse nor the-bugle divide hours
neu tuba praemonitos perducat ad aequora nautas
nor trumpet forewarned lead to seas sailors

praecepit sociis. iam coeperat ultima Virgo
he-ordered the-comrades. already had-begun the-last Virgin
Phoebum laturas ortu praecedere Chelas,
Phoebus going-to-bear in-rising to-precede Claws,
cum tacitas soluere rates. non anchora uoces
when silent they-loosed ships. not the-anchor sounds
mouit, dum spissis auellitur uncus harenis;
stirred, while from-thick is-torn hook sands;
dum iuga curuantur mali dumque ardua pinus
while the-yards are-bent of-the-mast and-while lofty pine
erigitur, pauidi classis siluere magistri,
is-raised, fearful of-the-fleet were-silent masters,
strictaque pendentes deducunt carbasa nautae
and-furled hanging draw-down canvas sailors
nec quatiunt ualidos, ne sibilet aura, rudentes.
nor shake strong, lest should-whistle the-breeze, ropes.
dux etiam uotis hoc te, Fortuna, precatur,
the-leader even with-vows this you, Fortune, entreats,
quam retinere uetas, liceat sibi perdere saltem
which to-retain you-forbid, let-it-be-allowed for-him to-lose at-least
Italiam. uix fata sinunt; nam murmure uasto
Italy. scarcely the-fates permit; for with-murmur vast
inpulsum rostris sonuit mare, fluctuat unda,
struck by-beaks sounded the-sea, surges the-water,
totque carinarum permixtis aequora sulcis
and-with-so-many of-keels mingled the-seas furrows
eruta feruescunt litusque frementia pulsant.
churned-up seethe and-the-shore roaring they-beat.

The townsmen open the gates to Caesar, whose men rush round the harbor, grieving that the fleet is escaping. Two ships stick in the narrow channel and are taken, and the sea is first reddened with civil blood; the rest escape like the Argo between the Clashing Rocks. At dawn Pompey holds the sea, an exile with his wife and sons, and the poet says Fortune keeps his death far from Italy so that Roman soil may stay unstained by his blood.

ergo hostes portis, quas omnis soluerat urbis
therefore the-enemy by-gates, which of-all had-opened the-city
cum fato conuersa fides, murisque recepti
with fate turned loyalty, and-by-walls received
praecipiti cursu flexi per cornua portus
with-headlong course bent along the-horns of-the-harbor
ora petunt pelagusque dolent contingere classi.
the-mouth seek and-the-sea grieve to-befall the-fleet.
heu pudor, exigua est fugiens uictoria Magnus.
alas shame, a-small is fleeing victory Magnus.
angustus puppes mittebat in aequora limes
narrow the-ships was-sending into seas the-passage
artior Euboica, qua Chalcida uerberat, unda.
narrower than-Euboean, where Chalcis lashes, water.
hic haesere rates geminae, classique paratae
here stuck ships twin, and-for-the-fleet prepared
excepere manus, tractoque in litora bello
caught hands, and-with-dragged onto shore war
hic primum rubuit ciuili sanguine Nereus,
here first reddened with-civil blood Nereus,
cetera classis abit summis spoliata carinis:
the-rest fleet goes-off of-hindmost stripped keels:

ut, Pagasaea ratis peteret cum Phasidos undas,
as, Pagasaean the-ship was-seeking when of-Phasis waves,
Cyaneas tellus emisit in aequora cautes;
Cyanean the-earth sent-out into seas crags;
rapta puppe minor subducta est montibus Argo
with-snatched stern smaller withdrawn was from-the-mountains Argo
uanaque percussit pontum Symplegas inanem
and-vain struck sea Symplegas empty
et statura redit. iam Phoebum urguere monebat
and going-to-stand returns. already Phoebus to-press-on warned
non idem Eoi color aetheris, albaque nondum
not the-same of-Eastern color ether, and-white not-yet
lux rubet et flammas propioribus eripit astris,
light reddens and flames from-nearer snatches stars,
et iam Plias hebet, flexi iam plaustra Bootae
and now the-Pleiad dims, of-bent now the-wagon Bootes
in faciem puri redeunt languentia caeli,
into the-look of-pure return fading sky,
maioresque latent stellae, calidumque refugit
and-greater hide stars, and-hot flees
Lucifer ipse diem. pelagus iam, Magne, tenebas
Lucifer himself the-day. the-sea already, Magnus, you-held
non ea fata ferens quae cum super aequora toto
not those fates bearing which when over seas whole
praedonem sequerere mari: lassata triumphis
the-pirate you-pursued sea: wearied by-triumphs
desciuit Fortuna tuis. cum coniuge pulsus
deserted Fortuna your. with wife driven-out
et natis totosque trahens in bella penates
and sons and-whole dragging into wars household

uadis adhuc ingens populis comitantibus exul.
you-go still huge with-peoples accompanying exile.
quaeritur indignae sedes longinqua ruinae.
is-sought for-undeserved a-seat distant ruin.
non quia te superi patrio priuare sepulchro
not because you the-gods-above of-ancestral to-deprive tomb
maluerint Phariae busto damnantur harenae:
preferred Pharian for-a-pyre are-condemned sands:
parcitur Hesperiae. procul hoc et in orbe remoto
it-is-spared to-Hesperia. far this and in world remote
abscondat Fortuna nefas, Romanaque tellus
let-hide Fortune abomination, and-Roman earth
inmaculata sui seruetur sanguine Magni.
unstained of-its-own let-be-kept from-the-blood Magnus.

BOOK III

III.1 · JULIA'S GHOST

As the fleet sails for Greece, Pompey alone keeps his eyes on the vanishing shore of Italy. In his sleep Julia's ghost rises from the earth like a Fury: she says she has seen the Furies ready their torches for his war and Charon prepare countless boats, and that Cornelia, a rival who drags her husbands to ruin, has married into his house. She will haunt him in the battle, for the civil war will make him hers. Pompey wakes resolved for war, saying that either the dead feel nothing or death is nothing, and at sunset the fleet comes to a welcoming shore.

Propulit ut classem uelis cedentibus Auster
Drove when the-fleet with-sails yielding the-South-Wind
incumbens mediumque rates mouere profundum,
pressing-on and-the-middle ships moved deep,
omnis in Ionios spectabat nauita fluctus:
every toward Ionian was-looking sailor waves:
solus ab Hesperia non flexit lumina terra
alone from Hesperian not turned (his)-eyes land
Magnus, dum patrios portus, dum litora numquam
Magnus, while ancestral harbors, while shores never
ad uisus reditura suos tectumque cacumen
to sight going-to-return his-own and-covered summit
nubibus et dubios cernit uanescere montis.
with-clouds and doubtful he-sees to-vanish mountains.
inde soporifero cesserunt languida somno
then to-sleep-bringing yielded languid slumber
membra ducis; diri tum plena horroris imago
the-limbs of-the-leader; of-dire then full horror an-image
uisa caput maestum per hiantis Iulia terras
seemed (her)-head sad through gaping Julia earth

tollere et accenso furialis stare sepulchro.
to-raise and on-kindled like-a-fury to-stand tomb.
'sedibus Elysiis campoque expulsa piorum
'from-seats Elysian and-from-the-field driven of-the-dutiful
ad Stygias' inquit 'tenebras manesque nocentis
to Stygian' she-says 'darkness and-shades guilty
post bellum ciuile trahor. uidi ipsa tenentis
after war civil I-am-dragged. I-saw myself holding
Eumenidas quaterent quas uestris lampadas armis;
the-Eumenides should-shake which against-your torches arms;
praeparat innumeras puppes Acherontis adusti
prepares countless boats of-Acheron scorched
portitor; in multas laxantur Tartara poenas;
the-ferryman; for many are-widened Tartarus punishments;
uix operi cunctae dextra properante sorores
scarcely for-the-work all with-hand hastening sisters
sufficiunt, lassant rumpentis stamina Parcas.
suffice, weary breaking threads the-Parcae.
coniuge me laetos duxisti, Magne, triumphos:
with-wife me glad you-led, Magnus, triumphs:
fortuna est mutata toris, semperque potentis
fortune has changed with-the-bed, and-always powerful
detrahere in cladem fato damnata maritos
to-drag-down to disaster by-fate condemned husbands
innupsit tepido paelex Cornelia busto.
married-onto warm rival Cornelia pyre.
haereat illa tuis per bella per aequora signis,
let-cling she to-your through wars through seas standards,
dum non securos liceat mihi rumpere somnos
provided not untroubled be-allowed to-me to-break sleeps

et nullum uestro uacuum sit tempus amori
and no for-your empty be time love
sed teneat Caesarque dies et Iulia noctes.
but hold and-Caesar days and Julia nights.
me non Lethaeae, coniunx, obliuia ripae
me not of-Lethean, husband, the-oblivion bank
inmemorem fecere tui, regesque silentum
unmindful made of-you, and-the-kings of-the-silent
permisere sequi. ueniam te bella gerente
permitted to-follow. I-shall-come with-you wars waging
in medias acies. numquam tibi, Magne, per umbras
into middle battle-lines. never to-you, Magnus, through shades
perque meos manes genero non esse licebit;
and-through my shades son-in-law not to-be it-will-be-allowed;
abscidis frustra ferro tua pignora: bellum
you-cut-off in-vain with-steel your pledges: war
te faciet ciuile meum.' sic fata refugit
you will-make civil mine.' thus having-spoken fled-back
umbra per amplexus trepidi dilapsa mariti.
the-shade through embraces of-trembling slipping husband.
ille, dei quamuis cladem manesque minentur,
he, gods although disaster and-shades threaten,
maior in arma ruit certa cum mente malorum,
greater into arms rushes sure with mind of-evils,
et 'quid' ait 'uani terremur imagine uisus?
and 'why' he-says 'of-empty are-we-terrified by-image vision?
aut nihil est sensus animis a morte relictum
either nothing is of-feeling to-souls after death left
aut mors ipsa nihil.' Titan iam pronus in undas
or death itself nothing.' Titan now downward into waves

ibat et igniferi tantum demerserat orbis
was-going and of-fire-bearing so-much had-sunk disk
quantum desse solet lunae, seu plena futura est
as to-be-lacking is-wont to-the-moon, whether full going-to-be it-is
seu iam plena fuit: tunc obtulit hospita tellus
or already full was: then offered hospitable land
puppibus accessus faciles; legere rudentes
to-ships approaches easy; they-gathered ropes
et posito remis petierunt litora malo.
and with-lowered by-oars sought shores mast.

III.2 · CAESAR SEEKS GRAIN

Caesar, left alone on the shore of Italy, is not gladdened by Pompey's flight but complains that his enemies escape safe. He turns to winning the people by the grain supply, knowing that hunger frees cities and that a starving plebs knows no fear, and sends Curio to Sicily and his forces to Sardinia, the islands that most filled Rome's granaries. He marches on Rome with the look of peace, and the poet laments the Gallic triumph he lost by conquering more. The towns watch him pass in silent fear, and he is glad to be feared rather than loved.

Caesar, ut emissas uenti rapuere carinas,
Caesar, when sent-out the-winds snatched keels,
absconditque fretum classes, et litore solus
and-hid the-strait the-fleets, and on-shore alone
dux stetit Hesperio, non illum gloria pulsi
the-leader stood Hesperian, not him the-glory of-routed
laetificat Magni: queritur quod tuta per aequor
gladdens Magnus: he-complains that safe over sea
terga ferant hostes. neque enim iam sufficit ulla
backs carry the-enemy. nor indeed now suffices any

praecipiti fortuna uiro, nec uincere tanti,
for-headlong fortune man, nor to-conquer of-such-worth,
ut bellum differret, erat. tum pectore curas
that war he-should-postpone, was. then from-breast cares
expulit armorum pacique intentus agebat
he-drove of-arms and-on-peace intent was-considering
quoque modo uanos populi conciret amores,
and-in-what way empty of-the-people he-might-rouse loves,
gnarus et irarum causas et summa fauoris
knowing both of-angers the-causes and the-highest of-favor
annona momenta trahi. namque adserit urbes
by-the-grain-price motives to-be-drawn. for frees cities
sola fames, emiturque metus, cum segne potentes
alone hunger, and-is-bought fear, when idle the-powerful
uolgus alunt: nescit plebes ieiuna timere.
crowd feed: knows-not the-plebs starving to-fear.
Curio Sicanias transcendere iussus in urbes,
Curio Sicanian to-cross-over ordered into cities,
qua mare tellurem subitis aut obruit undis
where the-sea the-land with-sudden either overwhelmed waves
aut scidit, et medias fecit sibi litora terras:
or split, and middle made for-itself shores lands:
uis illic ingens pelagi, semperque laborant
force there huge of-sea, and-always labor
aequora ne rupti repetant confinia montes.
the-waters lest broken should-seek-again borders mountains.
bellaque Sardoas etiam sparguntur in oras.
and-wars Sardinian also are-scattered to shores.
utraque frugiferis est insula nobilis aruis,
each with-fruitful is island famed fields,

nec prius Hesperiam longinquis messibus ullae
nor sooner Hesperia with-distant harvests any
nec Romana magis conplerunt horrea terrae.
nor Roman more filled granaries lands.
ubere uix glaebae superat, cessantibus Austris
in-richness scarcely of-soil surpasses, with-resting South-Winds
cum medium nubes Borea cogente sub axem
when middle the-clouds with-Boreas driving under axis
effusis magnum Libye tulit imbribus annum.
with-poured-out great Libya bore rains year.
haec ubi sunt prouisa duci, tunc agmina uictor
these-things when were provided for-the-leader, then columns victor
non armata trahens sed pacis habentia uoltum
not armed drawing but of-peace having the-look
tecta petit patriae. pro, si remeasset in urbem
the-roofs seeks of-the-fatherland. O, if he-had-returned into city
Gallorum tantum populis Arctoque subacta,
of-the-Gauls only with-peoples and-with-the-North subdued,
quam seriem rerum longa praemittere pompa,
what series of-things in-long to-send-ahead procession,
quas potuit belli facies! ut uincula Rheno
what could of-war images! how chains to-the-Rhine
Oceanoque daret, celsos ut Gallia currus
and-to-Ocean he-would-give, lofty how Gaul chariot
nobilis et flauis sequeretur mixta Britannis.
noble and with-blond would-follow mingled Britons.
perdidit o qualem uincendo plura triumphum!
he-lost O what-a by-conquering more triumph!
non illum laetis uadentem coetibus urbes
not him with-glad going crowds cities

sed tacitae uidere metu. nec constitit usquam
but silent saw with-fear. nor stood anywhere
obuia turba duci. gaudet tamen esse timori
in-the-way a-crowd for-the-leader. he-rejoices yet to-be for-fear
tam magno populis et se non mallet amari.
so great to-peoples and himself not would-prefer to-be-loved.

III.3 · CAESAR ENTERS ROME

From the Alban heights Caesar sees Rome and marvels that its men deserted it without a fight. He enters the stunned city, which fears he will burn and plunder it; a senate without consuls meets on the Palatine, ready to vote him anything. When he moves to open the treasury in Saturn's temple, the tribune Metellus blocks the door, saying that the soldiers will have no booty except over his body, and Caesar answers that he will not stain his hands with so cheap a death.

iamque et praecipitis superauerat Anxuris arces,
and-now both of-steep he-had-passed Anxur citadels,
et qua Pomptinas uia diuidit uda paludes,
and where Pomptine the-road divides wet marshes,
qua sublime nemus, Scythicae qua regna Dianae,
where lofty grove, of-Scythian where kingdom Diana,
quaque iter est Latiis ad summam fascibus Albam;
and-where the-road is for-Latin to highest fasces Alba;
excelsa de rupe procul iam conspicit urbem
lofty from crag afar now he-sees the-city
Arctoi toto non uisam tempore belli
of-Northern in-whole not seen time war
miratusque suae sic fatur moenia Romae:
and-having-marveled-at of-his-own thus speaks walls Rome:

‘tene, deum sedes, non ullo Marte coacti
‘you, of-the-gods the-seat, not by-any Mars compelled
deseruere uiri? pro qua pugnabitur urbe?
have-deserted men? for what will-it-be-fought city?
di melius, quod non Latias Eous in oras
gods better, that not Latin Eastern upon shores
nunc furor incubuit nec iuncto Sarmata uelox
now frenzy has-fallen nor with-joined Sarmatian swift
Pannonio Dacisque Getes admixtus: habenti
Pannonian and-with-Dacians Getan mingled: having
tam pauidum tibi, Roma, ducem fortuna pepercit,
so fearful to-you, Rome, leader fortune has-spared,
quod bellum ciuile fuit.’ sic fatur et urbem
that war civil was.’ thus he-speaks and the-city
attonitam terrore subit. namque ignibus atris
stunned with-terror enters. for with-fires black
creditur, ut captae, rapturus moenia Romae
he-is-believed, as of-captured, going-to-seize the-walls Rome
sparsurusque deos. fuit haec mensura timoris:
and-going-to-scatter the-gods. was this the-measure of-fear:
uelle putant quodcumque potest. non omina festa,
to-wish they-think whatever he-can. not omens festive,
non fictas laeto uoces simulare tumultu,
not feigned with-glad shouts to-simulate tumult,
uix odisse uacat. Phoebea Palatia conplet
scarcely to-hate there-is-leisure. Phoeban Palatine fills
turba patrum nullo cogendi iure senatus
a-crowd of-fathers with-no of-convening right senate
e latebris educta suis; non consule sacrae
out-of hiding-places drawn their-own; not with-consul sacred

fulserunt sedes, non, proxima lege potestas,
shone seats, not, next by-law power,
praetor adest, uacuaeque loco cessere curules.
a-praetor is-present, and-empty from-place yielded curule-chairs.
omnia Caesar erat: priuatae curia uocis
all Caesar was: of-a-private the-senate-house voice
testis adest. sedere patres censere parati,
witness is-present. sat the-fathers to-vote ready,
si regnum, si templa sibi iugulumque senatus
if kingship, if temples for-himself and-the-throat of-the-senate
exiliumque petat. melius, quod plura iubere
and-exile he-should-seek. better, that more to-command
erubuit quam Roma pati. tamen exit in iram,
he-blushed than Rome to-endure. yet goes-out into anger,
uiribus an possint obsistere iura, per unum
to-force whether can to-resist rights, through one
Libertas experta uirum; pugnaxque Metellus,
Liberty having-tested man; and-combative Metellus,
ut uidet ingenti Saturnia templa reuelli
when he-sees by-huge Saturnian temple to-be-torn-open
mole, rapit gressus et Caesaris agmina rumpens
effort, hurries steps and of-Caesar the-columns breaking
ante fores nondum reseratae constitit aedis.
before the-doors of-not-yet unbarred stood shrine.
(usque adeo solus ferrum mortemque timere
(to-such a-degree alone steel and-death to-fear
auri nescit amor, pereunt discrimine nullo
of-gold knows-not love, perish with-hazard no
amissae leges set, pars uilissima rerum,
lost laws but, the-part cheapest of-things,

certamen mouistis, opes), prohibensque rapina
contest you-stirred, riches), and-preventing from-plunder
uictorem clara testatur uoce tribunus.
the-victor with-clear protests voice the-tribune.
'non nisi per nostrum uobis percussa patebunt
'not except through our to-you struck will-lie-open
templa latus, nullasque feres nisi sanguine sacro
temples side, and-no you-will-carry unless with-blood sacred
sparsas, raptor, opes. certe uiolata potestas
sprinkled, plunderer, riches. surely violated power
inuenit ista deos; Crassumque in bella secutae
found that gods; and-Crassus into wars having-followed
saeua tribuniciae uouerunt proelia dirae.
savage tribunician vowed battles curses.
detege iam ferrum; neque enim tibi turba uerenda est
bare now steel; nor indeed for-you the-crowd to-be-feared is
spectatrix scelerum: deserta stamus in urbe.
spectator of-crimes: deserted we-stand in city.
non feret e nostro sceleratus praemia miles:
not will-carry from our criminal rewards soldier:
sunt quos prosternas populi, quae moenia dones.
there-are which you-may-overthrow peoples, what walls you-may-give.
pacis ad exutae spolium non cogit egestas:
of-peace to of-stripped the-spoil not compels want:
bellum, Caesar, habes.' his magnam uictor in iram
war, Caesar, you-have.' by-these great the-victor into anger
uocibus accensus 'uanam spem mortis honestae
words kindled 'empty hope of-death honorable
concipis: haud' inquit 'iugulo se polluet isto
you-conceive: not' he-says 'with-throat itself will-pollute that

nostra, Metelle, manus; dignum te Caesaris ira
our, Metellus, hand; worthy you of-Caesar anger
nullus honor faciet. te uindice tuta relicta est
no office will-make. with-you as-champion safe left has-been
libertas? non usque adeo permiscuit imis
liberty? not to-such a-degree has-mingled with-the-lowest
longus summa dies ut non, si uoce Metelli
long the-highest time that not, if by-the-voice of-Metellus
seruantur leges, malint a Caesare tolli.' 140
are-kept laws, they-would-prefer by Caesar to-be-abolished.'

III.4 · THE TREASURY

As Caesar's anger rises, Cotta persuades Metellus to give way, saying that a people ruled by a king keeps only the shadow of liberty, and that loss moves only those who guard their rights. The doors of Saturn's temple open with a groan on the Tarpeian rock, and Caesar takes out the whole treasure of the Roman people: the spoils of the Punic wars, of Perses and Philip, the gold Fabricius refused, the tribute of Asia and Crete, Cato's Cyprian gold, and the wealth of Pompey's eastern triumphs. Rome is for the first time poorer than Caesar.

dixerat, et nondum foribus cedente tribuno
he-had-spoken, and with-not-yet from-the-doors yielding tribune
acrior ira subit: saeuos circumspicit enses
fiercer anger comes-on: savage he-looks-around-at swords
oblitus simulare togam; cum Cotta Metellum
having-forgotten to-feign the-toga; when Cotta Metellus
conpulit audaci nimium desistere coepto.
compelled from-bold too to-desist undertaking.
'libertas' inquit 'populi quem regna coercent 145
'liberty' he-says 'of-a-people which kingships constrain

libertate perit; cuius seruaueris umbram,
by-liberty perishes; whose you-will-keep the-shadow,
si quidquid iubeare uelis. tot rebus iniquis
if whatever you-are-ordered you-wish. to-so-many things unjust
paruimus uicti; uenia est haec sola pudoris
we-have-obeyed conquered; excuse is this only of-shame
degenerisque metus, nullam potuisse negari.
and-of-degenerate fear, none to-have-been-able to-be-refused.
ocius auertat diri mala semina belli.
more-quickly let-him-carry-off of-dire evil seeds war.
damna mouent populos siquos sua iura tuentur:
losses move peoples if-any their-own rights guard:
non sibi sed domino grauis est quae seruit egestas.'
not to-itself but to-the-master heavy is which serves poverty.'
protinus abducto patuerunt templa Metello.
at-once with-led-away lay-open temples Metellus.
tunc rupes Tarpeia sonat magnoque reclusas
then the-rock Tarpeian sounds and-with-great opened
testatur stridore fores; tum conditus imo
attests creaking doors; then stored in-deepest
eruitur templo multis non tactus ab annis
is-dug-out temple many not touched for years
Romani census populi, quem Punica bella,
of-the-Roman wealth people, which Punic wars,
quem dederat Perses, quem uicti praeda Philippi,
which had-given Perses, which of-conquered the-booty Philip,
quod tibi, Roma, fuga Gallus trepidante reliquit,
what to-you, Rome, with-flight the-Gaul hurried left,
quo te Fabricius regi non uendidit auro,
for-which you Fabricius to-the-king not sold gold,

quidquid parcorum mores seruastis auorum,
whatever of-frugal the-morals you-kept ancestors,
quod dites Asiae populi misere tributum
what rich of-Asia peoples sent tribute
uictorique dedit Minoia Creta Metello,
and-to-victorious gave Minoan Crete Metellus,
quod Cato longinqua uexit super aequora Cypro.
what Cato distant carried over seas from-Cyprus.
tunc Orientis opes captorumque ultima regum
then of-the-East the-wealth and-of-captured the-farthest kings
quae Pompeianis praelata est gaza triumphis
which in-Pompeian carried-before was treasure triumphs
egeritur; tristi spoliantur templa rapina,
is-carried-out; by-grim are-stripped temples plunder,
pauperiorque fuit tum primum Caesare Roma.
and-poorer was then first than-Caesar Rome.

III.5 · POMPEY'S ALLIES: GREECE AND ASIA

Fortune gathers the world to Pompey's side, and the poet lists his allies: the Greeks of Phocis, Boeotia, Elis, Arcadia, Thessaly, and Athens, the Cretans with their bows, the peoples of Epirus and Illyria, the Thracians, and the cities of Asia from the Hellespont to Lydia. The Trojans and the Syrians come, and the Phoenicians, who first taught men to set down speech in letters, and the Cilicians, now lawful sailors and no longer pirates.

interea totum Magni fortuna per orbem
meanwhile whole of-Magnus the-fortune through world
secum casuras in proelia mouerat urbes.
with-him going-to-fall into battles had-moved cities.

proxima uicino uires dat Graecia bello.
nearest to-the-neighboring forces gives Greece war.
Phocaicas Amphissa manus scopulosaque Cirrha
Phocian Amphissa bands and-rocky Cirrha
Parnasosque iugo misit desertus utroque.
and-Parnassus from-ridge sent deserted both.
Boeoti coiere duces, quos inpiger ambit
Boeotian assembled leaders, whom tireless encircles
fatidica Cephisos aqua Cadmeaque Dirce,
with-prophetic Cephisus water and-Cadmean Dirce,
Pisaeaeque manus populisque per aequora mittens
and-Pisan bands and-to-peoples through seas sending
Sicaniis Alpheos aquas. tum Maenala liquit
Sicanian Alpheus waters. then Maenalus left
Arcas et Herculeam miles Trachinius Oeten.
the-Arcadian and Herculean soldier Trachinian Oeta.
Thesproti Dryopesque ruunt, quercusque silentis
Thesprotians and-Dryopes rush, and-oaks silent
Chaonio ueteres liquerunt uertice Selloe.
on-Chaonian ancient left summit Selli.
exhausit totas quamuis dilectus Athenas,
drained whole although the-levy Athens,
exiguae Phoebea tenent naualia puppes
small Phoeban hold dockyards ships
tresque petunt ueram credi Salamina carinae.
and-three seek true to-be-believed Salamis keels.
iam dilecta Ioui centenis uenit in arma
now loved by-Jupiter with-hundred comes into arms
Creta uetus populis Cnososque agitare pharetras
Crete ancient peoples and-Cnossus to-ply quivers

docta nec Eois peior Gortyna sagittis;
skilled nor than-Eastern worse Gortyn arrows;
tunc qui Dardaniam tenet Oricon et uagus altis
then who Dardanian holds Oricus and wandering in-deep
dispersus siluis Athaman et nomine prisco
scattered woods the-Athamanian and by-name ancient
Encheliae uersi testantes funera Cadmi,
Encheliae of-transformed attesting the-death Cadmus,
Colchis et Hadriaca spumans Apsyrtos in unda;
Colchian and Adriatic foaming Apsyrtus in wave;
Penei qui rura colunt, quorumque labore
of-Peneus who the-fields till, and-whose by-labor
Thessalus Haemoniam uomer proscindit Iolcon.
Thessalian Haemonian plowshare breaks Iolcus.
inde lacessitum primo mare, cum rudis Argo
thence provoked first the-sea, when raw Argo
miscuit ignotas temerato litore gentes
mingled unknown with-violated shore nations
primaque cum uentis pelagique furentibus undis
and-first with winds and-of-the-sea raging waves
conposuit mortale genus, fatisque per illam
matched mortal race, and-to-the-fates through that
accessit mors una ratem. tum linquitur Haemus
was-added death one ship. then is-left Haemus
Thracius et populum Pholoe mentita biformem.
Thracian and a-people Pholoe having-feigned two-formed.
deseritur Strymon tepido committere Nilo
is-deserted Strymon to-warm to-entrust Nile
Bistonias consuetus aues et barbara Cone,
Bistonian accustomed birds and barbarian Cone,

Sarmaticas ubi perdit aquas sparsamque profundo
Sarmatian where loses waters and-scattered by-the-deep
multifidi Peucen unum caput adluit Histri,
of-many-cleft Peuce one mouth washes Hister,
Mysiaque et gelido tellus perfusa Caico
and-Mysia and by-icy land drenched Caicus
Idalis et nimium glaebis exilis Arisbe,
Idalis and too in-soil thin Arisbe,
quique colunt Pitanen, et quae tua munera, Pallas,
and-who till Pitane, and which your gifts, Pallas,
lugent damnatae Phoebo uictore Celaenae,
mourn condemned with-Phoebus victor Celaenae,
qua celer et rectis descendens Marsya ripis
where swift and with-straight descending Marsyas banks
errantem Maeandron adit mixtusque refertur,
wandering Meander approaches and-mingled is-carried-back,
passaque ab auriferis tellus exire metallis
and-having-allowed from gold-bearing land to-go-out mines
Pactolon, qua culta secat non uilior Hermus.
Pactolus, where tilled-fields cuts not cheaper Hermus.
Iliacae quoque signa manus perituraque castra
Ilian also the-standards bands and-going-to-perish camp
ominibus petiere suis, nec fabula Troiae
with-omens sought their-own, nor the-story of-Troy
continuit Phrygiique ferens se Caesar Iuli.
held-back and-of-Phrygian carrying himself Caesar Iulus.
accedunt Syriae populi; desertus Orontes
come of-Syria peoples; deserted Orontes
et felix, sic fama, Ninos, uentosa Damascos
and fortunate, so rumor, Ninus, windy Damascus

Gazaque et arbusto palmarum diues Idume
and-Gaza and in-grove of-palms rich Idume
et Tyros instabilis pretiosaque murice Sidon.
and Tyre unstable and-precious with-purple Sidon.
has ad bella rates non flexo limite ponti
these to wars ships not with-bent track of-the-sea
certior haud ullis duxit Cynosura carinis.
surer not for-any led Cynosura keels.
(Phoenices primi, famae si creditur, ausi
(the-Phoenicians first, rumor if is-believed, dared
mansuram rudibus uocem signare figuris:
going-to-last with-rough speech to-mark shapes:
nondum flumineas Memphis contexere biblos
not-yet river Memphis to-weave papyrus
nouerat, et saxis tantum uolucresque feraeque
had-learned, and on-stones only and-birds and-beasts
sculptaque seruabant magicas animalia linguas.)
and-carved kept magic animals tongues.)
deseritur Taurique nemus Perseaque Tarsos
is-deserted and-of-Taurus the-grove and-Persean Tarsus
Coryciumque patens exesis rupibus antrum;
and-Corycian lying-open with-eaten crags cave;
Mallos et extremae resonant naualibus Aegae,
Mallus and farthest resound with-dockyards Aegae,
itque Cilix iusta iam non pirata carina.
and-goes the-Cilician in-lawful now not pirate ship.

The rumor of war reaches the far East: India and the Ganges, the peoples who burn themselves on pyres, the Cappadocians, Armenians, and Arabs, the Ethiopians, the peoples of the Tigris and Euphrates, the Scythians, the Colchians, and the nations by the Tanais and the Maeotic marsh. The Parthians keep their favor uncertain, content to have made the leaders two. Never did Cyrus, the Persian who counted his army by its spears, or the avenger of a brother's wrong lead so many kings, and Fortune gives Magnus a funeral train worthy of him; Africa from Hammon to the Syrtes sends its troops, so that Caesar might conquer the whole world at once at Pharsalia.

mouit et Eoos bellorum fama recessus,
stirred also Eastern of-wars the-rumor recesses,
qua colitur Ganges, toto qui solus in orbe
where is-worshiped the-Ganges, whole which alone in world
ostia nascenti contraria soluere Phoebo
mouths to-the-rising opposite to-open Phoebus
audet et aduersum fluctus inpellit in Eurum,
dares and opposite waves drives against East-Wind,
hic ubi Pellaeus post Tethyos aequora ductor
here where the-Pellaean after of-Tethys seas leader
constitit et magno uinci se fassus ab orbe est;
stopped and by-great to-be-conquered himself confessed by world has;
quaque ferens rapidum diuiso gurgite fontem
and-where carrying swift with-divided flood source
uastis Indus aquis mixtum non sentit Hydaspen;
with-vast Indus waters mingled not feels Hydaspes;
quique bibunt tenera dulcis ab harundine sucos,
and-who drink tender sweet from reed juices,
et qui tinguentes croceo medicamine crinem
and who dyeing with-saffron dye hair

fluxa coloratis astringunt carbasa gemmis,
flowing with-colored bind linens gems,
quique suas struxere pyras uiuique calentis
and-who their-own built pyres and-alive hot
conscendere rogos. pro, quanta est gloria genti
mounted pyres. O, how-great is the-glory to-a-race
iniecisse manum fatis uitaque repletos
to-have-laid hand on-the-fates and-of-life sated
quod superest donasse deis! uenere feroces
what remains to-have-given to-the-gods! came fierce
Cappadoces, duri populus non cultor Amani,
Cappadocians, of-harsh a-people not tiller Amanus,
Armeniusque tenens uoluentem saxa Niphaten.
and-the-Armenian holding rolling rocks Niphates.
aethera tangentis siluas liquere Choatrae.
the-ether touching woods left Choatrae.
ignotum uobis, Arabes, uenistis in orbem
unknown to-you, Arabs, you-came into world
umbras mirati nemorum non ire sinistras.
shadows having-marveled of-groves not to-go left.
tum furor extremos mouit Romanus Orestas
then frenzy farthest moved Roman Orestae
Carmanosque duces, quorum iam flexus in Austrum
and-Carmanian leaders, whose now bent toward South
aether non totam mergi tamen aspicit Arcton
sky not whole to-sink yet sees Bear
lucet et exigua uelox ibi nocte Bootes,
shines and in-small swift there night Bootes,
Aethiopumque solum, quod non premeretur ab ulla
and-of-the-Ethiopians the-soil, which not would-be-pressed by any

signiferi regione poli, nisi poplite lapso
of-sign-bearing region pole, unless with-knee bent
ultima curuati procederet ungula Tauri,
the-last of-bent stepped-forth hoof Bull,
quaque caput rapido tollit cum Tigride magnus
and-where head swift raises with Tigris great
Euphrates, quos non diuersis fontibus edit
Euphrates, which not from-different springs brings-forth
Persis, et incertum, tellus si misceat amnes,
Persia, and uncertain, the-earth if should-mingle rivers,
quod potius sit nomen aquis. sed sparsus in agros
which rather would-be the-name for-waters. but spread over fields
fertilis Euphrates Phariae uice fungitur undae;
fertile Euphrates of-Pharian in-the-role performs water;
at Tigrim subito tellus absorbet hiatu
but Tigris with-sudden the-earth absorbs gape
occultosque tegit cursus rursusque renatum
and-hidden covers courses and-again reborn
fonte nouo flumen pelagi non abnegat undis.
from-spring new the-river of-the-sea not denies to-waves.
inter Caesareas acies diuersaque signa
between Caesarian battle-lines and-opposing standards
pugnaces dubium Parthi tenuere fauorem
combative doubtful the-Parthians held favor
contenti fecisse duos. tinxere sagittas
content to-have-made two. dipped arrows
errantes Scythiae populi, quos gurgite Bactros
wandering of-Scythia peoples, whom with-flood Bactros
includit gelido uastisque Hyrcania siluis;
encloses icy and-with-vast Hyrcania forests;

hinc Lacedaemonii, moto gens aspera freno,
hence Lacedaemonians, with-champed race rough bit,
Heniochi saeuisque adfinis Sarmata Moschis;
Heniochi and-to-savage neighbor Sarmatian Moschi;
Colchorum qua rura secat ditissima Phasis,
of-the-Colchians where fields cuts richest Phasis,
qua Croeso fatalis Halys, qua uertice lapsus
where for-Croesus fatal Halys, where from-summit having-slid
Riphaeo Tanais diuersi nomina mundi
Riphaean Tanais of-different the-names world
inposuit ripis Asiaeque et terminus idem
has-placed on-banks and-of-Asia and boundary the-same
Europae, mediae dirimens confinia terrae,
of-Europe, middle parting borders land,
nunc hunc nunc illum, qua flectitur, ampliat orbem;
now this now that, where it-bends, enlarges world;
quaque, fretum torrens, Maeotidos egerit undas
and-where, a-strait rushing, of-Maeotis carries-out waves
Pontus, et Herculeis aufertur gloria metis,
Pontus, and from-Herculean is-taken glory goals,
Oceanumque negant solas admittere Gadis;
and-Ocean deny alone to-admit Gades;
hinc Essedoniae gentes auroque ligatas
hence Essedonian nations and-with-gold bound
substringens Arimaspe comas; hinc fortis Arius
tying-up Arimaspian hair; hence brave Arian
longaque Sarmatici soluens ieiunia belli
and-long of-Sarmatian breaking fasts war
Massagetes, quo fugit, equo uolucresque Geloni.
Massagete, on-which he-flees, on-horse and-swift Geloni.

non, cum Memnoniis deducens agmina regnis
not, when from-Memnonian leading-down columns kingdoms
Cyrus et effusis numerato milite telis
Cyrus and with-poured-out counted soldiery missiles
descendit Perses, fraternique ultor amoris
came-down the-Persian, and-of-brotherly avenger love
aequora cum tantis percussit classibus, unum
the-seas when with-so-great struck fleets, one
tot reges habuere ducem, coiere nec umquam
so-many kings had leader, assembled nor ever
tam uariae cultu gentes, tam dissona uolgi
so varied in-dress nations, so discordant of-crowd
ora. tot inmensae comites missura ruinae
tongues. so-many of-immense companions going-to-send ruin
exciuit populos et dignas funere Magni
roused peoples and worthy of-funeral Magnus
exequias Fortuna dedit. non corniger Hammon
rites Fortune gave. not horned Hammon
mittere Marmaricas cessauit in arma cateruas,
to-send Marmaric ceased into arms troops,
quidquid ab occiduis Libye patet arida Mauris
whatever from western Libya lies-open arid Moors
usque Paraetonias Eoa ad litora Syrtis.
right-up Paraetonian Eastern to shores Syrtis.
acciperet felix ne non semel omnia Caesar,
might-receive fortunate lest not at-once all Caesar,
uincendum pariter Pharsalia praestitit orbem.
to-be-conquered equally Pharsalia furnished world.

Caesar crosses the Alps toward Spain, and Massilia, alone among the frightened peoples, resolves to keep its faith. Its envoys plead with him: the city has always shared Rome's foreign wars, but it will give only tears and neutrality to a civil one. They ask him to leave his standards outside the walls and keep the city as a place where both sides may one day meet unarmed; if he besieges them, they will endure fire, thirst, and famine as Saguntum did, and children torn from their mothers' dry breasts will be thrown into the flames before they yield.

ille ubi deseruit trepidantis moenia Romae
he when deserted of-trembling the-walls Rome
agmine nubiferam rapto super euolat Alpem;
with-column cloud-bearing hurried over flies Alp;
cumque alii famae populi terrore pauerent
and-when other of-rumor peoples with-terror trembled
Phocais in dubiis ausa est seruare iuuentus
Phocaean in doubts dared has to-keep youth
non Graia leuitate fidem signataque iura,
not with-Greek fickleness faith and-sealed rights,
et causas, non fata, sequi. tamen ante furorem
and causes, not fates, to-follow. yet beforehand the-frenzy
indomitum duramque uiri deflectere mentem
untamed and-hard of-the-man to-turn-aside mind
pacifico sermone parant hostemque propinquum
with-peaceful speech they-prepare and-the-enemy near
orant Cecropiae praelata fronde Mineruae.
entreat of-Cecropian borne-before with-leaf Minerva.
'semper in externis populo communia uestro
'always in foreign with-people shared your

Massiliam bellis testatur fata tulisse
Massilia wars attests fates to-have-borne
conprensa est Latiis quaecumque annalibus aetas.
comprised is in-Latin whatever annals age.
et nunc, ignoto siquos petis orbe triumphos,
and now, in-unknown if-any you-seek world triumphs,
accipe deuotas externa in proelia dextras.
accept devoted foreign for battles right-hands.
at, si funestas acies, si dira paratis
but, if deadly battle-lines, if dire you-prepare
proelia discordes, lacrimas ciuilibus armis
battles in-discord, tears to-civil arms
secretumque damus. tractentur uolnera nulla
and-withdrawal we-give. let-be-handled wounds none
sacra manu. si caelicolis furor arma dedisset
by-sacred hand. if to-heaven-dwellers frenzy arms had-given
aut si terrigenae temptarent astra gigantes,
or if earth-born were-attempting the-stars giants,
non tamen auderet pietas humana uel armis
not yet would-dare dutifulness human either with-arms
uel uotis prodesse Ioui, sortisque deorum
or with-vows to-help Jupiter, and-of-the-lot of-the-gods
ignarum mortale genus per fulmina tantum
ignorant mortal race through thunderbolts only
sciret adhuc caelo solum regnare Tonantem.
would-know still in-heaven alone to-reign the-Thunderer.
adde quod innumerae concurrunt undique gentes,
add that countless gather from-everywhere nations,
nec sic horret iners scelerum contagia mundus
nor so shudders-at sluggish of-crimes contagion the-world

ut gladiis egeant ciuilia bella coactis.
that of-swords need civil wars conscripted.
sit mens ista quidem cunctis, ut uestra recusent
may-be mind that indeed to-all, that your they-refuse
fata, nec haec alius committat proelia miles.
fates, nor these other join battles soldier.
cui non conspecto languebit dextra parente
whose not with-seen will-grow-faint right-hand parent
telaque diuersi prohibebunt spargere fratres?
and-missiles opposite will-prevent to-scatter brothers?
finis adest scelerum, si non committitis ullis
an-end is-present of-crimes, if not you-entrust to-any
arma quibus fas est. nobis haec summa precandi:
arms to-whom lawful it-is. for-us this the-sum of-praying:
terribilis aquilas infestaque signa relinquas
terrible eagles and-hostile standards leave
urbe procul nostrisque uelis te credere muris
from-the-city far and-to-our may-you-wish yourself to-entrust walls
excludique sinas admisso Caesare bellum.
and-to-be-shut-out allow with-admitted Caesar war.
sit locus exceptus sceleri, Magnoque tibique
let-be a-place exempted from-crime, and-for-Magnus and-for-you
tutus, ut, inuictae fatum si consulat urbi,
safe, that, for-unconquered fate if consults the-city,
foedera si placeant, sit quo ueniatis inermes.
treaties if please, be-there where you-may-come unarmed.
uel, cum tanta uocent discrimina Martis Hiberi,
or, when so-great call hazards of-Mars Iberian,
quid rapidum deflectis iter? non pondera rerum
why swift do-you-turn-aside march? not weights of-affairs

nec momenta sumus, numquam felicibus armis
nor moments we-are, never with-fortunate arms
usa manus, patriae primis a sedibus exul,
having-used band, of-the-fatherland first from seats exile,
et post translatas exustae Phocidos arces
and after transferred of-burned Phocis citadels
moenibus exiguis alieno in litore tuti,
in-walls small foreign on shore safe,
inlustrat quos sola fides. si claudere muros
illumines whom alone loyalty. if to-shut walls
obsidione paras et ui perfringere portas,
with-siege you-prepare and by-force to-break-through gates,
excepisse faces tectis et tela parati,
to-have-received torches on-roofs and missiles ready,
undarum raptos auersis fontibus haustus
of-waters snatched with-diverted springs drafts
quaerere et effossam sitientes lambere terram
to-seek and dug-up thirsting to-lick earth
et, desit si larga Ceres, tunc horrida cerni
and, should-fail if bountiful Ceres, then horrid to-be-seen
foedaque contingi maculato attingere morsu.
and-foul to-be-touched with-stained to-touch bite.
nec pauet hic populus pro libertate subire
nor fears this people for liberty to-undergo
obsessum Poeno gessit quae Marte Saguntum.
besieged by-Carthaginian endured what Mars Saguntum.
pectoribus rapti matrum frustraque trahentes
from-breasts snatched of-mothers and-in-vain drawing
ubera sicca fame medios mittentur in ignis
teats dry with-famine middle will-be-sent into fires

uxor et a caro poscet sibi fata marito,
the-wife and from dear will-demand for-herself fates husband,
uolnera miscebunt fratres bellumque coacti
wounds will-exchange brothers and-war compelled
hoc potius ciuile gerent.' sic Graia iuuentus
this rather civil will-wage.' thus Greek youth
finierat, cum turbato iam prodita uoltu
had-finished, when with-troubled already betrayed face
ira ducis tandem testata est uoce dolorem.
the-anger of-the-leader at-last attested has with-voice resentment.

III.8 · CAESAR BESIEGES MASSILIA

Caesar answers in anger that the Greeks trust vainly in his haste: he has time to destroy Massilia, and a war offered by fate is welcome, since as wind and fire die with nothing to resist them, so it harms him to lack enemies. They will learn that nothing is safer than war with him as leader. He marches on the city, sees its walls ringed with defenders, and orders a vast rampart joining the hills and running down to the sea. The poet says this delay is Massilia's eternal glory, since it held back Caesar's headlong course, and the woods are felled for the siege works.

'uana mouet Graios nostri fiducia cursus.
'empty moves the-Greeks of-our confidence course.
quamuis Hesperium mundi properemus ad axem
although Hesperian of-the-world we-hasten to pole
Massiliam delere uacat. gaudete, cohortes:
Massilia to-destroy there-is-leisure. rejoice, cohorts:
obuia praebentur fatorum munere bella.
in-the-way are-offered of-the-fates by-gift wars.
uentus ut amittit uires, nisi robore densae
the-wind as loses strength, unless with-timber dense

occurrunt siluae, spatio diffusus inani,
meet woods, through-space spread empty,
utque perit magnus nullis obstantibus ignis,
and-as dies great with-nothing obstructing fire,
sic hostes mihi desse nocet, damnumque putamus
so enemies for-me to-be-lacking harms, and-loss we-think
armorum, nisi qui uinci potuere rebellant.
of-arms, unless who to-be-conquered could rebel.
sed, si solus eam dimissis degener armis,
but, if alone I-go with-dismissed degenerate arms,
tunc mihi tecta patent. iam non excludere tantum,
then to-me the-roofs lie-open. now not to-shut-out only,
inclusisse uolunt. at enim contagia belli
to-have-shut-in they-wish. but indeed the-contagion of-war
dira fugant. dabitis poenas pro pace petita,
dire they-shun. you-will-pay penalties for peace sought,
et nihil esse meo discetis tutius aeuo
and nothing to-be in-my you-will-learn safer age
quam duce me bellum.' sic postquam fatus, ad urbem
than with-leader me war.' thus after having-spoken, toward the-city
haud trepidam conuertit iter; cum moenia clausa
not trembling turned march; when walls shut
conspicit et densa iuuenum uallata corona.
he-sees and with-dense of-youths ringed crown.
haut procul a muris tumulus surgentis in altum
not far from walls a-mound of-rising into height
telluris paruum diffuso uertice campum
earth small with-spread summit plain
explicat: haec patiens longo munimine cingi
unfolds: this enduring with-long fortification to-be-encircled

uisa duci rupes tutisque aptissima castris.
seemed to-the-leader crag and-for-safe most-fit camp.
proxima pars urbis celsam consurgit in arcem
nearest part of-the-city lofty rises into citadel
par tumulo, mediisque sedent conuallibus arua.
equal to-the-mound, and-in-middle sit valleys fields.
tunc res inmenso placuit statura labore,
then a-thing at-immense pleased going-to-stand labor,
aggere diuersos uasto committere colles.
with-mound opposing vast to-join hills.
sed prius, ut totam, qua terra cingitur, urbem
but first, that whole, where by-land it-is-girt, city
clauderet, a summis perduxit ad aequora castris
he-might-close, from highest carried to the-sea camp
longum Caesar opus, fontesque et pabula campi
long Caesar work, and-springs and fodder of-the-plain
amplexus fossa densas tollentia pinnas
embracing with-trench dense raising battlements
caespitibus crudaque extruxit bracchia terra.
with-sods and-with-raw built arms earth.
iam satis hoc Graiae memorandum contigit urbi
now enough this to-Greek memorable befell city
aeternumque decus, quod non inpulsa nec ipso
and-eternal glory, that not driven nor by-the-very
strata metu tenuit flagrantis in omnia belli
laid-low fear it-held of-blazing against all war
praecipitem cursum, raptisque a Caesare cunctis
headlong course, and-with-seized by Caesar all
uincitur una mora. quantum est quod fata tenentur
is-conquered one delay. how-much is-it that the-fates are-held

quodque uirum toti properans inponere mundo
and-that the-man on-whole hastening to-set world
hos perdit Fortuna dies! tunc omnia late
these loses Fortune days! then all widely
procumbunt nemora et spoliantur robore siluae,
fall-forward groves and are-stripped of-timber woods,
ut, cum terra leuis mediam uirgultaque molem
that, while earth light middle and-brushwood mass
suspendant, structa laterum conpage ligatam
should-hold-up, with-built of-sides framework bound
artet humum, pressus ne cedat turribus agger.
it-may-compress the-ground, pressed lest yield by-towers the-mound.

III.9 · THE SACRED GROVE

Near the city stands an ancient grove where no light enters, full of barbarous altars, shapeless images of gods, and trees sprinkled with human blood; birds and beasts shun it, and its priest fears to meet its lord. Caesar orders it felled, but the soldiers fear that the axes will rebound on themselves. Caesar seizes an axe and strikes an oak, telling them to believe that he has done the sacrilege, and they cut the grove, fearing his anger more than the gods'. The Massiliots exult, believing that wronged gods will avenge themselves.

lucus erat longo numquam uiolatus ab aeuo
a-grove there-was long never violated from age
obscurum cingens conexis aera ramis
dark enclosing with-interlaced air branches
et gelidas alte summotis solibus umbras.
and icy deep with-removed suns shadows.
hunc non ruricolae Panes nemorumque potentes
this not rustic Pans and-of-groves powerful

Siluani Nymphaeque tenent, sed barbara ritu
Silvani and-Nymphs hold, but barbarian in-rite
sacra deum; structae diris altaribus arae
rites of-gods; built with-dire offerings altars
omnisque humanis lustrata cruoribus arbor.
and-every with-human purified gore tree.
siqua fidem meruit superos mirata uetustas,
if-any belief has-earned the-gods-above having-marveled-at antiquity,
illis et uolucres metuunt insistere ramis
on-those even birds fear to-perch branches
et lustris recubare ferae; nec uentus in illas
and in-lairs to-lie beasts; nor wind upon those
incubuit siluas excussaque nubibus atris
has-fallen woods and-struck-out from-clouds black
fulgura: non ulli frondem praebentibus aurae
lightnings: not to-any leaf offering breeze
arboribus suus horror inest. tum plurima nigris
trees its-own shuddering is-in. then very-much from-black
fontibus unda cadit, simulacraque maesta deorum
springs water falls, and-images grim of-the-gods
arte carent caesisque extant informia truncis.
art lack and-from-cut stand-out shapeless trunks.
ipse situs putrique facit iam robore pallor
itself the-mold and-on-rotten makes already timber pallor
attonitos; non uolgatis sacrata figuris
awestruck; not in-common consecrated shapes
numina sic metuunt: tantum terroribus addit,
divinities thus they-fear: so-much to-terrors it-adds,
quos timeant, non nosse, deos. iam fama ferebat
which they-fear, not to-know, gods. now rumor was-reporting

saepe cauas motu terrae mugire cauernas,
often hollow with-motion of-earth to-bellow caverns,
et procumbentis iterum consurgere taxos,
and falling again to-rise yews,
et non ardentis fulgere incendia siluae,
and not of-burning to-shine fires wood,
roboraque amplexos circum fluxisse dracones.
and-oaks having-embraced around to-have-flowed serpents.
non illum cultu populi propiore frequentant
not it with-worship the-people closer frequent
sed cessere deis. medio cum Phoebus in axe est
but have-yielded to-the-gods. mid when Phoebus in axis is
aut caelum nox atra tenet, pauet ipse sacerdos
or the-sky night black holds, fears himself the-priest
accessus dominumque timet deprendere luci.
approaches and-the-master fears to-surprise of-the-grove.
hanc iubet inmisso siluam procumbere ferro;
this he-orders with-sent-in wood to-fall steel;
nam uicina operi belloque intacta priore
for near to-the-work and-by-war untouched former
inter nudatos stabat densissima montis.
among stripped stood densest of-the-mountain.
sed fortes tremuere manus, motique uerenda
but brave trembled hands, and-moved by-awful
maiestate loci, si robora sacra ferirent,
majesty of-the-place, if oaks sacred they-should-strike,
in sua credebant redituras membra securis.
on their-own they-believed going-to-return limbs axes.
inplicitas magno Caesar torpore cohortes
entangled in-great Caesar numbness cohorts

ut uidit, primus raptam librare bipennem
when he-saw, first snatched to-poise double-axe
ausus et aeriam ferro proscindere quercum
dared and airy with-steel to-cleave oak
effatur merso uiolata in robora ferro
speaks-out with-sunk violated into oak steel
'iam nequis uestrum dubitet subuertere siluam
'now lest-any of-you should-hesitate to-overturn the-wood
credite me fecisse nefas'. tum paruit omnis
believe me to-have-done abomination'. then obeyed all
imperiis non sublato secura pauore
orders not with-removed untroubled fear
turba, sed expensa superorum et Caesaris ira.
throng, but with-weighed of-the-gods-above and of-Caesar anger.
procumbunt orni, nodosa inpellitur ilex,
fall ash-trees, knotty is-driven holm-oak,
siluaque Dodones et fluctibus aptior alnus
and-the-wood of-Dodona and for-waves fitter alder
et non plebeios luctus testata cupressus
and not plebeian griefs having-attested cypress
tum primum posuere comas et fronde carentes
then first laid-down foliage and leaf lacking
admisere diem, propulsaque robore denso
admitted day, and-pushed-forward by-timber dense
sustinuit se silua cadens. gemuere uidentes
held-up itself the-wood falling. groaned seeing
Gallorum populi, muris sed clausa iuuentus
of-the-Gauls the-peoples, by-walls but shut youth
exultat; quis enim laesos inpune putaret
exults; who indeed wronged with-impunity would-think

esse deos? seruat multos fortuna nocentis
to-be gods? saves many fortune guilty
et tantum miseris irasci numina possunt.
and only with-the-wretched to-be-angry divinities can.
utque satis caesi nemoris, quaesita per agros
and-when enough of-cut grove, sought through fields
plaustra ferunt, curuoque soli cessantis aratro
wagons they-bring, and-with-curved of-the-soil idle plow
agricolae raptis annum fleuere iuuencis.
farmers with-snatched the-year wept bullocks.

III.10 · THE SIEGE WORKS

Caesar leaves for Spain and orders the siege to go on. A rampart and two towers rise, and from them the Romans shoot down on the city, their ballistas driving spears through armor and bone. They advance under a tortoise of shields until the wall of shields breaks; rams and sheds attack the walls but are driven back by fire and stones. At last the young men of Massilia sally by night with torches, and the wind spreads the fire through the Roman works until the rampart collapses.

dux tamen inpatiens haesuri ad moenia Martis
the-leader yet impatient of-going-to-stick at walls of-Mars
uersus ad Hispanas acies extremaque mundi
turned toward Spanish battle-lines and-farthest of-the-world
iussit bella geri. stellatis axibus agger
ordered wars to-be-waged. with-starred axles a-mound
erigitur geminasque aequantis moenia turris
is-raised and-twin equaling walls towers
accipit; hae nullo fixerunt robore terram
receives; these by-no fixed timber earth

sed per iter longum causa repsere latenti.
but along course long by-cause crept hidden.
cum tantum nutaret onus, telluris inanis
when so-great tottered burden, of-the-earth empty
concussisse sinus quaerentem erumpere uentum
to-have-shaken hollows seeking to-burst-out wind
credidit et muros mirata est stare iuuentus.
believed and walls marveled has to-stand youth.
illinc tela cadunt excelsas urbis in arces.
from-there missiles fall lofty of-the-city on citadels.
sed maior Graio Romana in corpora ferro
but greater than-Greek Roman into bodies steel
uis inerat. neque enim solis excussa lacertis
force was-in. nor indeed by-alone hurled arms
lancea, sed tenso ballistae turbine rapta,
the-lance, but by-stretched of-the-ballista whirl snatched,
haut unum contenta latus transire quiescit,
not one content side to-pass rests,
sed pandens perque arma uiam perque ossa relicta
but opening and-through arms a-way and-through bones left
morte fugit: superest telo post uolnera cursus.
with-death flies: remains to-the-missile after wounds course.
at saxum quotiens ingenti uerberis actu
but a-stone whenever with-huge of-the-sling's drive
excutitur, qualis rupes quam uertice montis
is-shot, as a-crag which from-summit of-mountain
abscidit inpulsu uentorum adiuta uetustas,
cut-off by-impulse of-winds helped age,
frangit cuncta ruens, nec tantum corpora pressa
breaks all rushing, nor only bodies crushed

exanimat, totos cum sanguine dissipat artus.
kills, whole with blood scatters limbs.
ut tamen hostiles densa testudine muros
when yet hostile with-dense tortoise walls
tecta subit uirtus, armisque innexa priores
covered approaches valor, and-to-arms joined front
arma ferunt, galeamque extensus protegit umbo,
arms they-bear, and-helmet extended protects boss,
quae prius ex longo nocuerunt missa recessu
which earlier from long harmed sent distance
iam post terga cadunt. nec Grais flectere iactum
now behind backs fall. nor for-Greeks to-bend the-throw
aut facilis labor est longinqua ad tela parati
or easy labor is distant for missiles of-prepared
tormenti mutare modum; sed pondere solo
engine to-change the-measure; but with-weight alone
contenti nudis euoluunt saxa lacertis.
content with-bare roll-out rocks arms.
dum fuit armorum series, ut grandine tecta
while was of-arms the-chain, as with-hail roofs
innocua percussa sonant, sic omnia tela
harmless struck sound, so all missiles
respuit; at postquam uirtus incerta uirorum
it-spat-back; but after valor uncertain of-men
perpetuam rupit defesso milite cratem
continuous broke with-exhausted soldiery wicker
singula continuis cesserunt ictibus arma.
single to-continuous yielded blows arms.
tunc adoperta leui procedit uinea terra,
then covered with-light advances the-shed earth,

sub cuius pluteis et tecta fronte latentes
under whose screens and covered front hiding
moliri nunc ima parant et uertere ferro
to-undermine now the-lowest-parts they-prepare and to-overturn with-steel
moenia; nunc aries suspenso fortior ictu
walls; now the-ram with-suspended stronger blow
incussus densi conpagem soluere muri
struck-against of-dense the-framework to-loosen wall
temptat et inpositis unum subducere saxis.
tries and from-placed-on one to-pull-out stones.
sed super et flammis et magnae fragmine molis
but from-above both with-flames and of-great with-fragment mass
et sudibus crebris et adusti roboris ictu
and with-stakes frequent and of-burned timber with-blow
percussae cedunt crates, frustraque labore
struck yield the-wickers, and-in-vain with-labor
exhausto fessus repetit tentoria miles.
exhausted weary seeks-again the-tents soldier.
summa fuit Grais, starent ut moenia, uoti:
the-sum was for-Greeks, should-stand that walls, of-prayer:
ultro acies inferre parant, armisque coruscas
unasked battle-lines to-bring-on they-prepare, and-by-arms flashing
nocturni texere faces, audaxque iuuentus
nocturnal covered torches, and-bold youth
erupit. non hasta uiris, non letifer arcus,
burst-out. not spear to-the-men, not deadly bow,
telum flamma fuit, rapiensque incendia uentus
the-weapon flame was, and-snatching fires the-wind
per Romana tulit celeri munimina cursu.
through Roman bore with-swift works course.

nec, quamuis uiridi luctetur robore, lentas
nor, although with-green it-struggles timber, slow
ignis agit uires, taeda sed raptus ab omni
fire drives strength, torch but seized from every
consequitur nigri spatiosa uolumina fumi,
follows of-black spacious rolls smoke,
nec solum siluas sed saxa ingentia soluit,
nor only woods but rocks huge dissolves,
et crudae putri fluxerunt puluere cautes.
and raw into-rotten flowed dust crags.
procubuit maiorque iacens apparuit agger.
fell and-greater lying appeared the-mound.

III.11 · THE FLEETS ENGAGE

Defeated on land, the Massiliots try the sea, arming old men and boys and launching old hulks. Brutus' fleet comes down the Rhone and meets them on a calm morning, his flagship towering over the rest. The fleets clash beak against beak; the nimble Greek ships try to wheel and flee, while the steady Roman ships fight as though on land. Brutus orders his helmsman to set his ship against the enemy, and the ships are grappled together, so that the battle stands on a covered sea. The fight becomes hand to hand with swords, the waves foam with blood, corpses keep the ships apart, and even missed spears find wounds in the water.

spes uictis telluris abit, placuitque profundo
hope to-the-conquered of-land departs, and-it-pleased on-the-deep
fortunam temptare maris. non robore picto
fortune to-try of-the-sea. not with-timber painted
ornatas decuit fulgens tutela carinas,
adorned it-befitted gleaming guardian-image keels,

sed rudis et qualis procumbit montibus arbor
but rough and such-as falls on-mountains a-tree
conseritur, stabilis naualibus area bellis.
is-joined, steady for-naval floor wars.
et iam turrigeram Bruti comitata carinam
and now turreted of-Brutus having-accompanied keel
uenerat in fluctus Rhodani cum gurgite classis
had-come into waves of-the-Rhone with flood fleet
Stoechados arua tenens. nec non et Graia iuuentus
of-the-Stoechades fields holding. nor not also Greek youth
omne suum fatis uoluit committere robur
all its-own to-the-fates wished to-commit strength
grandaeuosque senes mixtis armauit ephebis.
and-very-aged old-men with-mingled armed youths.
accepit non sola uiros, quae stabat in undis,
received not alone men, which stood in waves,
classis: et emeritas repetunt naualibus alnos.
fleet: and retired they-seek-again from-dockyards alders.
ut matutinos spargens super aequora Phoebus
when morning scattering over seas Phoebus
fregit aquis radios et liber nubibus aether
broke on-waters rays and free from-clouds ether
et posito Borea pacemque tenentibus Austris
and with-laid-down Boreas and-peace holding South-Winds
seruatum bello iacuit mare, mouit ab omni
kept for-war lay the-sea, moved from every
quisque suam statione ratem, paribusque lacertis
each his-own station ship, and-with-equal arms
Caesaris hinc puppes, hinc Graio remige classis
of-Caesar on-this-side ships, on-that with-Greek rower fleet

tollitur: inpulsae tonsis tremuere carinae
is-raised: driven by-oars trembled keels
crebraque sublimes conuellunt uerbera puppes.
and-frequent lofty shake strokes ships.
cornua Romanae classis ualidaeque triremes
the-wings of-Roman fleet and-strong triremes
quasque quater surgens extructi remigis ordo
and-which four-times rising of-built-up rowers order
commouet et plures quae mergunt aequore pinus
moves and more which dip in-sea pines
multiplices cinxere rates. hoc robur aperto
many-banked surrounded ships. this strength to-open
oppositum pelago: lunata classe recedunt
set-against sea: with-crescent fleet withdraw
ordine contentae gemino creuisse Liburnae.
in-order content double to-have-grown Liburnians.
celsior at cunctis Bruti praetoria puppis
loftier but than-all of-Brutus flag ship
uerberibus senis agitur molemque profundo
with-strokes sixfold is-driven and-mass to-the-deep
inuehit et summis longe petit aequora remis.
carries and with-highest far seeks seas oars.
ut tantum medii fuerat maris, utraque classis
when so-much of-middle had-been sea, each fleet
quod semel excussis posset transcurrere tonsis,
as once with-shaken could to-run-across oars,
innumerae uasto miscentur in aethere uoces,
countless vast are-mingled in ether voices,
remorumque sonus premitur clamore, nec ullae
and-of-oars the-sound is-drowned by-shouting, nor any

audiri potuere tubae. tum caerula uerrunt
to-be-heard could trumpets. then the-blue they-sweep
atque in transtra cadunt et remis pectora pulsant.
and onto benches fall and with-oars breasts strike.
ut primum rostris crepuerunt obuia rostra,
when first against-beaks crashed opposing beaks,
in puppem rediere rates, emissaque tela
onto stern went-back ships, and-sent missiles
aera texerunt uacuumque cadentia pontum.
the-air covered and-empty falling sea.
et iam diductis extendunt cornua proris
and now with-drawn-apart extend wings prows
diuersaeque rates laxata classe receptae.
and-separate ships with-loosened fleet received.
ut, quotiens aestus Zephyris Eurisque repugnat,
as, whenever tide to-Zephyrs and-East-Winds resists,
huc abeunt fluctus, illo mare, sic, ubi puppes
hither go-off waves, thither sea, so, when ships
sulcato uarios duxerunt gurgite tractus,
in-furrowed various drew flood tracks,
quod tulit illa ratis remis, haec rettulit aequor.
what bore that ship with-oars, this bore-back the-sea.
sed Grais habiles pugnamque lacessere pinus
but for-the-Greeks handy and-battle to-provoke pines
et temptare fugam nec longo frangere gyro
and to-try flight nor with-long to-break circle
cursum nec tarde flectenti cedere clauo;
course nor slowly to-bending to-yield helm;
at Romana ratis stabilem praebere carinam
but Roman ship steady to-offer keel

certior et terrae similem bellantibus usum.
surer and to-land similar for-the-fighting use.
tunc in signifera residenti puppe magistro
then on standard-bearing sitting ship to-the-helmsman
Brutus ait 'paterisne acies errare profundo
Brutus says 'do-you-allow the-lines to-wander on-the-deep
artibus et certas pelagi? iam consere bellum,
in-arts and vie of-the-sea? now join battle,
Phocaicis medias rostris oppone carinas.'
to-Phocaean mid beaks set keels.'
paruit, obliquas et praebuit hostibus alnos.
he-obeyed, slanting and offered to-the-enemy alders.
tum quaecumque ratis temptauit robora Bruti
then whatever ship tried the-timbers of-Brutus
ictu uicta suo percussae capta cohaesit;
by-blow conquered its-own to-struck captured clung;
ast alias manicaeque ligant teretesque catenae,
but others and-grapnels bind and-smooth chains,
seque tenent remis: tecto stetit aequore bellum.
and-themselves hold by-oars: on-covered stood sea war.

A Roman ship hemmed in by Greek ships fights on both sides, and the poet tells the deaths one by one: Catus pierced front and back, the helmsman Telo struck down, Gyareus pinned by a spear, and one of twin brothers who, his hands cut off, shields his brother with his bare breast and leaps dying onto the enemy ship. A ship heaped with dead takes in the sea and sinks in a whirlpool.

iam non excussis torquentur tela lacertis
now not with-shaken are-hurled missiles arms
nec longinqua cadunt iaculato uolnera ferro,
nor distant fall with-thrown wounds steel,
miscenturque manus. nauali plurima bello
and-are-mingled hands. in-naval very-much war
ensis agit. stat quisque suae de robore puppis
the-sword does. stands each of-his-own on timber ship
pronus in aduersos ictus, nullique perempti
leaning-forward to opposing blows, and-none slain
in ratibus cecidere suis. cruor altus in unda
in ships fell their-own. blood deep in wave
spumat, et obducti concreto sanguine fluctus.
foams, and covered with-clotted blood waves.
et, quas inmissi traxerunt uincula ferri,
and, which sent-in dragged chains of-iron,
has prohibent iungi conferta cadauera puppes.
these prevent to-be-joined crowded corpses ships.
semianimes alii uastum subiere profundum
half-alive others vast went-under deep
hauseruntque suo permixtum sanguine pontum;
and-drank with-their-own mingled blood sea;

hi luctantem animam lenta cum morte trahentes
these struggling life slow with death drawing
fractarum subita ratium periere ruina.
of-broken by-sudden ships perished ruin.
inrita tela suas peragunt in gurgite caedes,
vain missiles their-own complete in flood slaughters,
et quodcumque cadit frustrato pondere ferrum
and whatever falls with-frustrated weight steel
exceptum mediis inuenit uolnus in undis.
caught mid finds a-wound in waves.
Phocaicis Romana ratis uallata carinis
by-Phocaean a-Roman ship hemmed keels
robore diducto dextrum laeuumque tuetur
with-strength divided right and-left guards
aequo Marte latus; cuius dum pugnat ab alta
with-equal Mars side; whose while fights from high
puppe Catus Graiumque audax aplustre retentat,
stern Catus and-of-the-Greeks boldly the-stern-ornament holds,
terga simul pariter missis et pectora telis
back at-once equally with-sent and breast missiles
transigitur: medio concurrit corpore ferrum,
is-pierced: in-the-middle met body steel,
et stetit incertus, flueret quo uolnere, sanguis,
and stood uncertain, should-flow by-which wound, the-blood,
donec utrasque simul largus cruor expulit hastas
until both at-once copious gore drove-out spears
diuisitque animam sparsitque in uolnera letum.
and-divided the-life and-scattered into wounds death.
derigit huc puppem miseri quoque dextra Telonis,
directs here (his)-ship of-wretched also the-hand of-Telo,

qua nullam melius pelago turbante carinae
than-which no better with-the-sea storming keels
audiuere manum, nec lux est notior ulli
have-heard hand, nor the-light is better-known to-any
crastina, seu Phoebum uideat seu cornua lunae,
of-tomorrow, whether Phoebus he-sees or the-horns of-the-moon,
semper uenturis conponere carbasa uentis.
always to-coming to-set canvas winds.
hic Latiae rostro conpagem ruperat alni,
he of-the-Latin with-beak the-framework had-broken alder,
pila sed in medium uenere trementia pectus
javelins but into middle came quivering breast
auertitque ratem morientis dextra magistri.
and-turns-away the-ship of-the-dying the-hand helmsman.
dum cupit in sociam Gyareus erepere puppem,
while desires into allied Gyareus to-climb ship,
excipit inmissum suspensa per ilia ferrum
he-receives sent-in hanging through groin steel
adfixusque rati telo retinente pependit.
and-fastened to-the-ship with-weapon holding hung.
stant gemini fratres, fecundae gloria matris,
stand twin brothers, of-fruitful the-glory mother,
quos eadem uariis genuerunt uiscera fatis:
whom the-same with-various bore womb fates:
discreuit mors saeua uiros, unumque relictum
separated death savage the-men, and-one left
agnorunt miseri sublato errore parentes,
recognized wretched with-removed error parents,
aeternis causam lacrimis; tenet ille dolorem
for-eternal a-cause tears; holds he grief

semper et amissum fratrem lugentibus offert.
always and lost brother to-the-mourning offers.
quorum alter mixtis obliquo pectine remis
of-whom one with-mingled in-slanting comb oars
ausus Romanae Graia de puppe carinae
having-dared on-Roman Greek from ship keel
iniectare manum; sed eam grauis insuper ictus
to-throw-on hand; but it heavy from-above blow
amputat; illa tamen nisu, quo prenderat, haesit
cuts-off; that yet with-effort, with-which it-had-grasped, clung
deriguitque tenens strictis inmortua neruis.
and-stiffened holding with-tightened dead sinews.
creuit in aduersis uirtus: plus nobilis irae
grew in adversity valor: more noble of-anger
truncus habet fortique instaurat proelia laeua
the-maimed has and-with-brave renews battles left
rapturusque suam procumbit in aequora dextram.
and-going-to-snatch his-own falls-forward onto the-sea right-hand.
haec quoque cum toto manus est abscisa lacerto.
this also with whole hand was cut-off arm.
iam clipeo telisque carens, non conditus ima
now shield and-weapons lacking, not hidden in-the-lowest
puppe sed expositus fraternaque pectore nudo
ship but exposed and-brother's with-breast bare
arma tegens, crebra confixus cuspide perstat
arms covering, with-frequent pierced point stands-firm
telaque multorum leto casura suorum
and-missiles of-many with-the-death going-to-fall his-own
emerita iam morte tenet. tum uolnere multo
with-earned already death holds. then by-wound much

effugientem animam lassos collegit in artus
fleeing life weary he-gathered into limbs
membraque contendit toto, quicumque manebat,
and-limbs strained with-whole, whatever remained,
sanguine et hostilem defectis robore neruis
blood and hostile with-failed in-strength sinews
insiluit solo nociturus pondere puppem.
leaped-onto with-only going-to-harm weight ship.
strage uirum cumulata ratis multoque cruore
with-slaughter of-men heaped the-ship and-with-much gore
plena per obliquum crebros latus accipit ictus
full on slanting frequent side receives blows
et, postquam ruptis pelagus conpagibus hausit,
and, after with-broken the-sea framework it-drank,
ad summos repleta foros descendit in undas
to highest filled decks goes-down into waves
uicinum inuoluens contorto uertice pontum.
neighboring wrapping with-twisted eddy sea.
aequora discedunt mersa diducta carina
the-waters part by-sunk parted keel
inque locum puppis cecidit mare. multaque ponto
and-into the-place of-the-ship fell the-sea. and-many on-the-sea
praebuit ille dies uarii miracula fati.
offered that day of-varied wonders fate.

Lycidas is torn in two by a grappling hook; a swimmer is crushed between ships; the shipwrecked who clutch at a friendly ship have their arms cut off. When weapons run out, men fight with oars and pull spears from their own wounds. Fire spreads over the sea, and men choose between drowning and burning; the dying fasten themselves to ships to take the blows of the beaks.

ferrea dum puppi rapidos manus inserit uncos
iron while into-the-ship swift hand inserts hooks
adfixit Lycidan. mersus foret ille profundo,
it-fastened Lycidas. sunk would-have-been he in-the-deep,
sed prohibent socii suspensaque crura retentant.
but prevent comrades and-hanging legs hold-back.
scinditur auolsus, nec, sicut uolnere, sanguis
he-is-torn wrenched-apart, nor, as from-a-wound, blood
emicuit lentus: ruptis cadit undique uenis,
spurted slow: from-broken falls everywhere veins,
discursusque animae diuersa in membra meantis
and-the-running of-life different into limbs passing
interceptus aquis. nullius uita perempti
cut-off by-waters. of-no life slain
est tanta dimissa uia. pars ultima trunci
was by-so-great sent-away road. the-part last of-the-trunk
tradidit in letum uacuos uitalibus artus;
handed-over to death empty of-vitals limbs;
at tumidus qua pulmo iacet, qua uiscera feruent,
but swollen where the-lung lies, where entrails seethe,
haeserunt ibi fata diu, luctataque multum
stuck there the-fates long, and-having-struggled much

hac cum parte uiri uix omnia membra tulerunt.
this with part of-the-man scarcely all limbs took.
dum nimium pugnax unius turba carinae
while too combative of-one the-crowd keel
incumbit prono lateri uacuamque relinquit,
presses-on to-sloping side and-empty leaves,
qua caret hoste, ratem, congesto pondere puppis
where it-lacks an-enemy, the-ship, with-heaped weight the-ship
uersa caua texit pelagus nautasque carina,
overturned with-hollow covered sea and-sailors keel,
bracchia nec licuit uasto iactare profundo
arms nor it-was-allowed in-vast to-toss deep
sed clauso periere mari. tunc unica diri
but in-shut perished sea. then unique of-dire
conspecta est leti facies, cum forte natantem
seen was of-death a-face, when by-chance swimming
diuersae rostris iuuenem fixere carinae.
opposite with-beaks a-youth pierced keels.
discessit medium tam uastos pectus ad ictus,
split-apart in-the-middle so vast breast at blows,
nec prohibere ualent obtritis ossibus artus
nor to-prevent are-able with-crushed bones limbs
quo minus aera sonent; eliso uentre per ora
that less bronze-beaks should-ring; with-crushed belly through mouth
eiectat saniem permixtus uiscere sanguis.
spews pus mingled with-entrail blood.
postquam inhibent remis puppes ac rostra reducunt,
after back-water with-oars ships and beaks draw-back,
deiectum in pelagus perfosso pectore corpus
thrown into sea with-pierced breast body

uolneribus transmisit aquas. pars maxima turbae
through-wounds let-through waters. part greatest of-the-crowd
naufraga iactatis morti obluctata lacertis
shipwrecked with-tossed against-death having-struggled arms
puppis ad auxilium sociae concurrit; at illis,
of-ship to help allied runs-together; but to-them,
robora cum uetitis prensarent altius ulnis
timbers when with-forbidden they-were-grasping higher arms
nutaretque ratis populo peritura recepto,
and-was-tottering the-ship with-crowd going-to-perish received,
inpia turba super medios ferit ense lacertos.
impious crowd from-above middle strikes with-sword arms.
bracchia linquentes Graia pendentia puppe
arms leaving on-Greek hanging ship
a manibus cecidere suis: non amplius undae
from hands fell their-own: not longer the-waves
sustinuere graues in summo gurgite truncos.
held-up heavy on top flood trunks.
iamque omni fusis nudato milite telis
and-now with-all poured-out stripped soldiery missiles
inuenit arma furor: remum contorsit in hostem
found arms frenzy: an-oar hurled at enemy
alter, at hi totum ualidis aplustre lacertis
one, but these whole with-strong stern-ornament arms
auolsasque rotant expulso remige sedes.
and-torn-off whirl with-expelled rower seats.
in pugnam fregere rates. sidentia pessum
for fighting they-broke ships. sinking to-the-bottom
corpora caesa tenent spoliantque cadauera ferro.
bodies slain they-hold and-strip corpses of-steel.

multi inopes teli iaculum letale reuolsum
many lacking weapon javelin deadly torn-out
uolneribus traxere suis et uiscera laeua
from-wounds dragged their-own and entrails with-left
oppressere manu, ualidos dum praebeat ictus
pressed hand, strong that might-supply blows
sanguis et, hostilem cum torserit, exeat, hastam.
blood and, hostile when he-has-hurled, might-go-out, spear.
nulla tamen plures hoc edidit aequore clades
no yet more on-this produced sea slaughters
quam pelago diuersa lues. nam pinguibus ignis
than to-the-sea opposite plague. for to-fat fire
adfixus taedis et tecto sulpure uiuax
fixed torches and with-covered sulfur lively
spargitur; at faciles praebere alimenta carinae
is-scattered; but ready to-offer food keels
nunc pice, nunc liquida rapuere incendia cera.
now with-pitch, now with-liquid seized fires wax.
nec flammas superant undae, sparsisque per aequor
nor flames overcome waves, and-with-scattered over sea
iam ratibus fragmenta ferus sibi uindicat ignis.
now ships fragments fierce for-itself claims fire.
hic recipit fluctus, extinguat ut aequore flammas,
this-one receives waves, may-quench that with-sea flames,
hi, ne mergantur, tabulis ardentibus haerent.
these, lest they-be-sunk, to-planks burning cling.
mille modos inter leti mors una timori est
a-thousand ways among of-death death one for-fear is
qua coepere mori. nec cessat naufraga uirtus:
by-which they-began to-die. nor ceases shipwrecked valor:

tela legunt deiecta mari ratibusque ministrant
missiles they-gather thrown into-the-sea and-to-ships supply
incertasque manus ictu languente per undas
and-uncertain hands with-blow faint through waves
exercent; nunc, rara datur si copia ferri,
exercise; now, rare is-given if supply of-steel,
utuntur pelago: saeuus conplectitur hostem
they-use the-sea: savage embraces enemy
hostis, et inplicitis gaudent subsidere membris
enemy, and with-entwined they-rejoice to-sink limbs
mergentesque mori. pugna fuit unus in illa
and-drowning to-die. battle was one in that
eximius Phoceus animam seruare sub undis
outstanding Phocaean breath to-keep under waves
scrutarique fretum, siquid mersisset harenis,
and-to-search the-strait, if-anything had-sunk in-sands,
et nimis adfixos unci conuellere morsus,
and too fixed of-the-hook to-tear-loose bites,
adductum quotiens non senserat anchora funem.
drawn whenever not had-felt the-anchor rope.
hic, ubi conprensum penitus deduxerat hostem,
he, when seized deep had-drawn-down enemy,
uictor et incolumis summas remeabat in undas;
victor and unharmed top was-returning into waves;
sed, se per uacuos credit dum surgere fluctus,
but, himself through empty believes while to-rise waves,
puppibus occurrit tandemque sub aequore mansit.
into-ships runs and-at-last under sea remained.
hi super hostiles iecerunt bracchia remos
these over hostile threw arms oars

et ratium tenuere fugam. non perdere letum
and of-ships held flight. not to-waste death
maxima cura fuit: multus sua uolnera puppi
the-greatest care was: many his-own wounds to-the-ship
adfixit moriens et rostris abstulit ictus.
fastened dying and from-beaks took-away blows.

III.14 · ARGUS AND THE VICTORY

Tyrrhenus, blinded by a sling-bullet, asks to be set up as an engine for hurling missiles, and his spear kills young Argus, whose aged father stabs himself and leaps into the sea so as not to trust to one death. Most of the Greek fleet is sunk or captured, wives embrace Roman corpses thinking them their husbands, and Brutus wins Caesar's first glory at sea.

stantem sublimi Tyrrhenum culmine prorae
standing on-lofty Tyrrhenus top of-the-prow
Lygdamus excussa Balearis tortor habenae
Lygdamus with-shot Balearic hurler of-the-thong
glande petens solido fregit caua tempora plumbo.
with-bullet aiming with-solid broke hollow temples lead.
sedibus expulsi, postquam cruor omnia rupit
from-seats driven, after the-blood all broke
uincula, procurrunt oculi; stat lumine rapto
bonds, run-forward the-eyes; he-stands with-light snatched
attonitus mortisque illas putat esse tenebras.
stunned and-of-death those thinks to-be darkness.
at postquam membris sensit constare uigorem
but after in-limbs he-felt to-remain vigor
'uos', ait 'o socii, sicut tormenta soletis,
'you', he-says 'O comrades, as engines you-are-wont,

me quoque mittendis rectum conponite telis.
me also for-to-be-sent straight set missiles.
egere quod superest animae, Tyrrhene, per omnis
spend what remains of-life, Tyrrhenus, through all
bellorum casus. ingentem militis usum
of-wars chances. huge of-a-soldier use
hoc habet ex magna defunctum parte cadauer:
this has from great dead part corpse:
uiuentis feriere loco.' sic fatus in hostem
of-a-living-man you-will-be-struck in-place.' thus having-spoken at enemy
caeca tela manu sed non tamen inrita mittit.
blind missiles by-hand but not yet vain sends.
excipit haec iuuenis generosi sanguinis Argus
receives these a-youth of-noble blood Argus
qua iam non medius descendit in ilia uenter,
where now not middle descends into groin belly,
adiuuitque suo procumbens pondere ferrum.
and-helped with-his-own falling-forward weight steel.
stabat diuersa uictae iam parte carinae
was-standing in-opposite of-conquered already part keel
infelix Argi genitor, non ille iuuentae
unlucky of-Argus father, not he of-youth
tempore Phocaicis ulli cessurus in armis:
in-time Phocaean to-any going-to-yield in arms:
uictum aeuo robur cecidit, fessusque senecta
conquered by-age strength fell, and-weary with-old-age
exemplum, non miles erat; qui funere uiso
an-example, not a-soldier he-was; who with-death seen
saepe cadens longae senior per transtra carinae
often falling of-long old-man over benches keel

peruenit ad puppim spirantisque inuenit artus.
arrived at stern and-breathing found limbs.
non lacrimae cecidere genis, non pectora tundit,
not tears fell from-cheeks, not breast he-beats,
distentis toto riguit sed corpore palmis.
with-spread in-whole stiffened but body palms.
nox subit atque oculos uastae obduxere tenebrae,
night comes-on and eyes vast covered darkness,
et miserum cernens agnoscere desinit Argum.
and wretched seeing to-recognize ceases Argus.
ille caput labens et iam languentia colla
he head sinking and already drooping neck
uiso patre leuat; uox faucis nulla solutas
with-seen father raises; voice jaws no loosened
prosequitur, tacito tantum petit oscula uoltu
accompanies, with-silent only seeks kisses face
inuitatque patris claudenda ad lumina dextram.
and-invites of-the-father to-be-closed to eyes right-hand.
ut torpore senex caruit uiresque cruentus
when numbness the-old-man was-free-of and-strength bloody
coepit habere dolor, 'non perdam tempora' dixit
began to-have grief, 'not I-shall-waste times' he-said
'a saeuis permissa deis, iugulumque senilem
'by savage permitted gods, and-throat old
confodiam. ueniam misero concede parenti,
I-shall-stab. pardon to-wretched grant parent,
Arge, quod amplexus, extrema quod oscula fugi.
Argus, that embraces, last that kisses I-fled.
nondum destituit calidus tua uolnera sanguis,
not-yet has-left warm your wounds blood,

semianimisque iaces et adhuc potes esse superstes.'
and-half-alive you-lie and still can to-be surviving.'
sic fatus, quamuis capulum per uiscera missi
thus having-spoken, although the-hilt through entrails of-sent
polluerit gladii, tamen alta sub aequora tendit
he-has-polluted sword, yet deep under waters strives
praecipiti saltu: letum praecedere nati
with-headlong leap: the-death to-precede of-the-son
festinantem animam morti non credidit uni.
hastening life to-death not entrusted one.
inclinant iam fata ducum, nec iam amplius anceps
lean now the-fates of-the-leaders, nor now longer doubtful
belli casus erat. Graiae pars maxima classis
of-war the-chance was. of-Greek the-part greatest fleet
mergitur, ast aliae mutato remige puppes
is-sunk, but other with-changed rower ships
uictores uexere suos; naualia paucae
victors carried their-own; dockyards few
praecipiti tenuere fuga. quis in urbe parentum
with-headlong held flight. what in city of-parents
fletus erat, quanti matrum per litora planctus!
weeping was, how-great of-mothers along shores beatings!
coniunx saepe sui confusis uoltibus unda
a-wife often of-her-own with-confused faces by-wave
credidit ora uiri Romanum amplexa cadauer,
believed the-face of-husband Roman having-embraced corpse,
accensisque rogis miseri de corpore trunco
and-with-kindled pyres wretched over body mutilated

certauere patres. at Brutus in aequore uictor
contended fathers. but Brutus on sea victor
primus Caesareis pelagi decus addidit armis.
first to-Caesarian of-the-sea glory added arms.

BOOK IV

IV.1 · ILERDA

In farthest Spain Caesar wages a war of little slaughter but great consequence against Afranius and Petreius, who share the command of Pompey's camp, with Asturians, Vettones, and Celtiberians beside the Latin troops. The poet describes Ilerda on its hill above the Sicoris, with the two camps facing each other across the river. On the first day the armies hold back in shame; then Caesar entrenches by night and races the enemy for a hill between their camp and the town, but the enemy takes it first, and his men, struggling up the slope, must be rescued by his cavalry.

At procul extremis terrarum Caesar in oris
But far farthest of-lands Caesar in regions
Martem saeuus agit non multa caede nocentem
Mars savage drives not by-much slaughter harmful
maxima sed fati ducibus momenta daturum.
greatest but of-fate to-the-leaders turns going-to-give.
iure pari rector castris Afranius illis
with-right equal ruler for-camp Afranius that
ac Petreius erat; concordia duxit in aequas
and Petreius was; harmony led into equal
imperium commune uices, tutelaque ualli
command shared turns, and-the-guard of-the-rampart
peruigil alterno paret custodia signo.
wakeful to-alternate obeys watch signal.
his praeter Latias acies erat inpiger Astur
to-these besides Latin battle-lines was tireless Asturian
Vettonesque leues profugique a gente uetusta
and-Vettones light and-fugitives from race ancient
Gallorum Celtae miscentes nomen Hiberis.
of-the-Gauls Celts mingling name with-Iberians.

colle tumet modico lenique excreuit in altum
in-a-hill swells modest and-gentle has-grown into height
pingue solum tumulo; super hunc fundata uetusta
rich soil in-a-mound; on this founded by-ancient
surgit Ilerda manu; placidis praelabitur undis
rises Ilerda hand; with-placid glides-past waves
Hesperios inter Sicoris non ultimus amnis,
Hesperian among Sicoris not last river,
saxeus ingenti quem pons amplectitur arcu
stone with-huge which bridge embraces arch
hibernas passurus aquas. at proxima rupes
wintry going-to-endure waters. but nearest crag
signa tenet Magni, nec Caesar colle minore
standards holds of-Magnus, nor Caesar on-hill lesser
castra leuat; medius dirimit tentoria gurges.
camp raises; in-the-middle parts tents flood.
explicat hinc tellus campos effusa patentis
unfolds from-here the-earth plains spread-out open
uix oculo prendente modum, camposque coerces,
scarcely with-eye grasping measure, and-plains you-bound,
Cinga rapax, uetitus fluctus et litora cursu
Cinga rapid, forbidden waves and shores with-course
Oceani pepulisse tuo; nam gurgite mixto
of-Ocean to-have-struck your; for with-flood mixed
qui praestat terris aufert tibi nomen Hiberus.
which excels in-lands takes-away from-you name Hiberus.
prima dies belli cessauit Marte cruento
first day of-war ceased from-Mars bloody
spectandasque ducum uires numerosaque signa
and-to-be-viewed of-the-leaders forces and-numerous standards

exposuit. piguit sceleris; pudor arma furentum
displayed. it-irked of-crime; shame the-arms of-the-raging
continuit, patriaeque et ruptis legibus imum
held-back, and-to-the-fatherland and to-broken laws a-last
donauere diem; prono cum Caesar Olympo
they-granted day; with-sinking when Caesar Olympus
in noctem subita circumdedit agmina fossa,
into night with-sudden surrounded columns trench,
dum primae perstant acies, hostemque fefellit
while first stand-firm lines, and-the-enemy deceived
et prope consertis obduxit castra maniplis.
and near with-joined covered camp maniples.
luce noua collem subito conscendere cursu,
at-light new a-hill with-sudden to-climb course,
qui medius tutam castris dirimebat Ilerdam,
which midway safe from-camp was-parting Ilerda,
imperat. huc hostem pariter terrorque pudorque
he-orders. hither the-enemy equally and-terror and-shame
inpulit, et rapto tumulum prior agmine cepit.
drove, and with-hurried mound first column took.
his uirtus ferrumque locum promittit, at illis
to-these valor and-steel the-place promises, but to-those
ipse locus, miles rupes oneratus in altas
itself the-place, the-soldier crags burdened up high
nititur, aduersoque acies in monte supina
strains, and-opposing line on mountain upturned
haeret et in tergum casura umbone sequentis
clings and onto back going-to-fall by-the-boss of-the-follower
erigitur. nulli telum uibrare uacauit,
is-held-up. to-no-one a-weapon to-brandish there-was-leisure,

dum labat et fixo firmat uestigia pilo,
while he-slips and with-fixed steadies steps javelin,
dum scopulos stirpesque tenent atque hoste relicto
while rocks and-stumps they-hold and with-enemy left
caedunt ense uiam. uidit lapsura ruina
cut with-sword a-way. saw going-to-slip with-ruin
agmina dux equitemque iubet succedere bello
columns the-leader and-cavalry orders to-come-up to-war
munitumque latus laeuo praeducere gyro.
and-protected flank on-left to-lead-before circuit.
sic pedes ex facili nulloque urguente receptus,
thus the-infantry from easy and-with-no pressing withdrawn,
inritus et uictor subducto Marte pependit.
baffled and victor with-withdrawn Mars hung.

IV.2 · THE FLOOD

A dry winter gives way to spring, and the east wind drives every cloud of the world to Spain, where they gather between earth and sky and burst in rain. The Pyrenean snows melt, the rivers overflow, and Caesar's camp is flooded and cut off; his foragers are lost and famine strikes the soldiers, who pay a fortune for a little grain. The plain becomes one marsh, and the poet prays that the gods drown the land with every river and snow so as to rescue it from civil war.

hactenus armorum discrimina: cetera bello
thus-far of-arms the-hazards: the-rest to-war
fata dedit uariis incertus motibus aer.
fates gave with-varied uncertain movements the-air.
pigro bruma gelu siccisque Aquilonibus haerens
with-sluggish winter frost and-with-dry North-Winds clinging

aethere constricto pluuias in nube tenebat.
with-ether constricted rains in cloud was-holding.
urebant montana niues camposque iacentis
were-burning mountains snows and-plains lying
non duraturae conspecto sole pruinae,
not going-to-last with-seen sun frosts,
atque omnis propior mergenti sidera caelo
and all nearer to-sinking stars sky
aruerat tellus hiberno dura sereno.
had-dried land with-wintry hard clear-sky.
sed postquam uernus calidum Titana recepit
but after vernal hot Titan received
sidera respiciens delapsae portitor Helles,
the-stars looking-back of-fallen carrier Helle,
atque iterum aequatis ad iustae pondera Librae
and again with-equaled to of-just weights Libra
temporibus uicere dies, tum sole relicto
times conquered days, then with-sun left
Cynthia, quo primum cornu dubitanda refulsit,
Cynthia, with-which first horn doubtful shone,
exclusit Borean flammasque accepit in Euro.
shut-out Boreas and-flames received in East-Wind.
ille suo nubes quascumque inuenit in axe
he his-own clouds whatever found in region
torsit in occiduum Nabataeis flatibus orbem,
hurled into western with-Nabataean blasts world,
et quas sentit Arabs et quas Gangetica tellus
and which feels the-Arab and which Gangetic land
exhalat nebulas, quidquid concrescere primus
exhales mists, whatever to-condense first

sol patitur, quidquid caeli fuscator Eoi
sun allows, whatever of-sky darkener Eastern
inpulerat Corus, quidquid defenderat Indos.
had-driven Corus, whatever had-shielded Indians.
incendere diem nubes oriente remotae
inflamed day clouds from-the-east removed
nec medio potuere graues incumbere mundo
nor on-middle could heavy to-lie world
sed nimbos rapuere fuga. uacat imbribus Arctos
but rainclouds snatched in-flight. is-free from-rains the-Bear
et Notos, in solam Calpen fluit umidus aer.
and South, to only Calpe flows moist air.
hic, ubi iam Zephyri fines, et summus Olympi
here, where now of-Zephyr the-bounds, and highest of-Olympus
cardo tenet Tethyn, uetitae transcurrere densos
pivot holds Tethys, forbidden to-run-across dense
inuoluere globos, congestumque aeris atri
rolled masses, and-heap of-air black
uix recipit spatium quod separat aethere terram.
scarcely receives the-space which separates from-ether earth.
iamque polo pressae largos densantur in imbres
and-now by-the-pole pressed copious are-thickened into rains
spissataeque fluunt; nec seruant fulmina flammas
and-condensed flow; nor keep thunderbolts flames
quamuis crebra micent: extinguunt fulgura nimbi.
although frequent they-flash: extinguish lightnings rainclouds.
hinc inperfecto conplectitur aera gyro
hence with-incomplete embraces air circle
arcus uix ulla uariatus luce colorem
the-bow scarcely with-any varied light color

Oceanumque bibit raptosque ad nubila fluctus
and-Ocean drinks and-snatched to clouds waves
pertulit et caelo defusum reddidit aequor.
carried and from-the-sky poured-down returned sea.
iamque Pyrenaeae, quas numquam soluere Titan
and-now Pyrenean, which never to-loosen Titan
eualuit, fluxere niues, fractoque madescunt
prevailed, flowed snows, and-with-broken grow-wet
saxa gelu. tum quae solitis e fontibus exit
rocks ice. then which usual out-of springs goes
non habet unda uias, tam largas alueus omnis
not has water ways, so copious bed every
a ripis accepit aquas. iam naufraga campo
from banks received waters. now shipwrecked on-the-plain
Caesaris arma natant, inpulsaque gurgite multo
of-Caesar arms swim, and-driven by-flood much
castra labant; alto restagnant flumina uallo.
camp totters; on-high overflow rivers rampart.
non pecorum raptus faciles, non pabula mersi
not of-cattle seizures easy, not fodder drowned
ulla ferunt sulci; tectarum errore uiarum
any bear furrows; of-covered by-straying roads
fallitur occultis sparsus populator in agris.
is-deceived hidden scattered forager in fields.
iamque comes semper magnorum prima malorum
and-now companion always of-great first evils
saeua fames aderat, nulloque obsessus ab hoste
savage famine was-present, and-no besieged by enemy
miles eget; toto censu non prodigus emit
the-soldier is-in-need; with-whole fortune not prodigal buys

exiguam Cererem. pro lucri pallida tabes!
small Ceres. O of-gain pale wasting!
non dest prolato ieiunus uenditor auro.
not is-lacking with-offered starving seller gold.
iam tumuli collesque latent, iam flumina cuncta
now mounds and-hills lie-hidden, now rivers all
condidit una palus uastaque uoragine mersit,
has-buried one swamp and-in-vast abyss sunk,
absorpsit penitus rupes ac tecta ferarum
swallowed deep crags and the-lairs of-beasts
detulit atque ipsas hausit, subitisque frementis
carried-down and themselves drank, and-with-sudden roaring
uerticibus contorsit aquas et reppulit aestus
eddies whirled waters and drove-back tides
fortior Oceani. nec Phoebum surgere sentit
stronger of-Ocean. nor Phoebus to-rise feels
nox subtexta polo: rerum discrimina miscet
night woven-under the-sky: of-things distinctions mingles
deformis caeli facies iunctaeque tenebrae.
ugly of-the-sky face and-joined darkness.
sic mundi pars ima iacet, quam zona niualis
so of-the-world the-part lowest lies, which zone snowy
perpetuaeque premunt hiemes: non sidera caelo
and-perpetual press winters: not stars in-sky
ulla uidet, sterili non quicquam frigore gignit
any sees, by-barren not anything cold begets
sed glacie medios signorum temperat ignes.
but with-ice middle of-the-signs tempers fires.
sic, o summe parens mundi, sic, sorte secunda
so, O highest parent of-the-world, so, by-lot second

aequorei rector, facias, Neptune tridentis,
of-sea ruler, may-you-do, Neptune of-the-trident,
et tu perpetuis inpendas aera nimbis,
and you with-perpetual may-burden air rainclouds,
tu remeare uetes quoscumque emiseris aestus.
you to-return may-forbid whatever you-have-sent-out tides.
non habeant amnes decliuem ad litora cursum
not may-have rivers sloping to shores course
sed pelagi referantur aquis, concussaque tellus
but of-the-sea be-carried-back by-waters, and-shaken land
laxet iter fluuiis: hos campos Rhenus inundet,
may-open a-way for-rivers: these plains Rhine may-flood,
hos Rhodanus; uastos obliquent flumina fontes.
these Rhone; vast may-turn rivers springs.
Riphaeas huc solue niues, huc stagna lacusque
Riphaean hither loose snows, hither pools and-lakes
et pigras, ubicumque iacent, effunde paludes
and sluggish, wherever they-lie, pour-out marshes
et miseras bellis ciuilibus eripe terras.
and wretched from-wars civil rescue lands.

Fortune returns to Caesar: the rain stops, the waters fall, and his men cross the Sicoris on boats of willow and hide and build a bridge. Petreius abandons Ilerda for the wild peoples at the ends of the world, but Caesar's soldiers swim the river and head him off. With the camps pitched close, the soldiers recognize friends and kinsmen, cross the rampart, and embrace in tears, and the poet urges them to refuse the trumpet so that Caesar may love his son-in-law as a private man.

sed paruo Fortuna uiri contenta pauore
but with-small Fortune of-the-man content fear
plena redit, solitoque magis fauere secundi
full returns, and-than-usual more favored propitious
et ueniam meruere dei. iam rarior aer,
and pardon earned the-gods. now thinner the-air,
et par Phoebus aquis densas in uellera nubes
and equal Phoebus to-the-waters dense into fleeces clouds
sparserat, et noctes uentura luce rubebant,
had-scattered, and the-nights with-coming light were-reddening,
seruatoque loco rerum discessit ab astris
and-with-kept place of-things departed from stars
umor, et ima petit quidquid pendebat aquarum.
moisture, and the-lowest seeks whatever was-hanging of-waters.
tollere silua comas, stagnis emergere colles
to-raise the-wood leaves, from-pools to-emerge hills
incipiunt uisoque die durescere ualles.
begin and-with-seen day to-harden valleys.
utque habuit ripas Sicoris camposque reliquit
and-when had banks Sicoris and-the-plains left
primum cana salix madefacto uimine paruam
first gray willow with-soaked osier small

texitur in puppem caesoque inducta iuuenco
is-woven into a-boat and-with-slain covered bullock
uectoris patiens tumidum super emicat amnem.
of-a-passenger enduring swollen over darts river.
sic Venetus stagnante Pado fusoque Britannus
so the-Venetan with-flooding Po and-spread the-Briton
nauigat Oceano; sic, cum tenet omnia Nilus,
sails Ocean; so, when holds all the-Nile,
conseritur bibula Memphitis cumba papyro.
is-joined from-thirsty Memphian boat papyrus.
his ratibus traiecta manus festinat utrimque
by-these boats carried-across the-band hastens on-both-sides
succisum curuare nemus, fluuiique ferocis
cut-down to-bend grove, and-of-the-river fierce
incrementa timens non primis robora ripis
the-increases fearing not on-first timbers banks
inposuit, medios pontem distendit in agros.
placed, middle bridge stretches into fields.
ac, nequid Sicoris repetitis audeat undis,
and, lest-anything Sicoris with-renewed may-dare waves,
spargitur in sulcos et scisso gurgite riuis
is-scattered into furrows and with-split flood by-channels
dat poenas maioris aquae. postquam omnia fatis
pays penalties of-greater water. after all with-fates
Caesaris ire uidet, celsam Petreius Ilerdam
of-Caesar to-go he-sees, lofty Petreius Ilerda
deserit et noti diffisus uiribus orbis
deserts and of-known distrusting the-forces world
indomitos quaerit populos et semper in arma
untamed seeks peoples and always for arms

mortis amore feros et tendit in ultima mundi.
of-death by-love fierce and heads into farthest of-the-world.

nudatos Caesar colles desertaque castra
stripped Caesar hills and-deserted camp

conspiciens capere arma iubet nec quaerere pontem
seeing to-take arms orders nor to-seek bridge

nec uada, sed duris fluuium superare lacertis.
nor fords, but with-hard the-river to-overcome arms.

paretur, rapuitque ruens in proelia miles
it-is-obeyed, and-snatched rushing into battles the-soldier

quod fugiens timuisset iter. mox uda receptis
which fleeing he-would-have-feared route. presently wet with-recovered

membra fouent armis gelidosque a gurgite cursu
limbs they-warm with-arms and-icy from flood by-running

restituunt artus, donec decresceret umbra
restore limbs, until should-shrink the-shadow

in medium surgente die; iamque agmina summa
toward middle with-rising day; and-now columns last

carpit eques, dubiique fugae pugnaeque tenentur.
plucks the-cavalry, and-doubtful of-flight and-of-battle are-held.

attollunt campo geminae iuga saxea rupes
raise from-the-plain twin ridges rocky crags

ualle caua media; tellus hinc ardua celsos
with-valley hollow middle; land from-here steep lofty

continuat colles, tutae quos inter opaco
continues bills, safe which between in-shaded

anfractu latuere uiae; quibus hoste potito
winding lay-hidden roads; which with-enemy having-gained

faucibus emitti terrarum in deuia Martem
jaws to-be-sent-out of-lands into pathless Mars

inque feras gentes Caesar uidet. 'ite sine ullo
and-into wild nations Caesar sees. 'go without any
ordine' ait 'raptumque fuga conuertite bellum
order' he-says 'and-snatched by-flight turn-back war
et faciem pugnae uoltusque inferte minaces;
and the-face of-battle and-looks bring threatening;
nec liceat pauidis ignaua occumbere morte:
nor let-it-be-allowed to-the-fearful by-cowardly to-fall death:
excipiant recto fugientes pectore ferrum.'
let-receive with-straight fleeing breast steel.'
dixit et ad montis tendentem praeuenit hostem.
he-spoke and to mountains heading forestalled the-enemy.
illic exiguo paulum distantia uallo
there by-small little separated rampart
castra locant. postquam spatio languentia nullo
camps they-pitch. after by-space faltering no
mutua conspicuos habuerunt lumina uoltus,
mutual clear had eyes faces,
deprensum est ciuile nefas. tenuere parumper
detected was civil abomination. they-held for-a-little
ora metu, tantum nutu motoque salutant
mouths through-fear, only with-nod and-with-moved they-greet
ense suos. mox, ut stimulis maioribus ardens
sword their-own. presently, when by-goads greater burning
rupit amor leges, audet transcendere uallum
broke love rules, dares to-climb-over rampart
miles, in amplexus effusas tendere palmas.
the-soldier, for embraces spread to-stretch palms.
hospitis ille ciet nomen, uocat ille propinquum,
of-a-host this-one calls the-name, calls that-one kinsman,

admonet hunc studiis consors puerilibus aetas;
reminds this-one in-pursuits shared boyish age;
nec Romanus erat, qui non agnouerat hostem.
nor Roman there-was, who not had-recognized an-enemy.
arma rigant lacrimis, singultibus oscula rumpunt,
arms they-wet with-tears, with-sobs kisses they-break,
et quamuis nullo maculatus sanguine miles
and although with-no stained blood the-soldier
quae potuit fecisse timet. quid pectora pulsas?
what he-could to-have-done fears. why breast do-you-beat?
quid, uaesane, gemis? fletus quid fundis inanis
why, madman, do-you-groan? tears why pour empty
nec te sponte tua sceleri parere fateris?
nor yourself of-will your to-crime to-obey confess?
usque adeone times quem tu facis ipse timendum?
to-such a-degree do-you-fear whom you make yourself to-be-feared?
classica det bello, saeuos tu neclege cantus;
trumpet-calls let-him-give for-war, savage you ignore sounds;
signa ferat, cessa: iam iam ciuilis Erinys
standards let-him-bear, hold-back: now now civil Erinys
concidet et Caesar generum priuatus amabit.
will-fall and Caesar the-son-in-law private will-love.

The poet hails Concord, but the peace lasts only long enough to make the coming crime worse: the soldiers share tables and fires. Petreius, seeing his camp betrayed, arms his slaves, kills the unarmed visitors, and tells his men that liberty is never well bartered for peace. Like tame beasts that taste blood, they kill the men they had just embraced, glad to be guilty.

nunc ades, aeterno conplectens omnia nexu,
now be-present, with-eternal embracing all bond,
o rerum mixtique salus Concordia mundi
O of-things and-of-mingled salvation Concord world
et sacer orbis amor: magnum nunc saecula nostra
and sacred of-the-world love: great now ages our
uenturi discrimen habent. periere latebrae
of-the-future crisis have. have-perished the-hiding-places
tot scelerum, populo uenia est erepta nocenti:
of-so-many crimes, from-the-people pardon has-been snatched guilty:
agnouere suos. pro numine fata sinistro
they-recognized their-own. O with-divinity fates unfavorable
exigua requie tantas augentia clades!
by-small rest so-great increasing disasters!
pax erat, et castris miles permixtus utrisque
peace there-was, and in-camps soldier mingled both
errabat; duro concordes caespite mensas
was-wandering; on-hard harmonious turf tables
instituunt et permixto libamina Baccho;
they-set-up and with-mingled libations Bacchus;
graminei luxere foci, iunctoque cubili
grassy shone hearths, and-with-joined couch

extrahit insomnis bellorum fabula noctes,
draws-out sleepless of-wars talk nights,
quo primum steterint campo, qua lancea dextra
on-what first they-stood plain, from-what lance hand
exierit. dum quae gesserunt fortia iactant
went-out. while what they-did brave-deeds they-boast
et dum multa negant, quod solum fata petebant,
and while many-things they-deny, what alone the-fates were-seeking,
est miseris renouata fides, atque omne futurum
was for-the-wretched renewed faith, and all future
creuit amore nefas. nam postquam foedera pacis
grew by-love abomination. for after the-compacts of-peace
cognita Petreio, seque et sua tradita uenum
known to-Petreius, and-himself and his-own handed-over for-sale
castra uidet, famulas scelerata ad proelia dextras
camp he-sees, servile criminal to battles right-hands
excitat atque hostis turba stipatus inermis
rouses and the-enemies with-a-crowd surrounded unarmed
praecipitat castris iunctosque amplexibus ense
hurls from-camp and-joined in-embraces with-sword
separat et multo disturbat sanguine pacem.
separates and with-much disrupts blood peace.
addidit ira ferox moturas proelia uoces.
added anger fierce going-to-move battles words.
‘inmemor o patriae, signorum oblite tuorum,
‘unmindful O of-the-fatherland, of-standards forgetful your,
non potes hoc causae, miles, praestare, senatus
not can-you this to-the-cause, soldier, to-furnish, of-the-senate
adsertor uicto redeas ut Caesare? certe,
champion with-conquered you-may-return that Caesar? surely,

ut uincare, potes. dum ferrum, incertaque fata,
that you-be-conquered, you-can. while steel, and-uncertain fates,
quique fluat multo non derit uolnere sanguis,
and-which may-flow from-much not will-be-lacking wound blood,
ibitis ad dominum damnataque signa feretis,
will-you-go to a-master and-condemned standards carry,
utque habeat famulos nullo discrimine Caesar
and-that he-may-have slaves with-no distinction Caesar
exorandus erit? ducibus quoque uita petita est?
to-be-entreated will-be-be? for-the-leaders also life sought has-been?
numquam nostra salus pretium mercesque nefandae
never our safety the-price and-wage of-unspeakable
proditionis erit: non hoc ciuilia bella,
betrayal will-be: not for-this civil wars,
ut uiuamus, agunt. trahimur sub nomine pacis.
that we-may-live, they-wage. we-are-dragged under the-name of-peace.
non chalybem gentes penitus fugiente metallo
not steel nations deep with-fleeing mine
eruerent, nulli uallarent oppida muri,
would-dig-out, no would-fortify towns walls,
non sonipes in bella ferox, non iret in aequor
not the-steed into wars fierce, not would-go onto sea
turrigeras classis pelago sparsura carinas,
turreted a-fleet on-the-sea going-to-scatter keels,
si bene libertas umquam pro pace daretur.
if well liberty ever for peace were-given.
hostes nempe meos sceleri iurata nefando
enemies surely my to-crime sworn unspeakable
sacramenta tenent; at uobis uilior hoc est
oaths hold; but to-you cheaper by-this is

uestra fides, quod pro causa pugnantibus aequa
your faith, that for cause to-the-fighting just
et ueniam sperare licet. pro dira pudoris
even pardon to-hope it-is-allowed. O dire of-honor
funera! nunc toto fatorum ignarus in orbe,
deaths! now whole of-the-fates ignorant in world,
Magne, paras acies mundique extrema tenentis
Magnus, you-prepare battle-lines and-of-the-world farthest holding
sollicitas reges, cum forsan foedere nostro
you-stir kings, when perhaps by-treaty our
iam tibi sit promissa salus.' sic fatur et omnis
already to-you be promised safety.' thus he-speaks and all
concussit mentes scelerumque reduxit amorem.
shook minds and-of-crimes brought-back love.
sic, ubi desuetae siluis in carcere clauso
so, when unaccustomed to-woods in prison shut
mansueuere ferae et uoltus posuere minaces
have-grown-tame beasts and faces laid-aside threatening
atque hominem didicere pati, si torrida paruos
and man have-learned to-endure, if hot small
uenit in ora cruor, redeunt rabiesque furorque
comes into mouths blood, return and-madness and-frenzy
admonitaeque tument gustato sanguine fauces;
and-reminded swell with-tasted blood jaws;
feruet et a trepido uix abstinet ira magistro.
boils and from trembling scarcely refrains anger trainer.
itur in omne nefas, et, quae fortuna deorum
it-is-gone into every abomination, and, what fortune of-the-gods
inuidia caeca bellorum in nocte tulisset,
by-envy blind of-wars in night would-have-brought,

fecit monstra fides. inter mensasque torosque
made monstrosities loyalty. among and-tables and-couches
quae modo conplexu fouerunt pectora caedunt;
which just-now in-embrace they-cherished breasts they-cut;
et quamuis primo ferrum strinxere gementes,
and although at-first steel drew groaning,
ut dextrae iusti gladius dissuasor adhaesit,
when to-the-hand of-right the-sword dissuader stuck,
dum feriunt, odere suos, animosque labantis
while they-strike, they-hate their-own, and-spirits faltering
confirmant ictu. feruent iam castra tumultu,
strengthen by-blow. boil now camps with-tumult,
ac, uelut occultum pereat scelus, omnia monstra
and, as-if hidden should-perish crime, all monstrosities
in facie posuere ducum: iuuat esse nocentis.
in the-face placed of-the-leaders: it-pleases to-be guilty.

IV.5 · THIRST

Caesar, though he has lost many men, is by this crime alone the leader of the better cause; his cavalry shuts the fleeing enemy onto dry hills, and his trench keeps them from the river. The Pompeians, desperate, rush at his lines to die, but Caesar orders his soldiers to hold back their weapons and let the frenzy burn out. The trapped men dig for water with swords and find none; they squeeze moisture from clods, drink foul mud, and drain the blood of cattle.

tu, Caesar, quamuis spoliatus milite multo,
you, Caesar, although stripped of-soldiery much,
agnoscis superos; neque enim tibi maior in aruis
recognize the-gods-above; nor indeed for-you greater in fields

Emathiis fortuna fuit nec Phocidos undis
Emathian fortune was nor of-Phocis on-the-waves
Massiliae, Phario nec tantum est aequore gestum,
of-Massilia, on-Pharian nor so-much was sea done,
hoc siquidem solo ciuilis crimine belli
by-this since alone of-civil charge war
dux causae melioris eris. polluta nefanda
the-leader of-the-cause better you-will-be. polluted by-unspeakable
agmina caede duces iunctis committere castris
columns slaughter the-leaders in-joined to-engage camps
non audent, altaeque ad moenia rursus Ilerdae
not dare, and-of-lofty to walls again Ilerda
intendere fugam. campos eques obuius omnis
direct flight. the-plains the-cavalry in-the-way all
abstulit et siccis inclusit collibus hostem.
took-away and on-dry shut-in hills the-enemy.
tunc inopes undae praerupta cingere fossa
then lacking water with-steep to-surround trench
Caesar auet nec castra pati contingere ripas
Caesar is-eager nor the-camp to-allow to-touch banks
aut circum largos curuari bracchia fontes.
or around plentiful to-be-curved arms springs.
ut leti uidere uiam, conuersus in iram
when of-death they-saw the-way, turned into anger
praecipitem timor est. miles non utile clausis
headlong fear was. the-soldier not useful to-the-shut-in
auxilium mactauit equos, tandemque coactus
help slaughtered horses, and-at-last compelled
spe posita damnare fugam casurus in hostes
with-hope laid-aside to-condemn flight going-to-fall upon enemies

fertur. ut effuso Caesar decurrere passu
is-borne. when with-loosed Caesar to-run-down pace
uidit et ad certam deuotos tendere mortem,
saw and to certain devoted to-head death,
'tela tene iam, miles', ait 'ferrumque ruenti
'weapons hold now, soldier', he-says 'and-steel from-the-rushing
subtrahe: non ullo constet mihi sanguine bellum.
withdraw: not with-any let-cost me blood war.
uincitur haut gratis iugulo qui prouocat hostem.
is-conquered not free with-throat who challenges an-enemy.
en, sibi uilis adest inuisa luce iuuentus
look, to-itself cheap is-here with-hated light youth
iam damno peritura meo; non sentiet ictus,
now with-loss going-to-perish my; not it-will-feel blows,
incumbet gladiis, gaudebit sanguine fuso.
will-fall-upon swords, will-rejoice in-blood shed.
deserat hic feruor mentes, cadat impetus amens,
let-desert this fervor minds, let-fall impulse mad,
perdant uelle mori.' sic deflagrare minaces
let-them-lose to-wish to-die.' thus to-burn-out threatening
in cassum et uetito passus languescere bello,
in vain and with-forbidden allowing to-languish war,
substituit merso dum nox sua lumina Phoebo.
put-in with-sunk until night its-own lights Phoebus.
inde, ubi nulla data est miscendae copia mortis,
thence, when no given was of-mingling chance death,
paulatim cadit ira ferox mentesque tepescunt,
gradually falls anger fierce and-minds cool,
saucia maiores animos ut pectora gestant,
wounded greater spirits as breasts carry,

dum dolor est ictusque recens et mobile neruis
while pain is and-blow fresh and mobile to-sinews
conamen calidus praebet cruor ossaque nondum
effort warm offers blood and-bones not-yet
adduxere cutem: si conscius ensis adacti
have-drawn the-skin: if aware of-the-sword driven-home
stat uictor tenuitque manus, tum frigidus artus
stands the-victor and-has-held hands, then cold limbs
alligat atque animum subducto robore torpor,
binds and the-mind with-withdrawn strength numbness,
postquam sicca rigens astrinxit uolnera sanguis.
after dry stiffening has-bound wounds blood.
iamque inopes undae primum tellure refossa
and-now lacking water first with-earth dug-up
occultos latices abstrusaque flumina quaerunt;
hidden springs and-concealed streams they-seek;
nec solum rastris durisque ligonibus arua
nor only with-rakes and-with-hard hoes fields
sed gladiis fodere suis, puteusque cauati
but with-swords dug their-own, and-the-well of-hollowed
montis ad inrigui premitur fastigia campi.
mountain to of-irrigated is-pushed the-level plain.
non se tam penitus, tam longe luce relicta
not himself so deep, so far with-light left
merserit Astyrici scrutator pallidus auri.
would-sink of-Asturian searcher pale gold.
non tamen aut tectis sonuerunt cursibus amnes
not yet either with-covered sounded courses rivers
aut micuere noui percusso pumice fontes,
or flashed new from-struck pumice springs,

antra nec exiguo stillant sudantia rore
caves nor with-small drip sweating dew
aut inpulsa leui turbatur glarea uena.
or driven by-light is-disturbed gravel vein.
tunc exhausta super multo sudore iuuentus
then exhausted over with-much sweat youth
extrahitur duris silicum lassata metallis;
is-drawn-out from-hard of-flint wearied mines;
quoque minus possent siccos tolerare uapores
and-by-which less they-could dry to-endure heats
quaesitae fecistis aquae. nec languida fessi
sought you-caused waters. nor languid weary
corpora sustentant epulis, mensasque perosi
bodies sustain with-food, and-tables loathing
auxilium fecere famem. si mollius aruum
a-help made hunger. if softer field
prodidit umorem, pinguis manus utraque glaebas
betrayed moisture, fat hand each clods
exprimit ora super; nigro si turbida limo
squeezes mouth over; with-black if muddy slime
conluuies inmota iacet, cadit omnis in haustus
puddle motionless lies, falls every-one to drafts
certatim obscaenos miles moriensque recepit
in-rivalry foul soldier and-dying received
quas nollet uicturus aquas; rituque ferarum
which he-would-refuse going-to-live waters; and-in-the-manner of-beasts
distentas siccant pecudes, et lacte negato
distended they-drain cattle, and with-milk denied
sordidus exhausto sorbetur ab ubere sanguis.
filthy drained is-sucked from udder blood.

tunc herbas frondesque terunt, et rore madentis
then grasses and-leaves they-chew, and with-dew wet
destringunt ramos et siquos palmite crudo
strip branches and if-any from-shoot raw
arboris aut tenera sucos pressere medulla.
of-a-tree or from-tender juices pressed pith.

IV.6 · AFRANIUS SURRENDERS

Their thirst is worse than poisoned wells, since they can see the rivers on either side. Afranius comes as a suppliant and asks Caesar only to let the conquered live unarmed, not to make them fight beside him in his victory, and Caesar pardons them. The soldiers rush to the river and drink until the flood chokes many of them, then their strength returns; the poet praises how little nature needs, and envies the pardoned men who go home to their families freed from the war that still lies ahead of Caesar's army.

o fortunati, fugiens quos barbarus hostis
O fortunate, fleeing whom barbarian enemy
fontibus inmixto strauit per rura ueneno.
in-springs with-mixed laid-low through countryside poison.
hos licet in fluuios saniem tabemque ferarum,
these though into rivers pus and-decay of-beasts,
pallida Dictaeis, Caesar, nascentia saxis
pale on-Dictaean, Caesar, growing rocks
infundas aconita palam, Romana iuuentus
you-pour aconites openly, Roman youth
non decepta bibet. torrentur uiscera flamma
not deceived will-drink. are-scorched the-entrails with-flame
oraque sicca rigent squamosis aspera linguis;
and-mouths dry stiffen with-scaly rough tongues;

iam marcent uenae, nulloque umore rigatus
now wither veins, and-by-no moisture watered
aeris alternos angustat pulmo meatus,
of-air alternate narrows the-lung passages,
rescissoque nocent suspiria dura palato;
and-to-cracked harm sighs hard palate;
pandunt ora tamen nociturumque aera captant.
they-open mouths yet and-going-to-harm air catch.
expectant imbres, quorum modo cuncta natabant
they-await rains, by-whose just-now all were-swimming
inpulsu, et siccis uoltus in nubibus haerent.
impulse, and dry faces in clouds stick.
quoque magis miseros undae ieiunia soluant
and-that more wretched of-water fasts might-undo
non super arentem Meroen Cancrique sub axe,
not above parched Meroe and-of-Cancer under axis,
qua nudi Garamantes arant, sedere, sed inter
where naked Garamantes plow, they-sat, but between
stagnantem Sicorim et rapidum deprensus Hiberum
stagnant Sicoris and swift caught Hiberus
spectat uicinos sitiens exercitus amnes.
watches neighboring thirsting army rivers.
iam domiti cessere duces, pacisque petendae
now tamed yielded the-leaders, and-of-peace to-be-sought
auctor damnatis supplex Afranius armis
the-proposer with-condemned suppliant Afranius arms
semianimes in castra trahens hostilia turmas
half-alive into camp dragging hostile squadrons
uictoris stetit ante pedes. seruata precanti
of-the-victor stood before feet. kept by-the-pleading

maiestas non fracta malis, interque priorem
dignity not broken by-evils, and-between former
fortunam casusque nouos gerit omnia uicti,
fortune and-falls new bears all of-the-conquered,
sed ducis, et ueniam securo pectore poscit.
but of-a-leader, and pardon with-untroubled breast asks.
'si me degeneri strauissent fata sub hoste,
'if me degenerate had-laid-low fates under an-enemy,
non derat fortis rapiendo dextera leto;
not was-lacking brave for-snatching right-hand death;
at nunc causa mihi est orandae sola salutis
but now the-cause for-me is of-begging only safety
dignum donanda, Caesar, te credere uita.
worthy to-be-given, Caesar, you to-believe life.
non partis studiis agimur nec sumpsimus arma
not by-party zeal we-are-driven nor took arms
consiliis inimica tuis. nos denique bellum
to-plans hostile your. us finally war
inuenit ciuile duces, causaeque priori,
found civil leaders, and-to-cause former,
dum potuit, seruata fides. nil fata moramur:
while it-could, kept faith. nothing the-fates we-delay:
tradimus Hesperias gentes, aperimus Eoas,
we-hand-over Hesperian nations, we-open Eastern,
securumque orbis patimur post terga relicti.
and-untroubled of-the-world we-allow behind backs left.
nec cruor effusus campis tibi bella peregit
nor blood poured-out on-plains for-you wars completed
nec ferrum lassaeque manus: hoc hostibus unum,
nor steel and-weary hands: this to-enemies one,

quod uincas, ignosce tuis. nec magna petuntur:
that you-conquer, pardon your-own. nor great-things are-sought:
otia des fessis, uitam patiaris inermis
leisure give to-the-weary, life allow unarmed
degere quam tribuis. campis prostrata iacere
to-spend which you-grant. on-plains laid-low to-lie
agmina nostra putes; nec enim felicibus armis
columns our think; nor indeed with-fortunate arms
misceri damnata decet, partemque triumphi
to-be-mingled condemned it-befits, and-share of-triumph
captos ferre tui: turba haec sua fata peregit.
captives to-bear your: crowd this its-own fates has-completed.
hoc petimus, uictos ne tecum uincere cogas.'
this we-ask, conquered not with-you to-conquer compel.'
dixerat; at Caesar facilis uoltuque serenus
he-had-spoken; but Caesar easy and-in-face serene
flectitur atque usus belli poenamque remittit.
is-bent and the-uses of-war and-penalty remits.
ut primum iustae placuerunt foedera pacis,
when first of-just pleased the-compacts peace,
incustoditos decurrit miles ad amnes,
unguarded runs-down the-soldier to rivers,
incumbit ripis permissaque flumina turbat.
lies-over banks and-permitted streams disturbs.
continuus multis subitarum tractus aquarum
continuous for-many of-sudden draft waters
aera non passus uacuis discurrere uenis
air not allowing in-empty to-run-about veins
artauit clausitque animam; nec feruida pestis
constricted and-shut-off breath; nor fervent plague

cedit adhuc, sed morbus egens iam gurgite plenis
yields still, but the-disease needing now of-flood with-full
uisceribus sibi poscit aquas. mox robora neruis
entrails for-itself demands waters. presently strength to-sinews
et uires rediere uiris. o prodiga rerum
and strength returned to-the-men. O prodigal of-things
luxuries numquam paruo contenta paratis
luxury never with-small content prepared
et quaesitorum terra pelagoque ciborum
and of-sought by-land and-by-sea foods
ambitiosa fames et lautae gloria mensae,
ambitious hunger and of-elegant glory table,
discite quam paruo liceat producere uitam
learn how with-little it-is-allowed to-prolong life
et quantum natura petat. non erigit aegros
and how-much nature seeks. not raises the-sick
nobilis ignoto diffusus consule Bacchus,
noble under-unknown poured consul Bacchus,
non auro murraque bibunt, sed gurgite puro
not from-gold and-myrrh-ware they-drink, but from-flood pure
uita redit. satis est populis fluuiusque Ceresque.
life returns. enough is for-peoples and-river and-Ceres.
heu miseri qui bella gerunt! tunc arma relinquens
alas wretched who wars wage! then arms leaving
uictori miles spoliato pectore tutus
to-the-victor the-soldier with-stripped breast safe
innocuusque suas curarum liber in urbes
and-harmless his-own of-cares free into cities
spargitur. o quantum donata pace potitos
is-scattered. O how-much granted peace those-having-gained

excussis umquam ferrum uibrasse lacertis
with-thrust-out ever steel to-have-brandished arms
paenituit, tolerasse sitim frustraque rogasse
repented, to-have-endured thirst and-in-vain to-have-asked
prospera bella deos! nempe usis Marte secundo
prosperous wars the-gods! surely for-those-who-used Mars favorable
tot dubiae restant acies, tot in orbe labores;
so-many doubtful remain battles, so-many in world labors;
ut numquam fortuna labet successibus anceps,
that-though never fortune should-totter in-successes wavering,
uincendum totiens; terras fundendus in omnis
to-be-conquered so-often; lands to-be-poured over all
est cruor et Caesar per tot sua fata sequendus.
is blood and Caesar through so-many his-own fates to-be-followed.
felix qui potuit mundi nutante ruina
happy who could of-the-world with-tottering ruin
quo iaceat iam scire loco, non proelia fessos
in-which he-should-lie now to-know place, not battles the-weary
ulla uocant, certos non rumpunt classica somnos.
any call, sure not break trumpet-calls sleeps.
iam coniunx natique rudes et sordida tecta
now wife and-children simple and humble roofs
et non deductos recipit sua terra colonos.
and not led-out receives their-own land settlers.
hoc quoque securis oneris fortuna remisit,
this also to-the-untroubled burden fortune remitted,
sollicitus menti quod abest fauor: ille salutis
anxious from-mind that is-absent favor: he of-safety

est auctor, dux ille fuit. sic proelia soli
is author, leader he was. thus battles alone
felices nullo spectant ciuilia uoto.
happy with-no watch civil prayer.

IV.7 · THE RAFTS OF VULTEIUS

Fortune turns against Caesar in Illyria, where Antonius is besieged by famine on the island of Curicta. To escape, his men build rafts floated on empty casks, with a tower on each, and launch them on the ebb tide. Octavius waits, like a hunter keeping his hounds silent, and Pompey's Cilicians stretch chains beneath the surface; the third raft, carrying Vulteius and his men from Opitergium, is caught and dragged against the rocks, and the men fight until night falls.

non eadem belli totum fortuna per orbem
not the-same of-war whole fortune through world
constitit, in partes aliquid sed Caesaris ausa est,
stood, against the-party something but of-Caesar dared has,
qua maris Hadriaci longas ferit unda Salonas
where of-the-sea Adriatic long strikes the-wave Salonae
et tepidum in molles Zephyros excurrit Iader,
and warm toward soft Zephyrs runs-out Iader,
illic bellaci confisus gente Curictum,
there in-warlike trusting the-race of-the-Curictans,
quos alit Hadriaco tellus circumflua ponto,
whom nourishes by-Adriatic land surrounded sea,
clauditur extrema residens Antonius ora
is-shut-in on-farthest settled Antonius shore
cautus ab incursu belli, si sola recedat,
safe from the-onrush of-war, if alone should-withdraw,

expugnat quae tuta, fames. non pabula tellus
storms which safe-things, famine. not fodder the-land

pascendis summittit equis, non proserit ullam
for-to-be-fed supplies horses, not puts-forth any

flaua Ceres segetem; spoliarat gramine campum
golden Ceres crop; had-stripped of-grass the-plain

miles et attonso miseris iam dentibus aruo
the-soldier and from-shorn with-wretched already teeth field

castrorum siccas de caespite uolserat herbas.
of-the-camp dry from turf had-torn grasses.

ut primum aduersae socios in litore terrae
when first of-opposite allies on shore land

et Basilum uidere ducem, noua furta per aequor
and Basilus they-saw leader, new tricks across sea

exquisita fugae. neque enim de more carinas
devised of-flight. nor indeed according-to custom keels

extendunt puppesque leuant, sed firma gerendis
they-extend and-sterns raise, but firm for-carrying

molibus insolito contexunt robora ductu.
masses in-unusual weave timbers design.

namque ratem uacuae sustentant undique cupae
for the-raft empty support on-all-sides casks

quarum porrectis series constricta catenis
of-which with-stretched the-row bound chains

ordinibus geminis obliquas excipit alnos;
in-rows twin crosswise receives alders;

nec gerit expositum telis in fronte patenti
nor carries exposed to-missiles in front open

remigium, sed, quod trabibus circumdedit aequor,
oarage, but, what with-beams it-has-surrounded sea,

hoc ferit et taciti praebet miracula cursus,
this it-strikes and of-silent offers marvels course,
quod nec uela ferat nec apertas uerberet undas.
that neither sails it-carries nor open lashes waves.
tum freta seruantur, dum se declinibus undis
then the-straits are-watched, until itself with-sloping waves
aestus agat refluoque mari nudentur harenae.
the-tide drives and-with-ebbing sea are-bared sands.
iamque relabenti crescebant litora ponto:
and-now with-sliding-back were-growing shores sea:
missa ratis prono defertur lapsa profundo
sent the-raft on-sloping is-carried-down gliding deep
et geminae comites. cunctas super ardua turris
and twin companions. all above high tower
eminet et tremulis tabulata minantia pinnis.
towers and with-trembling stories threatening battlements.
noluit Illyricae custos Octauius undae
did-not-wish of-Illyrian guardian Octavius water
confestim temptare ratem, celeresque carinas
at-once to-attack the-raft, and-swift keels
continuit, cursu crescat dum praeda secundo,
held-back, by-course should-grow until the-prey favorable,
et temere ingressos repetendum inuitat ad aequor
and rashly entered to-be-sought-again invites to sea
pace maris. sic, dum pauidos formidine ceruos
with-peace of-the-sea. so, until fearful with-scare deer
claudat odoratae metuentis aera pinnae
he-may-enclose of-scented fearing air feather
aut dum dispositis attollat retia uaris,
or until with-arranged he-may-raise nets forked-poles,

uenator tenet ora leuis clamosa Molossi,
the-hunter holds the-mouth of-light noisy Molossian,
Spartanos Cretasque ligat, nec creditur ulli
Spartan and-Cretan he-ties, nor is-entrusted to-any
silua cani, nisi qui presso uestigia rostro
the-wood dog, unless who with-pressed tracks muzzle
colligit et praeda nescit latrare reperta
gathers and with-prey knows-not to-bark found
contentus tremulo monstrasse cubilia loro.
content with-trembling to-have-shown lairs leash.
nec mora, conplentur moles, auideque petitis
nor delay, are-filled the-masses, and-eagerly with-sought
insula deseritur ratibus, quo tempore primas
the-island is-deserted rafts, at-which time first
inpedit ad noctem iam lux extrema tenebras.
hinders to night now light last darkness.
at Pompeianus fraudes innectere ponto
but Pompeian tricks to-weave in-the-sea
antiqua parat arte Cilix, passusque uacare
by-ancient prepares art the-Cilician, and-having-allowed to-be-empty
summa freti medio suspendit uincula ponto
the-surface of-the-strait in-middle hangs chains sea
et laxe fluitare sinit, religatque catenas
and loosely to-float lets, and-ties-back chains
rupis ab Illyricae scopulis. nec prima nec illam
of-crag from Illyrian rocks. nor first nor that
quae sequitur tardata ratis, sed tertia moles
which follows delayed raft, but third mass
haesit et ad cautes adducto fune secuta est.
stuck and to crags with-drawn rope followed has.

inpendent caua saxa mari, ruituraque semper
overhang hollow rocks over-the-sea, and-going-to-fall always
stat, mirum, moles et siluis aequor inumbrat.
stands, wonder, the-mass and with-woods sea shades.
huc fractas Aquilone rates summersaque pontus
hither broken by-North-Wind ships and-sunk the-sea
corpora saepe tulit caecisque abscondit in antris;
bodies often bore and-blind hides in caves;
restituit raptus tectum mare, cumque cauernae
restores the-seized covered sea, and-when caverns
euomuere fretum contorti uerticis undae
have-vomited strait of-twisted whirl waves
Tauromenitanam uincunt feruore Charybdim.
Tauromenian surpass in-boiling Charybdis.
hic Opiterginis moles onerata colonis
here with-Opitergian mass loaded settlers
constitit; hanc omni puppes statione solutae
stopped; this from-every ships station loosed
circumeunt, alii rupes ac litora conplent.
surround, others crags and shores fill.
Vulteius tacitas sensit sub gurgite fraudes
Vulteius silent felt under flood tricks
(dux erat ille ratis); frustra qui uincula ferro
(leader was he of-the-raft); in-vain who chains with-steel
rumpere conatus poscit spe proelia nulla
to-break having-tried demands with-hope battles none
incertus qua terga daret, qua pectora bello.
uncertain where back he-should-give, where breast to-war.
hoc tamen in casu quantum deprensa ualebat
this yet in chance as-much-as caught was-able

effecit uirtus: inter tot milia captae
accomplished valor: between so-many thousands to-the-captured
circumfusa rati et plenam uix inde cohortem
surrounding raft and full scarcely thence cohort
pugna fuit, non longa quidem; nam condidit umbra
battle was, not long indeed; for buried with-shadow
nox lucem dubiam pacemque habuere tenebrae.
night light doubtful and-peace had darkness.

IV.8 · VULTEIUS' SPEECH

Vulteius tells his men that they have one short night of freedom left and that to cut short a last moment of life by one's own hand wins the same praise as to throw away long years. With no escape, choosing death frees them from fear, and the gods have set them on a ship in view of both armies, so that their death will be an example of loyalty to Caesar. He hopes the enemy will offer them pardon, so that their deaths will not be thought despair, and says that the gods hide from those who will live how happy it is to die. The men, who had watched the stars turn toward dawn in dread, now long for day.

tum sic attonitam uenturaque fata pauentem
then thus stunned and-coming fates fearing
rexit magnanima Vulteius uoce cohortem:
steadied with-great-souled Vulteius voice cohort:
'libera non ultra parua quam nocte iuuentus,
'free not beyond small than night youth,
consulite extremis angusto in tempore rebus.
take-counsel for-extreme narrow in time circumstances.
uita breuis nulli superest qui tempus in illa
life short to-none remains who time in it

quaerendae sibi mortis habet; nec gloria leti
of-seeking for-himself death has; nor the-glory of-death
inferior, iuuenes, admoto occurrere fato.
lesser, youths, to-approached to-meet fate.
omnibus incerto uenturae tempore uitae
to-all with-uncertain of-coming time life
par animi laus est et, quos speraueris, annos
equal of-spirit praise is and, which you-may-have-hoped, years
perdere et extremae momentum abrumpere lucis,
to-lose and of-last the-moment to-break-off light,
accersas dum fata manu: non cogitur ullus
you-summon provided the-fates by-hand: not is-compelled anyone
uelle mori. fuga nulla patet, stant undique nostris
to-wish to-die. flight no lies-open, stand on-all-sides to-our
intenti ciues iugulis: decernite letum,
intent citizens throats: decide death,
et metus omnis abest. cupias quodcumque necesse est.
and fear all is-gone. may-you-desire whatever necessary is.
non tamen in caeca bellorum nube cadendum est
not yet in blind of-wars cloud to-be-fallen is
aut cum permixtas acies sua tela tenebris
or when mingled battle-lines their-own missiles in-darkness
inuoluent. conferta iacent cum corpora campo,
will-wrap. crowded lie when bodies on-the-plain,
in medium mors omnis abit, perit obruta uirtus:
into common death all goes, perishes buried valor:
nos in conspicua sociis hostique carina
us on conspicuous to-allies and-to-enemy keel
constituere dei; praebebunt aequora testes,
have-set the-gods; will-supply seas witnesses,

praebebunt terrae, summis dabit insula saxis,
will-supply lands, from-highest will-give the-island rocks,
spectabunt geminae diuerso litore partes.
will-watch twin from-opposite shore parties.
nescio quod nostris magnum et memorabile fatis
I-know-not what for-our great and memorable fates
exemplum, Fortuna, paras. quaecumque per aeuum
example, Fortune, you-prepare. whatever through the-ages
exhibuit monimenta fides seruataque ferro
has-shown monuments loyalty and-kept by-steel
militiae pietas, transisset nostra iuuentus.
of-soldiering dutifulness, would-have-surpassed our youth.
namque suis pro te gladiis incumbere, Caesar,
for on-their-own for you swords to-fall, Caesar,
esse parum scimus; sed non maiora supersunt
to-be too-little we-know; but not greater remain
obsessis tanti quae pignora demus amoris.
for-the-besieged of-so-great which pledges we-may-give love.
abscidit nostrae multum fors inuida laudi,
has-cut-off from-our much chance envious praise,
quod non cum senibus capti natisque tenemur.
that not with old-men captured and-children we-are-held.
indomitos sciat esse uiros timeatque furentis
untamed let-him-know to-be the-men and-let-fear raging
et morti faciles animos et gaudeat hostis
and to-death easy spirits and let-rejoice the-enemy
non plures haesisse rates. temptare parabunt
not more to-have-stuck rafts. to-tempt they-will-prepare
foederibus turpique uolent corrumpere uita.
with-treaties and-with-base will-wish to-corrupt life.

o utinam, quo plus habeat mors unica famae,
O would-that, that more may-have death unique of-fame,
promittant ueniam, iubeant sperare salutem,
they-may-promise pardon, may-they-bid to-hope safety,
ne nos, cum calido fodiemus uiscera ferro,
lest us, when with-warm we-shall-pierce entrails steel,
desperasse putent. magna uirtute merendum est,
to-have-despaired they-think. by-great valor to-be-earned it-is,
Caesar ut amissis inter tot milia paucis
Caesar that with-lost among so-many thousands few
hoc damnum clademque uocet. dent fata recessum
this loss and-disaster may-call. may-give the-fates retreat
emittantque licet, uitare instantia nolim.
and-may-release though, to-avoid things-pressing I-would-not-wish.
proieci uitam, comites, totusque futurae
I-have-thrown-away life, comrades, and-wholly of-future
mortis agor stimulis: furor est. agnoscere solis
death I-am-driven by-goads: frenzy it-is. to-recognize to-those-alone
permissum, quos iam tangit uicinia fati,
permitted, whom now touches the-nearness of-fate,
uicturosque dei celant, ut uiuere durent,
and-going-to-live the-gods hide, that to-live they-may-endure,
felix esse mori.' sic cunctas sustulit ardor
happy to-be to-die.' thus all raised ardor
mobilium mentes iuuenum. cum sidera caeli
of-impressionable the-minds youths. when the-stars of-heaven
ante ducis uoces oculis umentibus omnes
before of-the-leader words with-eyes moist all
aspicerent flexoque Ursae temone pauerent,
were-looking-at and-with-bent of-the-Bear pole were-fearing,

idem, cum fortes animos praecepta subissent,
the-same, when brave spirits precepts had-entered,
optauere diem. nec segnis uergere ponto
desired day. nor slow to-sink in-the-sea
tunc erat astra polus; nam sol Ledaea tenebat
then was the-stars the-sky; for the-sun Ledaean was-holding
sidera, uicino cum lux altissima Cancro est;
stars, with-near when light highest Cancer is;
nox tum Thessalicas urguebat parua sagittas.
night then Thessalian was-pressing short arrows.

IV.9 · THE MASS SUICIDE

At dawn the enemy surround the raft and offer terms, but the men fight until enough blood has been shed and then turn their swords on one another. Vulteius bares his throat first, is pierced by many blades, and dying kills the man who struck first. Like the warriors sown by Cadmus and Jason, brothers and fathers and sons kill one another, and the victors give the heaped bodies to the pyre in wonder. The poet laments that the nations will not learn from this how easy it is to escape slavery, and wishes that only valor could bring death.

detegit orta dies stantis in rupibus Histros
reveals risen day standing on crags Histrians
pugnacesque mari Graia cum classe Liburnos.
and-combative at-sea Greek with fleet Liburnians.
temptauere prius suspenso uincere bello
they-tried first with-suspended to-conquer war
foederibus, fieret captis si dulcior ipsa
by-treaties, would-become to-the-captured if sweeter itself
mortis uita mora. stabat deuota iuuentus
of-death life by-delay. stood devoted youth

damnata iam luce ferox securaque pugnae
with-condemned already light fierce and-untroubled of-battle
promisso sibi fine manu, nullique tumultus
with-promised to-itself end by-hand, and-no tumults
excussere uiris mentes ad summa paratas;
shook-out from-the-men minds for the-last prepared;
innumerasque simul pauci terraque marique
and-countless at-once few and-by-land and-by-sea
sustinuere manus: tanta est fiducia mortis.
withstood bands: so-great is the-confidence of-death.
utque satis bello uisum est fluxisse cruoris
and-when enough in-war seemed has to-have-flowed of-blood
uersus ab hoste furor. primus dux ipse carinae
turned from the-enemy frenzy. first the-leader himself of-the-raft
Vulteius iugulo poscens iam fata retecto
Vulteius with-throat demanding now fates bared
'ecquis' ait 'iuuenum est cuius sit dextra cruore
'anyone' he-says 'of-the-youths is whose be right-hand blood
digna meo certaque fide per uolnera nostra
worthy my and-with-sure faith through wounds our
testetur se uelle mori?' nec plura locuto
may-attest himself to-wish to-die?' nor more to-him-having-spoken
uiscera non unus iam dudum transigit ensis.
entrails not one already long pierces sword.
conlaudat cunctos, sed eum cui uolnera prima
praises all, but him to-whom wounds first
debebat grato moriens interficit ictu.
he-owed with-grateful dying kills blow.
concurrunt alii totumque in partibus unis
run-together others and-whole in parties single

bellorum fecere nefas. sic semine Cadmi
of-wars made abomination. so from-seed of-Cadmus
emicuit Dircaea cohors ceciditque suorum
sprang Dircaean cohort and-fell of-their-own
uolneribus, dirum Thebanis fratribus omen;
by-wounds, dire for-Theban brothers omen;
Phasidos et campis insomni dente creati
of-Phasis and in-fields from-sleepless tooth created
terrigenae missa magicis e cantibus ira
earth-born with-sent magic from chants anger
cognato tantos inplerunt sanguine sulcos,
with-kindred so-great filled blood furrows,
ipsaque inexpertis quod primum fecerat herbis
and-herself with-untried what first she-had-done herbs
expauit Medea nefas. sic mutua pacti
dreaded Medea abomination. so mutual having-agreed
fata cadunt iuuenes, minimumque in morte uirorum
fates fall youths, and-least in death of-men
mors uirtutis habet. pariter sternuntque caduntque
death of-valor has. equally and-they-strike-down and-fall
uolnere letali, nec quemquam dextra fefellit
with-wound fatal, nor anyone the-hand deceived
cum feriat moriente manu. nec uolnus adactis
though it-strike with-dying hand. nor the-wound to-driven
debetur gladiis: percussum est pectore ferrum
is-owed swords: struck was by-breast steel
et iuguli pressere manum. cum sorte cruenta
and throats pressed the-hand. when by-lot bloody
fratribus incurrunt fratres natusque parenti,
against-brothers rush brothers and-son against-parent,

haud trepidante tamen toto cum pondere dextra
not with-trembling yet whole with weight hand
exegere enses. pietas ferientibus una
drove-home swords. dutifulness for-the-striking one
non repetisse fuit. iam latis uiscera lapsa
not to-have-struck-again was. now over-wide entrails slipped
semianimes traxere foris multumque cruorem
half-alive dragged gangways and-much blood
infudere mari. despectam cernere lucem
poured into-the-sea. scorned to-see light
uictoresque suos uoltu spectare superbo
and-victors their-own with-face to-watch proud
et mortem sentire iuuat. iam strage cruenta
and death to-feel it-pleases. now with-heap bloody
conspicitur cumulata ratis, bustisque remittunt
is-seen piled the-raft, and-to-pyres send-back
corpora uictores, ducibus mirantibus ulli
bodies the-victors, with-leaders marveling to-any
esse ducem tanti. nullam maiore locuta est
to-be a-leader of-such-worth. no with-greater spoken has
ore ratem totum discurrens Fama per orbem.
mouth raft whole running-about Rumor through world.
non tamen ignauae post haec exempla uirorum
not yet cowardly after these examples of-men
percipient gentes quam sit non ardua uirtus
will-perceive nations how is not arduous valor
seruitium fugisse manu, sed regna timentur
slavery to-have-fled by-hand, but kingships are-feared
ob ferrum et saeuis libertas uritur armis,
because-of steel and by-savage liberty is-galled arms,

ignorantque datos, ne quisquam seruiat, enses.
and-they-know-not given, lest anyone be-a-slave, swords.
mors, utinam pauidos uitae subducere nolles,
death, would-that the-timid from-life to-withdraw you-were-unwilling,
sed uirtus te sola daret. non segnior illo
but valor you alone should-give. not slacker than-that
Marte fuit, qui tum Libycis exarsit in aruis,
Mars was, which then Libyan blazed in fields,

IV.10 · CURIO AND ANTAEUS

Curio sails from Sicily to Africa and camps by the Bagrada, near hills called the kingdom of Antaeus. A countryman tells him the story: the Earth bore the giant Antaeus in Libyan caves, and her touch renewed his strength. Hercules came to rid the land of him, and when he saw that each fall made Antaeus stronger, he lifted him off the ground and held him until he died. Scipio later made the hills more famous by camping there against Carthage.

namque rates audax Lilybaeo litore soluit
for ships bold from-Lilybaean shore loosed
Curio, nec forti uelis Aquilone recepto
Curio, nor with-strong by-sails North-Wind received
inter semirutas magnae Carthaginis arces
between half-ruined of-great Carthage citadels
et Clipeam tenuit stationis litora notae,
and Clupea held of-anchorage shores known,
primaque castra locat cano procul aequore, qua se
and-first camp places from-white far sea, where itself
Bagrada lentus agit siccae sulcator harenae.
Bagrada slow drives of-dry plower sand.

inde petit tumulos exesasque undique rupes,
thence he-seeks mounds and-eaten everywhere crags,
Antaei quas regna uocat non uana uetustas.
of-Antaeus which the-kingdom calls not vain antiquity.
nominis antiqui cupientem noscere causas
of-the-name ancient desiring to-know the-causes
cognita per multos docuit rudis incola patres.
known through many taught rude inhabitant fathers.
'nondum post genitos Tellus ecfeta gigantas
'not-yet after begotten Earth exhausted giants
terribilem Libycis partum concepit in antris.
terrible Libyan offspring conceived in caves.
nec tam iusta fuit terrarum gloria Typhon
nor so just was of-lands glory Typhon
aut Tityos Briareusque ferox; caeloque pepercit
or Tityos and-Briareus fierce; and-heaven she-spared
quod non Phlegraeis Antaeum sustulit aruis.
that not in-Phlegraean Antaeus she-raised fields.
hoc quoque tam uastas cumulauit munere uires
by-this also so vast heaped gift strength
Terra sui fetus, quod, cum tetigere parentem,
Earth of-her-own offspring, that, when they-touched the-parent,
iam defecta uigent renouato robore membra.
already failing thrive with-renewed strength limbs.
haec illi spelunca domus; latuisse sub alta
this to-him cave a-home; to-have-hidden under high
rupe ferunt, epulas raptos habuisse leones;
crag they-say, as-feasts seized to-have-had lions;
ad somnos non terga ferae praebere cubile
for sleep not backs of-beasts to-offer a-bed

adsuerunt, non silua torum, uiresque resumit
were-wont, not the-wood couch, and-strength he-resumes
in nuda tellure iacens. periere coloni
on bare earth lying. perished settlers
aruorum Libyae, pereunt quos appulit aequor;
of-the-fields of-Libya, perish whom brought the-sea;
auxilioque diu uirtus non usa cadendi
and-the-help long valor not having-used of-falling
terrae spernit opes: inuictus robore cunctis,
of-the-earth scorns aids: unconquered in-strength by-all,
quamuis staret, erat. tandem uolgata cruenti
although he-stood, he-was. at-last spread of-bloody
fama mali terras monstris aequorque leuantem
the-fame evil lands from-monsters and-sea relieving
magnanimum Alciden Libycas exciuit in oras.
great-souled Alcides Libyan summoned to shores.
ille Cleonaei proiecit terga leonis,
he of-Cleonaean threw-off the-hide lion,
Antaeus Libyci; perfudit membra liquore
Antaeus of-Libyan; drenched limbs with-oil
hospes Olympiacae seruato more palaestrae,
the-guest of-Olympic with-kept custom wrestling,
ille parum fidens pedibus contingere matrem
he too-little trusting with-feet to-touch the-mother
auxilium membris calidas infudit harenas.
as-help on-limbs hot poured sands.
conseruere manus et multo bracchia nexu;
they-joined hands and with-many arms knot;
colla diu grauibus frustra temptata lacertis,
necks long with-heavy in-vain tried arms,

inmotumque caput fixa cum fronte tenetur,
and-unmoved head fixed with brow is-held,
miranturque habuisse parem. nec uiribus uti
and-they-marvel to-have-had an-equal. nor strength to-use
Alcides primo uoluit certamine totis,
Alcides in-first wished contest whole,
exhausitque uirum, quod creber anhelitus illi
and-exhausted the-man, as frequent panting in-him
prodidit et gelidus fesso de corpore sudor.
betrayed and cold weary from body sweat.
tum ceruix lassata quati, tum pectore pectus
then neck wearied was-shaken, then by-breast breast
urgueri, tunc obliqua percussa labare
was-pressed, then by-slanting struck tottered
crura manu. iam terga uiri cedentia uictor
legs hand. now back of-the-man yielding victor
alligat et medium conpressis ilibus artat
binds and middle with-squeezed loins constricts
inguinaque insertis pedibus distendit et omnem
and-groin with-inserted feet spreads and whole
explicuit per membra uirum. rapit arida tellus
stretched-out through limbs the-man. snatches dry earth
sudorem; calido conplentur sanguine uenae,
sweat; with-warm are-filled blood veins,
intumuere tori, totosque induruit artus
swelled muscles, and-whole hardened limbs
Herculeosque nouo laxauit corpore nodos.
and-Herculean with-new loosened body knots.
constitit Alcides stupefactus robore tanto,
stood Alcides astounded by-strength so-great,

nec sic Inachiis, quamuis rudis esset, in undis
nor so Inachian, although raw he-was, in waters
desectam timuit reparatis anguibus hydram.
cut-off feared with-repaired snakes hydra.
conflixere pares, Telluris uiribus ille,
clashed equals, of-Earth with-strength that-one,
ille suis. numquam saeuae sperare nouercae
this-one with-his-own. never for-savage to-hope stepmother
plus licuit: uidet exhaustos sudoribus artus
more was-allowed: she-sees exhausted with-sweats limbs
ceruicemque uiri, siccam cum ferret Olympum.
and-neck of-the-man, dry when it-carried Olympus.
utque iterum fessis iniecit bracchia membris
and-when again on-weary he-threw arms limbs
non expectatis Antaeus uiribus hostis
not with-awaited Antaeus strength of-the-enemy
sponte cadit maiorque accepto robore surgit.
of-will falls and-greater with-received strength rises.
quisquis inest terris in fessos spiritus artus
whatever is-in lands into weary breath limbs
egeritur, Tellusque uiro luctante laborat.
is-poured, and-Earth with-the-man struggling labors.
ut tandem auxilium tactae prodesse parentis
when at-last the-help of-touched to-avail parent
Alcides sensit, "standum est tibi," dixit "et ultra
Alcides perceived, "to-be-stood is for-you," he-said "and further
non credere solo, sternique uetabere terra.
not to-trust to-the-ground, and-to-be-laid you-will-be-forbidden on-earth.
haerebis pressis intra mea pectora membris:
you-will-cling with-pressed within my breast limbs:

huc, Antaee, cades." sic fatus sustulit alte
here, Antaeus, you-will-fall." thus having-spoken he-raised high
nitentem in terras iuuenem. morientis in artus
straining toward earth the-youth. of-the-dying into limbs
non potuit nati Tellus permittere uires:
not could of-the-son Earth to-let-pass strength:
Alcides medio tenuit iam pectora pigro
Alcides in-the-middle held now breast sluggish
stricta gelu terrisque diu non credidit hostem.
bound with-cold and-to-the-earth long not entrusted the-enemy.
hinc, aeui ueteris custos, famosa uetustas,
hence, of-age old keeper, famous antiquity,
miratrixque sui, signauit nomine terras.
and-admirer of-itself, marked with-name the-lands.
sed maiora dedit cognomina collibus istis
but greater gave names to-hills these
Poenum qui Latiis reuocauit ab arcibus hostem
the-Carthaginian who Latin recalled from citadels enemy
Scipio; nam sedes Libyca tellure potito
Scipio; for the-seat of-Libyan land for-the-one-having-won
haec fuit. en, ueteris cernis uestigia ualli.
this was. look, of-old you-see traces rampart.
Romana hos primum tenuit uictoria campos.'
Roman these first held victory plains.'

Curio, trusting the luck of the place, pitches his camp on Scipio's hill. Varus holds Africa and calls up the forces of King Juba, whose kingdom stretches from Atlas to Hammon and whose peoples, Numidians, Gaetulians, Moors, and others, the poet lists. Juba hates Curio, who as tribune had tried to take his kingdom from him. Curio, fearing that his troops, once taken at Corfinium, are of doubtful loyalty, decides that battle will settle their minds, and he routs Varus.

Curio laetatus, tamquam fortuna locorum
Curio rejoicing, as-if the-fortune of-places
bella gerat seruetque ducum sibi fata priorum,
wars should-wage and-should-keep of-leaders for-him the-fates earlier,
felici non fausta loco tentoria ponens
on-fortunate not auspicious place tents pitching
indulsit castris et collibus abstulit omen
indulged the-camp and from-the-hills took-away the-omen
sollicitatque feros non aequis uiribus hostis.
and-provokes fierce not with-equal strength the-enemy.
omnis Romanis quae cesserat Africa signis
all to-Roman which had-yielded Africa standards
tum Vari sub iure fuit; qui robore quamquam
then of-Varus under jurisdiction was; who on-strength although
confisus Latio regis tamen undique uires
relying Latin of-the-king yet from-everywhere forces
exciuit, Libycas gentis, extremaque mundi
called-out, Libyan nations, and-farthest of-the-world
signa suum comitata Iubam. non fusior ulli
standards his-own having-accompanied Juba. not more-spread to-any
terra fuit domino: qua sunt longissima, regna
land was master: where they-are longest, the-kingdom

cardine ab occiduo uicinus Gadibus Atlans
pivot from western neighbor to-Gades Atlas
terminat, a medio confinis Syrtibus Hammon;
bounds, from the-middle bordering on-the-Syrtes Hammon;
at, qua lata iacet, uasti plaga feruida regni
but, where broad it-lies, of-vast tract burning kingdom
distinet Oceanum zonaeque exusta calentis.
keeps-apart Ocean and-of-the-zone the-scorched hot.
sufficiunt spatio populi: tot castra secuntur,
suffice for-the-space peoples: so-many camps follow,
Autololes Numidaeque uagi semperque paratus
Autololes and-Numidians wandering and-always ready
inculto Gaetulus equo, tum concolor Indo
on-unbroken Gaetulian horse, then same-colored to-the-Indian
Maurus, inops Nasamon, mixti Garamante perusto
Moor, poor Nasamonian, mingled with-the-Garamantian burnt
Marmaridae uolucres, aequaturusque sagittas
Marmaridae swift, and-going-to-equal the-arrows
Medorum, tremulum cum torsit missile, Mazax,
of-the-Medes, quivering when he-has-hurled missile, the-Mazax,
et gens quae nudo residens Massylia dorso
and the-race which on-bare sitting Massylian back
ora leui flectit frenorum nescia uirga,
mouths with-light turns of-reins ignorant switch,
et solitus uacuis errare mapalibus Afer
and accustomed in-empty to-wander huts the-African
uenator ferrique simul fiducia non est
hunter and-of-steel at-once confidence not is
uestibus iratos laxis operire leones.
with-garments angry loose to-cover lions.

nec solum studiis ciuilibus arma parabat
nor only for-partisanship civil arms was-preparing
priuatae sed bella dabat Iuba concitus irae.
to-private but wars was-giving Juba roused anger.
hunc quoque quo superos humanaque polluit anno
him also in-which the-gods-above and-human-things he-polluted year
lege tribunicia solio depellere auorum
by-law tribunician from-the-throne to-drive of-ancestors
Curio temptarat, Libyamque auferre tyranno
Curio had-tried, and-Libya to-take-away from-the-tyrant
dum regnum te, Roma, facit. memor ille doloris
while a-kingdom you, Rome, he-makes. mindful he of-the-grievance
hoc bellum sceptri fructum putat esse retenti.
this war of-the-scepter the-fruit thinks to-be retained.
hac igitur regis trepidat iam Curio fama
by-this therefore of-the-king trembles now Curio report
et quod Caesareis numquam deuota iuuentus
and that to-Caesarian never devoted youth
illa nimis castris nec Rheni miles in undis
that too camp nor of-the-Rhine soldier in waves
exploratus erat, Corfini captus in arce,
tested was, of-Corfinium captured in citadel,
infidusque nouis ducibus dubiusque priori
and-faithless to-new leaders and-doubtful to-former
fas utrumque putat. sed, postquam languida segni
lawful each thinks. but, after languid with-sluggish
cernit cuncta metu nocturnaque munera ualli
he-sees all fear and-nocturnal duties of-the-rampart
desolata fuga, trepida sic mente profatur:
deserted through-flight, with-trembling thus mind speaks-out:

‘audendo magnus tegitur timor; arma capessam
‘by-daring great is-covered fear; arms I-shall-take-up
ipse prior. campum miles descendat in aequum
myself first. the-plain the-soldier let-go-down onto level
dum meus est; uariam semper dant otia mentem.
while mine he-is; varied always give leisure mind.
eripe consilium pugna: cum dira uoluptas
snatch-away deliberation by-battle: when dire pleasure
ense subit presso, galeae texere pudorem,
with-the-sword comes-on gripped, helmets have-covered shame,
quis conferre duces meminit, quis pendere causas?
who to-compare leaders remembers, who to-weigh causes?
qua stetit inde fauet; ueluti fatalis harenae
where he-has-stood thence he-favors; as-if of-fatal arena
muneribus non ira uetus concurrere cogit
at-the-games not anger old to-clash compels
productos, odere pares.’ sic fatus apertis
the-brought-out, they-hate equals.’ thus having-spoken on-open
instruxit campis acies; quem blanda futuris
drew-up plains battle-lines; whom flattering for-future
deceptura malis belli fortuna recepit.
going-to-deceive evils of-war fortune received.
nam pepulit Varum campo nudataque foeda
for he-drove Varus from-the-plain and-bared foul
terga fuga, donec uetuerunt castra, cecidit.
back in-flight, until forbade the-camp, slaughtered.

Juba hides his main force in a valley and sends Sabbura ahead to draw Curio on, as a cleverer enemy mocks the Egyptian asp with its tail and seizes its throat. Curio sends his cavalry out by night and leads his infantry over the hills at dawn, ignoring warnings of Punic tricks. The Numidians feign flight, close the hills around him, and surround his army; his exhausted horses cannot charge, and his men, packed into a ring, are crushed by missiles and by their own weight.

tristia sed postquam superati proelia Vari
grim but after of-overcome battles Varus
sunt audita Iubae, laetus quod gloria belli
were heard by-Juba, glad that the-glory of-war
sit rebus seruata suis, rapit agmina furtim,
was for-affairs kept his-own, he-hurries columns stealthily,
obscuratque suam per iussa silentia famam
and-obscures his-own through ordered silence fame
hoc solum incauto metuentis ab hoste, timeri.
this alone incautious of-one-fearing from enemy, to-be-feared.
mittitur, exigua qui proelia prima lacessat
is-sent, with-small who battles first may-provoke
eliciatque manu, Numidis a rege secundis,
and-may-draw-out hand, with-Numidians from the-king second,
ut sibi commissi simulator Sabbura belli;
as for-himself entrusted the-feigner Sabbura war;
ipse caua regni uires in ualle retentat:
himself hollow of-the-kingdom forces in valley holds-back:
aspidas ut Pharias cauda sollertior hostis
asps as Pharian with-the-tail cleverer enemy
ludit et iratas incerta prouocat umbra
mocks and angry with-uncertain provokes shadow

obliquusque caput uanas serpentis in auras
and-slanting head empty of-the-serpent into air
effusae tuto conprendit guttura morsu
poured-out with-safe seizes throat bite
letiferam citra saniem; tunc inrita pestis
deadly short-of venom; then vain the-plague
exprimitur faucesque fluunt pereunte ueneno.
is-squeezed-out and-the-jaws flow with-perishing poison.
fraudibus euentum dederat fortuna, feroxque
to-tricks success had-given fortune, and-fierce
non exploratis occulti uiribus hostis
with-not tested of-the-hidden strength enemy
Curio nocturnum castris erumpere cogit
Curio nocturnal from-camp to-burst-out compels
ignotisque equitem late decurrere campis.
and-over-unknown the-cavalry widely to-run-down plains.
ipse sub aurorae primos excedere motus
himself under of-dawn first to-go-out stirrings
signa iubet castris, multum frustraque rogatus
the-standards orders from-camp, much and-in-vain entreated
ut Libycas metuat fraudes infectaque semper
that Libyan he-should-fear tricks and-infected always
Punica bella dolis. leti fortuna propinqui
Punic wars with-guile. of-death fortune near
tradiderat fatis iuuenem, bellumque trahebat
had-handed-over to-the-fates the-youth, and-war was-dragging
auctorem ciuile suum. super ardua ducit
the-author civil its-own. over steep he-leads
saxa, super cautes, abrupto limite signa;
rocks, over crags, by-abrupt track the-standards;

cum procul e summis conspecti collibus hostes
when far from highest seen hills the-enemy
fraude sua cessere parum, dum colle relicto
with-trick their-own withdrew a-little, until with-hill left
effusam patulis aciem committeret aruis.
spread on-open battle-line he-should-engage fields.
ille fugam credens simulatae nescius artis,
he flight believing of-feigned ignorant art,
ut uictor, mersos aciem deiecit in agros.
as victor, sunk battle-line threw-down into fields.
ut primum patuere doli, Numidaeque fugaces
when first lay-open the-tricks, and-Numidians fleeing
undique conpletis clauserunt montibus agmen,
on-all-sides with-filled shut-in mountains the-column,
obstipuit dux ipse simul perituraque turba.
was-stunned the-leader himself at-once and-going-to-perish throng.
non timidi petiere fugam, non proelia fortes,
not the-timid sought flight, not battles the-brave,
quippe ubi non sonipes motus clangore tubarum
since where not the-steed moved by-the-clang of-trumpets
saxa quatit pulsu rigidos uexantia frenos
rocks shakes with-beating hard chafing bits
ora terens spargitque iubas et subrigit auris
mouth wearing and-scatters mane and pricks-up ears
incertoque pedum pugnat non stare tumultu:
and-with-uncertain of-feet fights not to-stand tumult:
fessa iacet ceruix, fumant sudoribus artus
weary lies the-neck, smoke with-sweats limbs
oraque proiecta squalent arentia lingua,
and-mouths with-thrust-out are-rough parched tongue,

pectora rauca gemunt, quae creber anhelitus urguet,
breasts hoarse groan, which frequent panting presses,
et defecta grauis longe trahit ilia pulsus
and failing heavy far draws flanks pulse
siccaque sanguineis durescit spuma lupatis.
and-dry on-bloody hardens foam bits.
iamque gradum neque uerberibus stimulisque coacti
and-now step neither by-lashes and-goads compelled
nec quamuis crebris iussi calcaribus addunt:
nor although with-frequent ordered spurs they-add:
uolneribus coguntur equi; nec profuit ulli
by-wounds are-driven horses; nor it-helped any
cornipedis rupisse moras, neque enim impetus ille
of-the-horn-footed to-have-broken the-delays, nor indeed impulse that
incursusque fuit: tantum perfertur ad hostis
and-onrush was: only it-is-carried to the-enemy
et spatium iaculis oblato uolnere donat.
and space to-javelins with-offered wound grants.
at, uagus Afer equos ut primum emisit in agmen,
but, wandering the-African horses when first he-sent into column,
tum campi tremuere sono, terraque soluta,
then the-plains trembled with-sound, and-the-earth loosened,
quantus Bistonio torquetur turbine, puluis
as-great-as by-Bistonian is-whirled whirlwind, dust
aera nube sua texit traxitque tenebras.
the-air with-cloud its-own covered and-drew darkness.
ut uero in pedites fatum miserabile belli
when indeed upon infantry fate pitiable of-war
incubuit, nullo dubii discrimine Martis
fell, by-no of-doubtful hazard Mars

ancipites steterunt casus, set tempora pugnae
double-edged stood chances, but the-times of-battle
mors tenuit; neque enim licuit procurrere contra
death held; nor indeed it-was-allowed to-run-forward against
et miscere manus. sic undique saepta iuuentus
and to-mingle hands. thus on-all-sides fenced youth
comminus obliquis et rectis eminus hastis
at-close-quarters with-slanting and with-straight from-afar spears
obruitur, non uolneribus nec sanguine solum
is-overwhelmed, not by-wounds nor by-blood only
telorum nimbo peritura et pondere ferri.
of-missiles by-the-cloud going-to-perish and by-the-weight of-steel.
ergo acies tantae paruum spissantur in orbem,
therefore battle-lines so-great small are-thickened into circle,
ac, siquis metuens medium correpsit in agmen,
and, if-anyone fearing middle crept into column,
uix inpune suos inter conuertitur enses;
scarcely with-impunity his-own among is-turned swords;
densaturque globus, quantum pede prima relato
and-is-thickened the-mass, as-much-as with-foot first drawn-back
constrinxit gyros acies. non arma mouendi
narrowed circles the-line. not arms of-moving
iam locus est pressis, stipataque membra teruntur;
now place is for-the-pressed, and-packed limbs are-crushed;
frangitur armatum conliso pectore pectus.
is-broken armed by-clashed breast breast.
non tam laeta tulit uictor spectacula Maurus
not so glad bore victor spectacles the-Moor
quam Fortuna dabat; fluuios non ille cruoris
as Fortune was-giving; rivers not he of-blood

membrorumque uidet lapsum et ferientia terram
and-of-limbs sees the-slipping and striking the-earth
corpora: conpressum turba stetit omne cadauer.
bodies: compressed by-the-crowd stood every corpse.

IV.13 · CURIO'S DEATH

The poet calls on the shades of Carthage to receive this offering, and prays that Africa conquer for itself rather than help Pompey. Curio, seeing his army destroyed, refuses to outlive it and falls fighting. The poet asks what the rostra and his betrayal of the senate gained him: he dies before Pharsalia, and his unburied body feeds Libyan birds. Rome never bore a citizen of greater talent, but ambition, luxury, and Caesar's gold turned him, and where other tyrants bought power, he sold the city.

excitet inuisas dirae Carthaginis umbras
let-rouse hated of-dire Carthage shades
inferiis Fortuna nouis, ferat ista cruentus
with-funeral-offerings Fortune new, let-take these bloody
790 Hannibal et Poeni tam dira piacula manes.
Hannibal and Carthaginian so dire atonements shades.
Romanam, superi, Libyca tellure ruinam
the-Roman, gods-above, on-Libyan land ruin
Pompeio prodesse nefas uotisque senatus.
to-Pompey to-profit abomination and-to-the-vows of-the-senate.
Africa nos potius uincat sibi. Curio, fusas
Africa us rather let-conquer for-herself. Curio, routed
ut uidit campis acies et cernere tantas
when he-saw on-plains battle-lines and to-see so-great
795 permisit clades conpressus sanguine puluis,
allowed disasters compressed by-blood dust,

non tulit adflictis animam producere rebus
not endured with-shattered life to-prolong affairs
aut sperare fugam, ceciditque in strage suorum
or to-hope-for flight, and-fell in heap of-his-own
inpiger ad letum et fortis uirtute coacta.
eager for death and brave with-valor compelled.
quid nunc rostra tibi prosunt turbata forumque
what now the-rostra to-you profit disturbed and-the-forum
unde tribunicia plebeius signifer arce
whence from-tribunician plebeian standard-bearer citadel
arma dabas populis? quid prodita iura senatus
arms you-were-giving to-peoples? what betrayed rights of-the-senate
et gener atque socer bello concurrere iussi?
and the-son-in-law and the-father-in-law in-war to-clash ordered?
ante iaces quam dira duces Pharsalia confert,
before you-lie than dire the-leaders Pharsalia brings-together,
spectandumque tibi bellum ciuile negatum est.
and-to-be-watched by-you war civil denied is.
has urbi miserae uestro de sanguine poenas
these on-the-city wretched your from blood penalties
ferre datis, luitis iugulo sic arma, potentes.
to-pay you-give, you-atone with-throat thus arms, powerful.
felix Roma quidem ciuisque habitura beatos,
happy Rome indeed and-citizens going-to-have blessed,
si libertatis superis tam cura placeret
if of-liberty to-the-gods-above so-much care pleased
quam uindicta placet. Libycas, en, nobile corpus,
as vengeance pleases. Libyan, look, noble body,
pascit aues nullo contectus Curio busto.
feeds birds by-no covered Curio tomb.

at tibi nos, quando non proderit ista silere
but to-you we, since not it-will-profit those to-keep-silent
a quibus omne aeui senium sua fama repellit,
from whom all of-age decay their-own fame repels,
digna damus, iuuenis, meritae praeconia uitae.
worthy we-give, youth, earned proclamations of-life.
haut alium tanta ciuem tulit indole Roma
not another of-so-great a-citizen bore talent Rome
aut cui plus leges deberent recta sequenti;
or to-whom more laws would-owe right following;
perdita tunc urbi nocuerunt saecula, postquam
lost then to-the-city harmed the-ages, after
ambitus et luxus et opum metuenda facultas
ambition and luxury and of-wealth to-be-feared power
transuerso mentem dubiam torrente tulerunt,
by-crosswise the-mind doubtful torrent carried,
momentumque fuit mutatus Curio rerum
and-the-turning-point was changed Curio of-affairs
Gallorum captus spoliis et Caesaris auro.
of-the-Gauls captured by-spoils and of-Caesar by-gold.
ius licet in iugulos nostros sibi fecerit ensis
right though against throats our for-itself has-made the-sword
Sulla potens Mariusque ferox et Cinna cruentus
Sulla powerful and-Marius fierce and Cinna bloody
Caesareaeque domus series, cui tanta potestas
and-of-the-Caesarian house the-line, to-whom so-great power
concessa est? emere omnes, hic uendidit urbem.
granted was? bought all, this-one sold the-city.

BOOK V

V.1 · THE SENATE IN EPIRUS

Fortune keeps the two leaders evenly matched. As the consuls' year runs out, they summon the senators to Epirus, where a foreign hall hears the secrets of state. Lentulus tells them that wherever they sit they are the senate, as Rome was at Veii with Camillus, while Caesar holds only empty houses; he asks them to make Magnus their leader, and they do. Honors go to Rhodes, Sparta, Athens, Phocis, and the client kings, Libya to Juba, and the boy Ptolemy is allowed Egypt's crown, a gift that will cost Magnus his life. As all arm, Appius alone fears the outcome and reopens Delphi.

Sic alterna duces bellorum uolnera passos
Thus alternate the-leaders of-wars wounds having-suffered
in Macetum terras miscens aduersa secundis
into of-the-Macedonians lands mingling adversities with-successes
seruauit fortuna pares. iam sparserat Haemo
kept fortune equal. now had-scattered on-Haemus
bruma niues gelidoque cadens Atlantis Olympo,
winter snows and-from-icy falling the-daughter-of-Atlas Olympus,
instabatque dies qui dat noua nomina fastis
and-was-pressing-on the-day which gives new names to-the-calendar
quique colit primus ducentem tempora Ianum.
and-who honors first leading times Janus.
dum tamen emeriti remanet pars ultima iuris
while yet of-served-out remains the-part last right
consul uterque uagos belli per munia patres
consul each wandering of-war through duties fathers
elicit Epirum. peregrina ac sordida sedes
draws-out to-Epirus. foreign and mean seat

Romanos cepit proceres, secretaque rerum
Roman received chiefs, and-the-secrets of-affairs
hospes in externis audiuit curia tectis.
guest in foreign heard senate-house roofs.
nam quis castra uocet tot strictas iure securis,
for who camp would-call so-many drawn by-right axes,
tot fasces? docuit populos uenerabilis ordo
so-many fasces? taught the-peoples venerable order
non Magni partes sed Magnum in partibus esse.
not of-Magnus party but Magnus in party to-be.
ut primum maestum tenuere silentia coetum,
when first sad held silences assembly,
Lentulus e celsa sublimis sede profatur.
Lentulus from lofty raised seat speaks-out.
'indole si dignum Latia, si sanguine prisco
'of-nature if worthy Latin, if of-blood ancient
robur inest animis, non qua tellure coacti
strength is-in minds, not in-what land gathered
quamque procul tectis captae sedeamus ab urbis
and-how far roofs of-captured we-sit from city
cernite, sed uestrae faciem cognoscite turbae,
consider, but of-your the-face recognize throng,
cunctaque iussuri primum hoc decernite, patres,
and-all going-to-order first this decree, fathers,
quod regnis populisque liquet, nos esse senatum.
what to-kingdoms and-peoples is-clear, us to-be the-senate.
nam uel Hyperboreae plaustrum glaciale sub Ursae
for whether of-Hyperborean the-wagon icy under Bear
uel plaga qua torrens claususque uaporibus axis
or the-tract where torrid and-shut with-heats zone

nec patitur noctes nec iniquos crescere soles,
neither allows nights nor unequal to-grow days,
si fortuna ferat, rerum nos summa sequetur
if fortune should-bear, of-affairs us the-whole will-follow
imperiumque comes. Tarpeia sede perusta
and-empire as-companion. with-Tarpeian seat burnt
Gallorum facibus Veiosque habitante Camillo
of-the-Gauls by-torches and-Veii with-inhabiting Camillus
illic Roma fuit. non umquam perdidit ordo
there Rome was. not ever lost the-order
mutato sua iura solo. maerentia tecta
with-changed its-own rights soil. mourning roofs
Caesar habet uacuasque domos legesque silentis
Caesar holds and-empty houses and-laws silent
clausaque iustitio tristi fora; curia solos
and-closed by-suspension grim forums; the-senate-house only
illa uidet patres plena quos urbe fugauit:
that sees fathers from-full whom city it-drove:
ordine de tanto quisquis non exulat hic est.
order from so-great whoever not is-exiled here is.
ignaros scelerum longaque in pace quietos
ignorant of-crimes and-long in peace quiet
bellorum primus sparsit furor: omnia rursus
of-wars first scattered frenzy: all again
membra loco redeunt. en, totis uiribus orbis
limbs to-place return. look, with-all forces of-the-world
Hesperiam pensant superi: iacet hostis in undis
Hesperia counterweigh the-gods-above: lies the-enemy in waves
obrutus Illyricis, Libyae squalentibus aruis
overwhelmed Illyrian, of-Libya in-parched fields

Curio Caesarei cecidit pars magna senatus.
Curio of-Caesarian fell part great senate.
tollite signa, duces, fatorum inpellite cursum,
raise standards, leaders, of-the-fates drive the-course,
spem uestram praestate deis, fortunaque tantos
hope your show to-the-gods, and-fortune so-great
det uobis animos quantos fugientibus hostem
may-give to-you spirits as-great-as to-the-fleeing the-enemy
causa dabat. nostrum exhausto ius clauditur anno:
the-cause gave. our with-exhausted right is-closed year:
uos, quorum finem non est sensura potestas,
you, whose end not is going-to-feel power,
consulite in medium, patres, Magnumque iubete
take-counsel for common, fathers, and-Magnus order
esse ducem.' laeto nomen clamore senatus
to-be leader.' with-glad the-name shout the-senate
excipit et Magno fatum patriaeque suumque
receives and on-Magnus the-fate of-the-fatherland and-its-own
inposuit. tunc in reges populosque merentis
laid. then upon kings and-peoples deserving
sparsus honor, pelagique potens Phoebeia donis
scattered honor, and-of-the-sea powerful Phoeban with-gifts
exornata Rhodos gelidique inculta iuuentus
adorned Rhodes and-of-icy rough youth
Taygeti, fama ueteres laudantur Athenae,
Taygetus, for-fame old are-praised Athens,
Massiliaeque suae donatur libera Phocis;
and-for-Massilia its-own is-given free Phocis;
tum Sadalam fortemque Cotyn fidumque per arma
then Sadalas and-brave Cotys and-faithful through arms

Deiotarum et gelidae dominum Rhascypolin orae
Deiotarus and of-icy the-lord Rhascypolis coast
conlaudant, Libyamque iubent auctore senatu
they-praise, and-Libya bid with-author senate
sceptrifero parere Iubae. pro tristia fata!
to-scepter-bearing to-obey Juba. O grim fates!
et tibi, non fidae gentis dignissime regno,
and to-you, not of-loyal race most-worthy of-the-kingdom,
fortunae, Ptolemaee, pudor crimenque deorum,
of-fortune, Ptolemy, the-shame and-reproach of-the-gods,
cingere Pellaeo pressos diademate crinis
to-gird with-Pellaean pressed diadem hair
permissum. saeuum in populos puer accipis ensem,
permitted. savage against peoples boy you-receive sword,
atque utinam in populos! donata est regia Lagi,
and would-that against peoples! given was the-palace of-Lagus,
accessit Magni iugulus, regnumque sorori
was-added of-Magnus the-throat, and-the-kingdom from-the-sister
ereptum est soceroque nefas. iam turba soluto
snatched was and-from-the-father-in-law abomination. now the-throng with-dissolved
arma petit coetu; quae cum populique ducesque
arms seeks assembly; which when and-peoples and-leaders
casibus incertis et caeca sorte pararent,
for-chances uncertain and by-blind lot were-preparing,
solus in ancipites metuit descendere Martis
alone into double-edged feared to-go-down of-Mars
Appius euentus, finemque expromere rerum
Appius outcomes, and-the-end to-reveal of-affairs

sollicitat superos multosque obducta per annos
troubles the-gods-above and-many closed through years
Delphica fatidici reserat penetralia Phoebi.
Delphic of-prophetic unbars inner-shrine Phoebus.

V.2 · DELPHI

The poet describes Parnassus, which alone stood above the flood, and the cave where Apollo killed the Python and took over the oracle from Themis, and he wonders what god lives there. The oracle has long been silent because kings feared the future, and the prophetesses are glad of it, since the god's possession brings early death. Appius troubles the long-idle tripods, the priest forces the prophetess Phemonoe to the temple, and she tries to put Appius off, saying that Parnassus has fallen silent.

Hesperio tantum quantum summotus Eoo
from-Hesperian as-far as removed Eastern
cardine Parnasos gemino petit aethera colle,
pivot Parnassus with-twin seeks the-ether peak,
mons Phoebo Bromioque sacer, cui numine mixto
a-mountain to-Phoebus and-to-Bromius sacred, to-whom with-divinity mingled
Delphica Thebanae referunt trieterica Bacchae.
Delphic Theban celebrate triennial-rites Bacchants.
hoc solum fluctu terras mergente cacumen
this alone with-flood the-lands drowning summit
eminuit pontoque fuit discrimen et astris.
stood-out and-for-the-sea was the-division and for-the-stars.
tu quoque uix summam, seductus ab aequore rupem
you also scarcely the-top, withdrawn from the-sea crag
extuleras, unoque iugo, Parnase, latebas.
had-raised, and-with-one ridge, Parnassus, you-lay-hidden.

ultor ibi expulsae, premeret cum uiscera partus,
avenger there of-driven-out, was-pressing when the-womb the-birth,
matris adhuc rudibus Paean Pythona sagittis
mother still with-raw Paean Python arrows
explicuit, cum regna Themis tripodasque teneret.
uncoiled, when the-kingdom Themis and-tripods held.
ut uidit Paean uastos telluris hiatus
when saw Paean vast of-the-earth chasms
diuinam spirare fidem uentosque loquaces
divine to-breathe truth and-winds talkative
exhalare solum, sacris se condidit antris,
to-exhale the-soil, in-sacred himself hid caves,
incubuitque adyto uates ibi factus Apollo.
and-lay-upon the-shrine prophet there become Apollo.

quis latet hic superum? quod numen ab aethere pressum
who lies-hidden here of-the-gods-above? what divinity from the-ether pressed
dignatur caecas inclusum habitare cauernas?
deigns blind enclosed to-inhabit caverns?
quis terram caeli patitur deus, omnia cursus
what the-earth of-heaven endures god, all of-the-course
aeterni secreta tenens mundoque futuri
eternal the-secrets holding and-with-the-world of-the-future
conscius, ac populis sese proferre paratus
aware, and to-peoples himself to-bring-forth ready
contactumque ferens hominis, magnusque potensque,
and-the-contact bearing of-man, and-great and-powerful,
siue canit fatum seu, quod iubet ille canendo,
whether he-sings fate or, what orders he by-singing,
fit fatum? forsan, terris inserta regendis
becomes fate? perhaps, to-the-lands inserted to-be-ruled

aere libratum uacuo quae sustinet orbem,
in-air balanced empty which sustains the-world,
totius pars magna Iouis Cirrhaea per antra
of-the-whole part great of-Jupiter Cirrhaean through caves
exit et aetherio trahitur conexa Tonanti.
goes-out and to-the-ethereal is-drawn joined Thunderer.
hoc ubi uirgineo conceptum est pectore numen,
this when in-maiden conceived is breast divinity,
humanam feriens animam sonat oraque uatis
human striking spirit it-sounds and-the-mouth of-the-prophetess
soluit, ceu Siculus flammis urguentibus Aetnam
loosens, as Sicilian with-flames pressing Aetna
undat apex, Campana fremens ceu saxa uaporat
surges the-peak, Campanian roaring as rocks steams
conditus Inarimes aeterna mole Typhoeus.
buried of-Inarime with-eternal mass Typhoeus.
hoc tamen expositum cunctis nullique negatum
this yet exposed to-all and-to-none denied
numen ab humani solum se labe furoris
divinity from of-human alone itself stain frenzy
uindicat. haud illic tacito mala uota susurro
keeps-free. not there with-silent evil vows whisper
concipiunt, nam fixa canens mutandaque nulli
they-frame, for fixed-things singing and-to-be-changed by-none
mortales optare uetat; iustisque benignus
mortals to-wish forbids; and-to-the-just kind
saepe dedit sedem totas mutantibus urbes,
often gave a-seat whole changing cities,
ut Tyriis, dedit ille minas inpellere belli,
as to-Tyrians, gave he the-threats to-drive-back of-war,

ut Salaminiacum meminit mare; sustulit iras
as Salaminian remembers sea; removed the-angers
telluris sterilis monstrato fine, resoluit
of-the-earth barren with-shown end, loosed
aera tabificum. non ullo saecula dono
air wasting. not of-any the-ages gift
nostra carent maiore deum, quam Delphica sedes
our lack greater of-the-gods, than Delphic seat
quod siluit, postquam reges timuere futura
that it-has-been-silent, after kings feared the-future
et superos uetuere loqui. nec uoce negata
and the-gods-above forbade to-speak. nor with-voice denied
Cirrhaeae maerent uates, templique fruuntur
Cirrhaean mourn prophetesses, and-of-the-temple enjoy
iustitio. nam, siqua deus sub pectora uenit,
the-suspension. for, if-any the-god into breast comes,
numinis aut poena est mors inmatura recepti
of-the-divinity either the-penalty is death untimely received
aut pretium; quippe stimulo fluctuque furoris
or the-price; since by-the-goad and-surge of-frenzy
conpages humana labat, pulsusque deorum
the-framework human totters, and-the-blows of-the-gods
concutiunt fragiles animas. sic tempore longo
shake fragile souls. thus with-time long
inmotos tripodas uastaeque silentia rupis
unmoved tripods and-of-vast the-silences crag
Appius Hesperii scrutator ad ultima fati
Appius Hesperian searcher into the-last-things of-fate
sollicitat. iussus sedes laxare uerendas
troubles. ordered the-seats to-open awful

antistes pauidamque deis inmittere uatem
the-priest and-fearful to-the-gods to-send-in prophetess
Castalios circum latices nemorumque recessus
Castalian around waters and-of-groves the-recesses
Phemonoen errore uagam curisque uacantem
Phemonoe in-straying wandering and-of-cares free
corripuit cogitque fores inrumpere templi.
seized and-forces the-doors to-burst-into of-the-temple.
limine terrifico metuens consistere Phoebas
on-threshold terrifying fearing to-stand the-Phoebad
absterrere ducem noscendi ardore futura
to-frighten-off the-leader of-knowing with-ardor the-future
cassa fraude parat. 'quid spes' ait 'inproba ueri
with-vain trick prepares. 'why hope' she-says 'shameless of-truth
te, Romane, trahit? muto Parnasos hiatu
you, Roman, drags? with-mute Parnassus chasm
conticuit pressitque deum, seu spiritus istas
has-fallen-silent and-has-suppressed the-god, whether the-breath these
destituit fauces mundique in deuia uersum
has-abandoned jaws and-of-the-world into pathless turned
duxit iter, seu, barbarica cum lampade Python
led its-way, or, with-barbarian when torch Python
arsit, in inmensas cineres abiere cauernas
burned, into immense ashes went caverns
et Phoebi tenuere uiam, seu sponte deorum
and of-Phoebus held the-way, or by-will of-the-gods
Cirrha silet farique sat est arcana futuri
Cirrha is-silent and-to-speak enough it-is secret of-the-future
carmina longaeuae uobis conmissa Sibyllae,
songs of-long-lived to-you entrusted the-Sibyl,

seu Paean solitus templis arcere nocentis,
or Paean accustomed from-temples to-keep-off the-guilty,
ora quibus soluat, nostro non inuenit aeuo.'
mouths for-whom to-open, in-our not finds age.'

V.3 · THE PROPHETESS

Her trick is seen through, and she enters the shrine but feigns possession, speaking calmly and without frenzy. Appius threatens her, and in terror she goes down to the tripods, where the god fills her as never before. She raves through the temple, and the whole of future time crowds into her breast, as the Cumaean Sibyl chose Rome's fate out of the fates of all the nations. At last she finds Appius' fate among the great ones and cries that he will escape the war and keep a quiet place alone in a vast valley of Euboea; then Apollo stops her mouth.

uirginei patuere doli, fecitque negatis
of-the-maiden lay-open the-tricks, and-made with-denied
numinibus metus ipse fidem. tum torta priores
divinities fear itself credit. then twisted front
stringit uitta comas, crinesque in terga solutos
binds the-fillet locks, and-hair onto back loosed
candida Phocaica conplectitur infula lauro.
white with-Phocian embraces headband laurel.
haerentem dubiamque premens in templa sacerdos
clinging and-doubtful pressing into temple the-priest
inpulit. illa pauens adyti penetrale remoti
drove. she fearing of-the-shrine the-inner-part remote
fatidicum prima templorum in parte resistit
prophetic first of-the-temples in part stops
atque deum simulans sub pectore ficta quieto
and the-god feigning under breast feigned quiet

uerba refert, nullo confusae murmure uocis
words reports, with-no of-confused murmur voice
instinctam sacro mentem testata furore,
inspired by-sacred mind having-attested frenzy,
haud aeque laesura ducem cui falsa canebat
not equally going-to-harm the-leader to-whom false-things she-was-singing
quam tripodas Phoebique fidem. non rupta trementi
as the-tripods and-of-Phoebus the-credit. not broken with-trembling
uerba sono nec uox antri conplere capacis
words sound nor voice of-the-cave to-fill capacious
sufficiens spatium nulloque horrore comarum
sufficient space and-with-no bristling of-hair
excussae laurus inmotaque limina templi
shaken laurels and-unmoved threshold of-the-temple
securumque nemus ueritam se credere Phoebo
and-untroubled grove fearing herself to-entrust to-Phoebus
prodiderant. sensit tripodas cessare furensque
had-betrayed. he-felt the-tripods to-be-idle and-raging
Appius ‘et nobis meritas dabis, impia, poenas
Appius ‘both to-us deserved you-will-pay, impious-one, penalties
et superis, quos fingis,’ ait ‘nisi mergeris antris
and to-the-gods-above, whom you-feign,’ he-says ‘unless you-are-sunk in-the-caves
deque orbis trepidi tanto consulta tumultu
and-about of-the-world trembling so-great consulted tumult
desinis ipsa loqui’. tandem conterrita uirgo
you-cease yourself to-speak’. at-last terrified the-maiden
confugit ad tripodas uastisque adducta cauernis
fled to tripods and-to-vast drawn caverns
haesit et insueto concepit pectore numen,
stuck and in-unaccustomed conceived breast the-divinity,

quod non exhaustae per tot iam saecula rupis
which not of-exhausted through so-many now ages crag
spiritus ingessit uati; tandemque potitus
the-breath heaped-on the-prophetess; and-at-last having-gained
pectore Cirrhaeo non umquam plenior artus
the-breast Cirrhaean not ever fuller limbs
Phoebados inrupit Paean mentemque priorem
of-the-Phoebad burst-into Paean and-the-mind former
expulit atque hominem toto sibi cedere iussit
drove-out and the-human wholly to-himself to-yield ordered
pectore. bacchatur demens aliena per antrum
breast. she-raves frantic another's through cave
colla ferens, uittasque dei Phoebeaque serta
neck bearing, and-fillets of-the-god and-Phoeban garlands
erectis discussa comis per inania templi
with-raised shaken hair through the-empty-spaces of-the-temple
ancipiti ceruice rotat spargitque uaganti
with-wavering neck she-whirls and-scatters with-wandering
obstantis tripodas magnoque exaestuat igne
in-the-way tripods and-with-great boils fire
iratum te, Phoebe, ferens. nec uerbere solo
angry you, Phoebus, bearing. nor whip only
uteris et stimulis flammasque in uiscera mergis:
you-use and goads and-flames into entrails you-plunge:
accipit et frenos, nec tantum prodere uati
she-receives also reins, nor so-much to-reveal to-the-prophetess
quantum scire licet. uenit aetas omnis in unam
as to-know is-allowed. comes age all into one
congeriem, miserumque premunt tot saecula pectus,
heap, and-wretched press so-many ages breast,

tanta patet rerum series, atque omne futurum
so-great lies-open of-things the-series, and all future
nititur in lucem, uocemque petentia fata
strains into light, and-voice seeking fates
luctantur; non prima dies, non ultima mundi,
struggle; not the-first day, not the-last of-the-world,
non modus Oceani, numerus non derat harenae.
not the-measure of-Ocean, the-number not was-lacking of-sand.
qualis in Euboico uates Cumana recessu
such-as in Euboean prophetess Cumaean recess
indignata suum multis seruire furorem
disdaining her-own for-many to-serve frenzy
gentibus ex tanta fatorum strage superba
nations from so-great of-fates heap proud
excerpsit Romana manu, sic plena laborat
picked-out the-Roman with-hand, so full labors
Phemonoe Phoebo, dum te, consultor operti
Phemonoe with-Phoebus, while you, consulter of-the-hidden
Castalia tellure dei, uix inuenit, Appi,
in-Castalian land god, scarcely she-finds, Appius,
inter fata diu quaerens tam magna latentem.
among fates long seeking so great lying-hidden.
spumea tum primum rabies uaesana per ora
foaming then first madness frantic through mouth
effluit et gemitus et anhelo clara meatu
flows-out and groans and with-panting clear passage
murmura, tum maestus uastis ululatus in antris
murmurs, then mournful vast howling in caves
extremaeque sonant domita iam uirgine uoces:
and-last sound with-conquered now maiden words:

'effugis ingentes, tanti discriminis expers,
'you-escape huge, of-so-great hazard free,
bellorum, Romane, minas, solusque quietem
of-wars, Roman, threats, and-alone rest
Euboici uasta lateris conualle tenebis.'
of-Euboean in-vast side valley you-will-hold.'
cetera suppressit faucesque obstruxit Apollo.
the-rest suppressed and-the-jaws blocked Apollo.

V.4 · THE ORACLE'S MEANING

The poet asks Apollo why he hides the fall of Rome, the deaths of its leaders, and the end of Pompey, or whether he keeps silent so that Brutus' sword may come. The prophetess bursts from the temple still raving, her face changing, until Lethe takes away what she saw and she falls. Appius, deceived by the riddle, hopes to rule Euboea, but since only Death can spare a man the world's evils, the quiet he is promised is a tomb on its shore.

custodes tripodes fatorum arcanaque mundi
guardian tripods of-the-fates and-secrets of-the-world
tuque, potens ueri Paean nullumque futuri
and-you, master of-truth Paean and-no of-the-future
a superis celate diem, suprema ruentis
by the-gods-above concealed day, the-last of-falling
imperii caesosque duces et funera regum
empire and-slain leaders and deaths of-kings
et tot in Hesperio conlapsas sanguine gentis
and so-many in Hesperian collapsed blood nations
cur aperire times? an nondum numina tantum
why to-reveal do-you-fear? or not-yet the-divinities so-great

decreuere nefas et adhuc dubitantibus astris
have-decreed abomination and still with-doubting stars
Pompei damnare caput tot fata tenentur?
of-Pompey to-condemn the-head so-many fates are-held?
uindicis an gladii facinus poenasque furorum
of-the-avenging or sword the-deed and-the-punishments of-frenzies
regnaque ad ultores iterum redeuntia Brutos,
and-kingships to avengers again returning Bruti,
ut peragat fortuna, taces? tum pectore uatis
that may-complete fortune, are-you-silent? then by-the-breast of-the-prophetess
inpactae cessere fores, expulsaque templis
struck yielded the-doors, and-expelled from-the-temple
prosiluit; perstat rabies, nec cuncta locutae
she-leapt-out; persists the-madness, nor all to-her-having-spoken
quem non emisit, superest deus. illa feroces
whom not she-has-sent-out, remains the-god. she fierce
torquet adhuc oculos totoque uagantia caelo
rolls still eyes and-through-whole wandering sky
lumina, nunc uoltu pauido, nunc torua minaci;
lights, now with-face fearful, now grim with-threatening;
stat numquam facies; rubor igneus inficit ora
stands never the-face; a-flush fiery stains mouth
liuentisque genas; nec, qui solet esse timenti,
and-livid cheeks; nor, which is-wont to-be in-the-fearful,
terribilis sed pallor inest; nec fessa quiescunt
terrible but pallor is-in; nor weary rest
corda, sed, ut tumidus Boreae post flamina pontus
hearts, but, as swollen of-Boreas after blasts the-sea
rauca gemit, sic muta leuant suspiria uatem.
hoarse groans, so mute lighten sighs the-prophetess.

dumque a luce sacra, qua uidit fata, refertur
and-while from light sacred, in-which she-saw fates, she-is-brought-back
ad uolgare iubar mediae uenere tenebrae.
to common radiance middle came darkness.
inmisit Stygiam Paean in uiscera Lethen,
sent-in Stygian Paean into entrails Lethe,
quae raperet secreta deum. tum pectore uerum
which might-snatch-away the-secrets of-the-gods. then from-the-breast the-truth
fugit et ad Phoebi tripodas rediere futura,
fled and to of-Phoebus tripods returned the-future,
uixque refecta cadit. nec te uicinia leti
and-scarcely recovered she-falls. nor you the-nearness of-death
territat ambiguis frustratum sortibus, Appi;
terrifies with-ambiguous cheated oracles, Appius;
iure sed incerto mundi subsidere regnum
by-right but uncertain of-the-world to-settle the-kingdom
Chalcidos Euboicae uana spe rapte parabas.
of-Chalcis Euboean by-vain hope snatched you-were-preparing.
heu demens, nullum belli sentire fragorem,
alas madman, no of-war to-feel crash,
tot mundi caruisse malis, praestare deorum
so-many of-the-world to-have-lacked evils, to-furnish of-the-gods
excepta quis Morte potest? secreta tenebis
with-excepted who Death can? secret you-will-hold
litoris Euboici memorando condite busto,
of-shore Euboean in-memorable buried tomb,
qua maris angustat fauces saxosa Carystos
where of-the-sea narrows the-jaws rocky Carystus
et, tumidis infesta colit quae numina, Rhamnus,
and, to-the-swollen hostile reveres which divinities, Rhamnus,

artatus rapido feruet qua gurgite pontus
compressed with-swift boils where flood the-sea
Euripusque trahit, cursum mutantibus undis,
and-Euripus drags, the-course with-changing waves,
Chalcidicas puppes ad iniquam classibus Aulin.
Chalcidian ships to hostile to-fleets Aulis.

V.5 · THE MUTINY

Caesar returns victorious from Spain, but his soldiers, sated with blood or wanting greater rewards, desert him. Caesar is never in more danger than when he looks down on everything from a tottering height. The soldiers tell him they have spent their lives in his wars and ask to be dismissed to die in their beds; they say that his victories cost them their blood while the credit goes to his fortune, and that there will be peace if the soldiers are angry. The poet prays that this discord may end the civil war.

interea domitis Caesar remeabat Hiberis
meanwhile with-tamed Caesar was-returning Iberians
uictrices aquilas alium laturus in orbem,
victorious eagles another going-to-carry into world,
cum prope fatorum tantos per prospera cursus
when almost of-the-fates so-great through successes courses
auertere dei. nullo nam Marte subactus
turned-aside the-gods. by-no for Mars subdued
intra castrorum timuit tentoria ductor
within of-the-camp feared the-tents the-leader
perdere successus scelerum, cum paene fideles
to-lose the-successes of-crimes, when almost loyal
per tot bella manus satiatae sanguine tandem
through so-many wars bands sated with-blood at-last

destituere ducem, seu maesto classica paulum
deserted the-leader, whether with-mournful trumpets a-little
intermissa sono claususque et frigidus ensis
interrupted sound and-sheathed and cold the-sword
expulerat belli furias, seu, praemia miles
had-driven-out of-war the-furies, or, rewards the-soldier
dum maiora petit, damnat causamque ducemque
while greater he-seeks, condemns the-cause and-the-leader
et scelere inbutos etiamnunc uenditat enses.
and with-crime stained even-now sells swords.
haud magis expertus discrimine Caesar in ullo est
not more tested hazard Caesar in any was
quam non e stabili tremulo sed culmine cuncta
than not from stable trembling but height all
despiceret staretque super titubantia fultus.
he-looked-down-on and-stood on tottering propped.
tot raptis truncus manibus gladioque relictus
of-so-many snatched maimed hands and-to-the-sword left
paene suo, qui tot gentis in bella trahebat,
almost his-own, who so-many nations into wars was-dragging,
scit non esse ducis strictos sed militis enses.
knows not to-be of-the-leader drawn but of-the-soldier swords.
non pauidum iam murmur erat nec pectore tecto
not fearful now murmur was nor in-breast covered
ira latens; nam quae dubias constringere mentes
anger hiding; for what doubtful to-bind minds
causa solet, dum quisque pauet, quibus ipse timori est,
the-cause is-wont, while each fears, to-whom himself for-fear he-is,
seque putat solum regnorum iniusta grauari,
and-himself thinks alone of-kingships the-injustices to-be-burdened,

haud retinet. quippe ipsa metus exsoluerat audax
not holds-back. for itself fears had-loosed bold
turba suos: quidquid multis peccatur inultum est.
crowd its-own: whatever by-many is-sinned unpunished is.
effudere minas. 'liceat discedere, Caesar,
they-poured-out threats. 'let-it-be-allowed to-depart, Caesar,
a rabie scelerum. quaeris terraque marique
from madness of-crimes. you-seek and-by-land and-by-sea
his ferrum iugulis animasque effundere uiles
for-these steel throats and-lives to-pour-out cheap
quolibet hoste paras; partem tibi Gallia nostri
by-any enemy you-prepare; part to-you Gaul of-us
eripuit, partem duris Hispania bellis,
has-snatched, part in-hard Spain wars,
pars iacet Hesperia, totoque exercitus orbe
part lies in-Hesperia, and-in-whole the-army world
te uincente perit. terris fudisse cruorem
with-you conquering perishes. on-lands to-have-poured blood
quid iuuat Arctois Rhodano Rhenoque subactis?
what does-it-profit Northern with-Rhone and-Rhine subdued?
tot mihi pro bellis bellum ciuile dedisti.
so-many to-me for wars war civil you-have-given.
cepimus expulso patriae cum tecta senatu,
we-took with-expelled of-the-fatherland when the-roofs senate,
quos hominum uel quos licuit spoliare deorum?
whom of-men or whom was-it-allowed to-despoil of-gods?
imus in omne nefas manibus ferroque nocentes,
we-go into every abomination with-hands and-steel guilty,
paupertate pii. finis quis quaeritur armis?
in-poverty dutiful. end what is-sought for-arms?

quid satis est, si Roma parum est? iam respice canos
what enough is, if Rome too-little is? now look-back-at gray-hairs
inualidasque manus et inanis cerne lacertos.
and-weak hands and empty see arms.
usus abit uitae, bellis consumpsimus aeuum:
the-use has-gone of-life, in-wars we-have-spent the-age:
ad mortem dimitte senes. en inproba uota:
to death dismiss old-men. look shameless prayers:
non duro liceat morientia caespite membra
not on-hard let-it-be-allowed dying turf limbs
ponere, non anima galeam fugiente ferire
to-lay, not with-breath the-helmet fleeing to-strike
atque oculos morti clausuram quaerere dextram,
and the-eyes for-death going-to-close to-seek a-hand,
coniugis inlabi lacrimis, unique paratum
of-a-wife to-glide-into tears, and-for-one-alone prepared
scire rogum; liceat morbis finire senectam;
to-know a-pyre; let-it-be-allowed by-diseases to-end old-age;
sit praeter gladios aliquod sub Caesare fatum.
let-there-be besides swords some under Caesar fate.
quid uelut ignaros ad quae portenta paremur
why as-if ignorant for what monstrosities we-are-prepared
spe trahis? usque adeo soli ciuilibus armis
with-hope do-you-drag? to-such a-degree alone in-civil arms
nescimus cuius sceleris sit maxima merces?
do-we-not-know of-what crime is the-greatest reward?
nil actum est bellis, si nondum conperit istas
nothing done has-been by-wars, if not-yet he-has-learned these
omnia posse manus. nec fas nec uincula iuris
all to-be-able hands. neither right nor bonds of-law

hoc audere uetant: Rheni mihi Caesar in undis
this to-dare forbid: of-the-Rhine for-me Caesar on waves
dux erat, hic socius; facinus quos inquinat aequat.
leader was, here partner; the-crime whom it-stains equalizes.
adde quod ingrato meritorum iudice uirtus
add that with-ungrateful of-merits judge valor
nostra perit: quidquid gerimus fortuna uocatur.
our perishes: whatever we-do fortune is-called.
nos fatum sciat esse suum. licet omne deorum
us the-fate let-him-know to-be his-own. though every of-the-gods
obsequium speres, irato milite, Caesar,
compliance you-may-hope, with-angry soldiery, Caesar,
pax erit.' haec fatus totis discurrere castris
peace will-be.' thus having-spoken through-whole to-run-about camp
coeperat infestoque ducem deposcere uoltu.
had-begun and-with-hostile the-leader to-demand face.
sic eat, o superi: quando pietasque fidesque
thus let-it-go, O gods-above: since and-dutifulness and-loyalty
destituunt moresque malos sperare relictum est,
fail and-bad morals to-hope-for left is,
finem ciuili faciat discordia bello.
an-end to-civil let-make discord war.

Caesar, fearless on a mound, tells the mutineers to go: Fortune will give him men, and his course will miss them no more than the sea misses a river. He orders the ringleaders to bow their heads to the sword, and the army, trembling at one man, submits.

quem non ille ducem potuit terrere tumultus?
whom not that leader could to-terrify tumult?

fata sed in praeceps solitus demittere Caesar
the-fates but into headlong accustomed to-send-down Caesar

fortunamque suam per summa pericula gaudens
and-fortune his-own through highest dangers rejoicing

exercere uenit; nec dum desaeuiat ira
to-exercise comes; nor until should-cease-raging anger

expectat: medios properat temptare furores.
waits: middle he-hastens to-test frenzies.

non illis urbes spoliandaque templa negasset
not to-them cities and-to-be-plundered temples he-would-have-denied

Tarpeiamque Iouis sedem matresque senatus
and-Tarpeian of-Jupiter the-seat and-mothers of-the-senate

passurasque infanda nurus. uult omnia certe
and-going-to-suffer unspeakable-things daughters-in-law. he-wishes all surely

a se saeua peti, uult praemia Martis amari;
from himself savage to-be-sought, he-wishes the-prizes of-Mars to-be-loved;

militis indomiti tantum mens sana timetur.
of-the-soldier untamed only the-mind sane is-feared.

non pudet, heu, Caesar, soli tibi bella placere
not does-it-shame, alas, Caesar, alone to-you wars to-please

iam manibus damnata tuis? hos ante pigebit
already by-hands condemned your? these sooner will-it-irk

sanguinis? his ferri graue ius erit, ipse per omne
of-blood? for-these of-steel heavy the-right will-be, yourself through all
fasque nefasque rues? lassare et disce sine armis
and-right and-wrong will-you-rush? grow-weary and learn without arms
posse pati; liceat scelerum tibi ponere finem.
to-be-able to-endure; let-it-be-allowed of-crimes for-you to-set an-end.
saeue, quid insequeris? quid iam nolentibus instas?
savage-one, why do-you-pursue? why now on-the-unwilling press?
bellum te ciuile fugit. stetit aggere fulti
war you civil flees. he-stood on-a-mound of-propped
caespitis intrepidus uoltu meruitque timeri
turf undaunted in-face and-deserved to-be-feared
non metuens, atque haec ira dictante profatur:
not fearing, and these with-anger dictating speaks-out:
'qui modo in absentem uoltu dextraque furebas,
'who just-now at the-absent with-face and-with-hand were-raging,
miles, habes nudum promptumque ad uolnera pectus.
soldier, you-have bare and-ready for wounds breast.
hic fuge, si belli finis placet, ense relicto.
here flee, if of-war an-end pleases, with-sword left.
detegit inbelles animas nil fortiter ausa
reveals unwarlike souls nothing bravely having-dared
seditio tantumque fugam meditata iuuentus
sedition and-only flight having-pondered youth
ac ducis inuicti rebus lassata secundis.
and of-leader unconquered by-affairs wearied prosperous.
uadite meque meis ad bella relinquite fatis.
go and-me to-my for wars leave fates.
inuenient haec arma manus, uobisque repulsis
will-find these arms hands, and-with-you driven-off

tot reddet Fortuna uiros quot tela uacabunt.
so-many will-return Fortune men as-many-as weapons will-be-empty.
anne fugam Magni tanta cum classe secuntur
or flight of-Magnus so-great with fleet follow
Hesperiae gentes, nobis uictoria turbam
of-Hesperia nations, to-us victory a-throng
non dabit, inpulsi tantum quae praemia belli
not will-give, of-driven only which the-prizes war
auferat et uestri rapta mercede laboris
may-carry-off and of-your with-snatched wage labor
lauriferos nullo comitetur uolnere currus?
laurel-bearing with-no may-accompany wound chariots?
uos despecta senes exhaustaque sanguine turba
you despised old-men and-drained of-blood crowd
cernetis nostros iam plebs Romana triumphos.
will-see our now plebs Roman triumphs.
Caesaris an cursus uestrae sentire putatis
of-Caesar or the-course your to-feel do-you-think
damnum posse fugae? ueluti, si cuncta minentur
the-loss can of-flight? as-if, if all should-threaten
flumina quos miscent pelago subducere fontes,
rivers which mingle with-the-sea to-withdraw springs,
non magis ablatis umquam descenderit aequor,
not more with-removed ever would-go-down the-sea,
quam nunc crescit, aquis. an uos momenta putatis
than now it-grows, waters. or you weight do-you-think
ulla dedisse mihi? numquam sic cura deorum
any to-have-given to-me? never so care of-the-gods
se premet, ut uestrae morti uestraeque saluti
itself will-lower, that to-your death and-to-your safety

fata uacent: procerum motus haec cuncta secuntur;
the-fates should-attend: of-chiefs the-movements these all follow;
humanum paucis uiuit genus. orbis Hiberi
the-human for-few lives race. of-world Iberian
horror et Arctoi nostro sub nomine miles
the-terror and of-Northern our under name soldier
Pompeio certe fugeres duce. fortis in armis
with-Pompey surely you-would-flee as-leader. brave in arms
Caesareis Labienus erat: nunc transfuga uilis
Caesarian Labienus was: now deserter cheap
cum duce praelato terras atque aequora lustrat.
with leader preferred lands and seas traverses.
nec melior mihi uestra fides, si bella nec hoste
nor better to-me your loyalty, if wars neither with-enemy
nec duce me geritis. quisquis mea signa relinquens
nor with-leader me you-wage. whoever my standards leaving
non Pompeianis tradit sua partibus arma,
not to-Pompeian hands his-own party arms,
hic numquam uult esse meus. sunt ista profecto
he never wishes to-be mine. are those surely
curae castra deis, qui me committere tantis
a-care camp to-the-gods, who me to-commit to-so-great
non nisi mutato uoluerunt milite bellis.
not except with-changed soldiery have-wished wars.
heu, quantum Fortuna umeris iam pondere fessis
alas, how-great Fortune from-shoulders now with-weight weary
amolitur onus! sperantis omnia dextras
heaves-off a-burden! hoping all hands
exarmare datur, quibus hic non sufficit orbis:
to-disarm is-granted, for-whom this not suffices world:

iam certe mihi bella geram. discedite castris,
now surely for-myself wars I-shall-wage. depart from-the-camp,
tradite nostra uiris ignaui signa Quirites.
hand-over our to-men cowardly standards Quirites.
at paucos, quibus haec rabies auctoribus arsit,
but few, by-whom this madness as-authors blazed,
non Caesar sed poena tenet. procumbite terra
not Caesar but punishment holds. fall-prostrate on-the-ground
infidumque caput feriendaque tendite colla.
and-faithless head and-to-be-struck stretch necks.
et tu, quo solo stabunt iam robore castra,
and you, by-which alone shall-stand now strength the-camp,
tiro rudis, specta poenas et disce ferire,
recruit raw, watch punishments and learn to-strike,
disce mori.' tremuit saeua sub uoce minantis
learn to-die.' trembled savage under voice of-the-threatener
uolgus iners, unumque caput tam magna iuuentus
the-crowd inert, and-one head so great youth
priuatum factura timet, uelut ensibus ipsis
private going-to-make fears, as-if the-swords themselves
imperet inuito moturus milite ferrum.
he-commands with-unwilling going-to-move soldiery steel.
ipse pauet ne tela sibi dextraeque negentur
himself fears lest weapons to-him and-hands be-denied
ad scelus hoc Caesar: uicit patientia saeui
for crime this Caesar: conquered the-patience of-the-savage
spem ducis, et iugulos, non tantum praestitit ensis.
the-hope of-the-leader, and throats, not only furnished swords.
nil magis adsuetas sceleri quam perdere mentis
nothing more accustomed to-crime than to-lose minds

atque perire tenet. tam diri foederis ictu
and to-perish holds. by-so dire of-compact the-stroke
parta quies, poenaque redit placata iuuentus.
won quiet, and-by-punishment returns appeased youth.

V.7 · CAESAR CONSUL

Caesar orders the army to Brundisium and gathers ships from the coasts of Apulia and Calabria. He goes to Rome, now taught to serve, where he is made dictator and then consul, so that the year of Pharsalia bears his name. The poet says this age invented the empty titles men have used ever since to flatter their masters: the elections are a sham, the auspices are sworn falsely, and the consulship becomes a monthly name in the calendar. The god who presides over Alba sees the Latin festival held by night.

Brundisium decumis iubet hanc attingere castris
Brundisium in-ten-days he-orders it to-reach marches
et cunctas reuocare rates quas auius Hydrus
and all to-recall ships which out-of-the-way Hydrus
antiquosque Taras secretaque litora Leucae,
and-ancient Taras and-secluded shores of-Leuca,
quas recipit Salpina palus et subdita Sipus
which receives Salpine marsh and lying-under Sipus
montibus, Ausoniam qua torquens frugifer oram
mountains, Ausonian where curving fruitful coast
Delmatico Boreae Calabroque obnoxius Austro
to-Dalmatian Boreas and-Calabrian exposed South-Wind
Apulus Hadriacas exit Garganus in undas.
Apulian Adriatic goes-out Garganus into waves.
ipse petit trepidam tutus sine milite Romam
himself seeks trembling safe without soldiery Rome

iam doctam seruire togae, populoque precanti
already taught to-serve the-toga, and-to-the-people praying
scilicet indulgens summo dictator honori
of-course indulging highest dictator honor
contigit et laetos fecit se consule fastos.
attained and glad made himself as-consul calendars.
namque omnis uoces, per quas iam tempore tanto
for all words, through which now for-a-time so-great
mentimur dominis, haec primum repperit aetas
we-lie to-masters, this first found age
qua, sibi ne ferri ius ullum, Caesar, abesset,
in-which, to-himself lest of-steel right any, Caesar, should-be-lacking,
Ausonias uoluit gladiis miscere secures
Ausonian he-wished with-swords to-mingle axes
addidit et fasces aquilis et nomen inane
added and fasces to-eagles and the-name empty
imperii rapiens signauit tempora digna
of-command seizing marked times worthy
maesta nota; nam quo melius Pharsalicus annus
with-sad mark; for by-what better the-Pharsalian year
consule notus erit? fingit sollemnia Campus
consul known will-be? feigns rites the-Field
et non admissae dirimit suffragia plebis
and of-not admitted divides the-votes plebs
decantatque tribus et uana uersat in urna.
and-chants tribes and empty turns in urn.
nec caelum seruare licet: tonat augure surdo,
nor the-sky to-watch it-is-allowed: it-thunders with-augur deaf,
et laetae iurantur aues bubone sinistro.
and favorable are-sworn birds with-owl ill-omened.

inde perit primum quondam ueneranda potestas
thence perishes first once venerable power
iuris inops; tantum careat ne nomine tempus
of-right destitute; only should-lack lest a-name the-time
menstruus in fastos distinguit saecula consul.
monthly into calendars marks ages consul.
nec non Iliacae numen quod praesidet Albae,
nor not of-Ilian the-divinity which presides over-Alba,
haud meritum Latio sollemnia sacra subacto,
not having-deserved with-Latium rites sacred subdued,
uidit flammifera confectas nocte Latinas.
saw with-flame-bearing completed night the-Latin-festival.

V.8 · THE CALM AT SEA

Caesar crosses Apulia faster than lightning and finds his fleet at Brundisium held back by winter winds. He tells his men that winter storms are steadier than the fickle spring and orders them to sail. The fleet sets out at nightfall, but the wind dies and the sea lies dead, as the Bosporus freezes into a road; the ships are stranded, and the men pray for a storm. At dawn a wind rises, and the fleet reaches the shore near Palaeste.

inde rapit cursus et, quae piger Apulus arua
thence he-hurries course and, which sluggish the-Apulian fields
deseruit rastris et inerti tradidit herbae,
has-deserted with-rakes and to-idle has-handed-over grass,
ocior et caeli flammis et tigride feta
swifter both of-the-sky than-flames and than-tigress pregnant
transcurrit, curuique tenens Minoia tecta
runs-across, and-of-curved holding Minoan roofs

Brundisii clausas uentis brumalibus undas
of-Brundisium shut by-winds wintry waves
inuenit et pauidas hiberno sidere classes.
finds and fearful under-wintry star fleets.
turpe duci uisum rapiendi tempora belli
shameful to-the-leader it-seemed of-seizing the-times of-war
in segnes exisse moras, portuque teneri
into idle to-have-gone-out delays, and-in-port to-be-held
dum pateat tutum uel non felicibus aequor.
until should-lie-open safe even to-not fortunate sea.
expertis animos pelagi sic robore conplet:
for-the-experienced spirits of-sea thus with-strength he-fills:
'fortius hiberni flatus caelumque fretumque,
'more-strongly wintry blasts and-sky and-sea,
cum cepere, tenent, quam quos incumbere certos
when they-have-seized, hold, than which to-press steady
perfida nubiferi uetat inconstantia ueris.
treacherous of-cloud-bearing forbids inconstancy spring.
nec maris anfractus lustrandaque litora nobis,
nor of-the-sea windings and-to-be-skirted shores for-us,
sed recti fluctus soloque Aquilone secandi.
but straight waves and-by-alone North-Wind to-be-cut.
hic utinam summi curuet carchesia mali
this would-that of-highest may-bend the-tops mast
incumbatque furens et Graia ad moenia perflet,
and-may-press raging and Greek to walls blow,
ne Pompeiani Phaeacum e litore toto
lest Pompeian of-the-Phaeacians from shore whole
languida iactatis conprendant carbasa remis.
languid with-tossed overtake sails oars.

rumpite quae retinent felices uincula proras:
break which hold fortunate chains prows:
iam dudum nubes et saeuas perdimus undas.'
already long clouds and savage we-waste waves.'
sidera prima poli Phoebo labente sub undas
stars first of-the-sky with-Phoebus gliding under waves
exierant et luna suas iam fecerat umbras,
had-come-out and the-moon its-own already had-made shadows,
cum pariter soluere rates, totosque rudentes
when together they-loosed ships, and-whole ropes
laxauere sinus et flexo nauita cornu
loosened folds and with-bent the-sailor yard
obliquat laeuo pede carbasa summaque pandens
slants with-left sheet canvas and-highest spreading
sipara uelorum perituras colligit auras.
topsails of-sails going-to-perish gathers breezes.
uix primum leuior propellere lintea uentus
scarcely first lighter to-drive-forward linens the-wind
incipit exiguumque tument, et reddita malo
begins and-slightly they-swell, and returned to-the-mast
in mediam cecidere ratem, terraque relicta
into middle fell ship, and-with-land left
non ualet ipsa sequi puppes quae uexerat aura.
not is-able itself to-follow ships which had-carried breeze.
aequora lenta iacent, alto torpore ligatae
seas sluggish lie, with-deep torpor bound
pigrius inmotis haesere paludibus undae.
more-sluggishly than-unmoved stuck marshes waves.
sic stat iners Scythicas astringens Bosporos undas,
so stands inert Scythian binding Bosporus waves,

cum glacie retinente fretum non inpulit Hister,
when with-ice holding-back the-strait not has-driven Hister,
inmensumque gelu tegitur mare; conprimit unda
and-immense with-frost is-covered sea; compresses water
deprendit quascumque rates, nec peruia uelis
it-catches whatever ships, nor passable to-sails
aequora frangit eques, fluctuque latente sonantem
seas breaks the-horseman, and-with-wave hidden sounding
orbita migrantis scindit Maeotida Bessi.
the-rut of-migrating cuts Maeotis Bessian.
saeua quies pelagi, maestoque ignaua profundo
savage the-calm of-the-sea, and-with-mournful sluggish deep
stagna iacentis aquae; ueluti deserta regente
pools of-lying water; as-if deserted with-ruling
aequora natura cessant, pontusque uetustas
seas nature cease, and-the-sea old
oblitus seruare uices non commeat aestu,
having-forgotten to-keep turns not goes-and-comes with-tide,
non horrore tremit, non solis imagine uibrat.
not with-ruffling trembles, not with-sun's image quivers.
casibus innumeris fixae patuere carinae.
to-chances countless fixed lay-open keels.
illinc infestae classes et inertia tonsis
on-that-side hostile fleets and sluggish with-oars
aequora moturae, grauis hinc languore profundi
seas going-to-move, heavy on-this-side from-the-languor of-the-deep
obsessis uentura fames. noua uota timori
for-the-besieged going-to-come famine. new vows to-fear
sunt inuenta nouo, fluctus nimiasque precari
were found new, waves and-excessive to-pray-for

uentorum uires, dum se torpentibus unda
of-winds forces, until itself from-torpid water
excutiat stagnis et sit mare. nubila nusquam
may-shake pools and may-be sea. clouds nowhere
undarumque minae; caelo languente fretoque
and-of-waves threats; with-sky languishing and-sea
naufragii spes omnis abit. sed nocte fugata
of-shipwreck hope all departs. but with-night put-to-flight
laesum nube dies iubar extulit imaque sensim
injured by-cloud day radiance raised and-the-lowest gradually
concussit pelagi mouitque Ceraunia nautis.
shook of-sea and-moved Ceraunia for-sailors.
inde rapi coepere rates atque aequora classem
thence to-be-swept began ships and seas the-fleet
curua sequi, quae iam uento fluctuque secundo
curving to-follow, which now with-wind and-wave favorable
lapsa Palaestinas uncis confixit harenas.
having-glided Palaestine with-hooks fixed sands.

V.9 · CAESAR CALLS ANTONIUS

The two leaders camp close together between the Genusus and the Hapsus, and the poet laments that they missed this chance to end the war. Caesar waits for Antonius, who delays in Italy with the rest of the army, and urges him with threats and prayers to cross: fortune asks his hand only for the war's last stroke. When Antonius still hangs back, Caesar resolves to cross the sea himself in a small boat by night.

prima duces iunctis uidit consistere castris
first the-leaders with-joined saw to-stand camps
tellus, quam uolucer Genusus, quam mollior Hapsus
the-land, which swift Genusus, which gentler Hapsus

circumeunt ripis. Hapso gestare carinas
go-around with-banks. for-Hapsus to-carry keels
causa palus, leni quam fallens egerit unda;
the-cause a-marsh, with-gentle which deceiving drains wave;
at Genusum nunc sole niues nunc imbre solutae
but Genusus now by-sun snows now by-rain loosed
praecipitant. neuter longo se gurgite lassat,
drive-headlong. neither in-long itself course wearies,
sed minimum terrae uicino litore nouit.
but very-little of-the-land near shore knows.
hoc fortuna loco tantae duo nomina famae
in-this fortune place of-so-great two names fame
conposuit, miserique fuit spes inrita mundi
matched, and-of-wretched was hope vain world
posse duces parua campi statione diremptos
to-be-able the-leaders by-small of-plain distance separated
admotum damnare nefas; nam cernere uoltus
approached to-condemn abomination; for to-see faces
et uoces audire datur, multosque per annos
and voices to-hear is-granted, and-many through years
dilectus tibi, Magne, socer post pignora tanta,
loved by-you, Magnus, father-in-law after pledges so-great,
sanguinis infausti subolem mortemque nepotum,
of-blood ill-omened offspring and-death of-grandsons,
te nisi Niliaca propius non uidit harena.
you except on-Nile nearer not saw sand.
Caesaris attonitam miscenda ad proelia mentem
of-Caesar stunned to-be-joined to battles mind
ferre moras scelerum partes iussere relictae.
to-bear delays of-crimes the-parts ordered left.

ductor erat cunctis audax Antonius armis
leader was in-all bold Antonius arms
iam tum ciuili meditatus Leucada bello.
already then in-civil having-pondered Leucas war.
illum saepe minis Caesar precibusque morantem
him often with-threats Caesar and-with-prayers delaying
euocat. 'o mundi tantorum causa laborum,
summons. 'O of-the-world of-so-great cause labors,
quid superos et fata tenes? sunt cetera cursu
why the-gods-above and fates do-you-hold? are the-rest by-course
acta meo, summam rapti per prospera belli
done my, the-final of-hurried through successes war
te poscit fortuna manum. non rupta uadosis
you demands fortune the-hand. not broken with-shoal-filled
Syrtibus incerto Libye nos diuidit aestu.
Syrtes with-uncertain Libya us divides tide.
numquid inexperto tua credimus arma profundo
surely-not to-untried your do-we-entrust arms deep
inque nouos traheris casus? ignaue, uenire
and-into new are-you-dragged chances? coward, to-come
te Caesar, non ire iubet. prior ipse per hostes
you Caesar, not to-go orders. first myself through enemies
percussi medios alieni iuris harenas:
I-struck middle of-another's jurisdiction sands:
tu mea castra times? pereuntia tempora fati
you my camp fear? perishing the-times of-fate
conqueror, in uentos inpendo uota fretumque.
I-lament, on winds I-spend prayers and-sea.
ne retine dubium cupientis ire per aequor:
do-not hold-back doubtful wishing to-go across sea:

si bene nota mihi est, ad Caesaris arma iuuentus
if well known to-me it-is, to of-Caesar arms the-youth
naufragio uenisse uolet. iam uoce doloris
by-shipwreck to-have-come will-wish. now voice of-grief
utendum est: non ex aequo diuisimus orbem;
to-be-used is: not on equal-terms we-have-divided the-world;
Epirum Caesarque tenet totusque senatus,
Epirus and-Caesar holds and-whole senate,
Ausoniam tu solus habes.' his terque quaterque
Ausonia you alone hold.' by-these three-times and-four-times
uocibus excitum postquam cessare uidebat,
words roused after to-hang-back he-saw,
dum se desse deis ac non sibi numina credit,
while himself to-be-lacking to-the-gods and not to-himself divinities he-believes,
sponte per incautas audet temptare tenebras
of-will through unguarded dares to-try darkness
quod iussi timuere fretum, temeraria prono
what ordered feared the-sea, rash-things to-inclining
expertus cessisse deo, fluctusque uerendos
having-tried to-have-yielded god, and-waves to-be-feared
classibus exigua sperat superare carina.
by-fleets with-small hopes to-overcome boat.

At night Caesar slips out of the camp alone and finds a boat moored by the hut of the boatman Amyclas, who sleeps safe from war, since the poor are not plunder. Caesar knocks and tells him to expect more than modest prayers if he carries him to Italy. Amyclas warns that the sun and moon foretell a storm, but agrees to try, and as they put out the sea begins to rise. The helmsman says that they must turn back if they are to reach any land.

soluerat armorum fessas nox languida curas,
had-loosed of-arms weary night languid cares,
parua quies miseris, in quorum pectora somno
small rest for-the-wretched, into whose breasts by-sleep
dat uires fortuna minor; iam castra silebant,
gives strength fortune lesser; now the-camp was-silent,
tertia iam uigiles commouerat hora secundos:
third now the-watchmen had-roused hour second:
Caesar sollicito per uasta silentia gressu
Caesar with-anxious through vast silences step
uix famulis audenda parat, cunctisque relictis
scarcely by-slaves to-be-dared prepares, and-with-all left
sola placet Fortuna comes. tentoria postquam
alone pleases Fortune as-companion. the-tents after
egressus uigilum somno cedentia membra
having-left of-the-watchmen to-sleep yielding limbs
transsiluit questus tacite, quod fallere posset,
he-leapt-over complaining silently, that to-deceive he-could,
litora curua legit, primisque inuenit in undis
the-shores curving skirts, and-first finds at waves
rupibus exesis haerentem fune carinam.
to-crags eaten-away clinging by-rope a-boat.

rectorem dominumque ratis secura tenebat
the-helmsman and-master of-the-boat untroubled was-holding
haud procul inde domus, non ullo robore fulta
not far thence a-house, not by-any timber propped
sed sterili iunco cannaque intexta palustri
but with-barren rush and-reed woven marsh
et latus inuersa nudum munita phaselo.
and side with-upturned bare fortified skiff.
haec Caesar bis terque manu quassantia tectum
this Caesar twice and-thrice with-hand shaking the-roof
limina commouit. molli consurgit Amyclas
threshold stirred. from-soft rises Amyclas
quem dabat alga toro. 'quisnam mea naufragus' inquit
which gave seaweed bed. 'who-pray my shipwrecked' he-says
'tecta petit, aut quem nostrae fortuna coegit
'roof seeks, or whom our fortune has-forced
auxilium sperare casae?' sic fatus ab alto
help to-hope of-the-hut?' thus having-spoken from deep
aggere iam tepidae sublato fune fauillae
heap already of-warm with-lifted rope ash
scintillam tenuem commotos pauit in ignes,
the-spark thin stirred fed into fires,
securus belli: praedam ciuilibus armis
untroubled about-war: plunder for-civil arms
scit non esse casas. o uitae tuta facultas
he-knows not to-be huts. O of-life safe the-means
pauperis angustique lares! o munera nondum
of-a-poor-man and-narrow household! O gifts not-yet
intellecta deum! quibus hoc contingere templis
understood of-the-gods! for-which this to-befall temples

aut potuit muris, nullo trepidare tumultu
or could walls, by-no to-tremble tumult
Caesarea pulsante manu? tum poste recluso
with-Caesarian knocking hand? then with-door opened
dux ait 'expecta uotis maiora modestis
the-leader says 'expect than-prayers greater modest
spesque tuas laxa, iuuenis: si iussa secutus
and-hopes your loosen, young-man: if orders having-followed
me uehis Hesperiam, non ultra cuncta carinae
me you-carry to-Hesperia, not further all to-the-boat
pauperiem deflens inopem duxisse senectam.
poverty bewailing needy to-have-led old-age.
ne cessa praebere deo tua fata uolenti
do-not cease to-offer to-the-god your fates willing
angustos opibus subitis inplere penates.'
narrow with-wealth sudden to-fill household.'
sic fatur, quamquam plebeio tectus amictu,
thus he-speaks, although in-plebeian covered cloak,
indocilis priuata loqui. tum pauper Amyclas
unteachable private-things to-speak. then poor Amyclas
'multa quidem prohibent nocturno credere ponto.
'many-things indeed forbid to-nocturnal to-trust the-sea.
nam sol non rutilas deduxit in aequora nubes
for the-sun not ruddy led-down into the-sea clouds
concordesque tulit radios: Noton altera Phoebi,
and-harmonious bore rays: the-South-Wind one of-Phoebus,
altera pars Borean diducta luce uocabat.
other part Boreas with-divided light was-calling.
orbe quoque exhaustus medio languensque recessit
in-disk also drained middle and-languishing it-withdrew

spectantis oculos infirmo lumine passus.
watching eyes with-weak light having-allowed.
lunaque non gracili surrexit lucida cornu
and-the-moon not with-slender rose bright horn
aut orbis medii puros exesa recessus,
or of-disk middle clear eaten-away hollows,
nec duxit recto tenuata cacumina cornu,
nor drew with-straight thinned tips horn,
uentorumque notam rubuit; tum lurida pallens
and-of-winds the-mark reddened; then lurid pale
ora tulit uoltu sub nubem tristis ituro.
face bore with-look under cloud sad going-to-go.
sed mihi nec motus nemorum nec litoris ictus
but to-me neither the-motion of-groves nor of-the-shore the-beat
nec placet incertus qui prouocat aequora delphin,
nor pleases uncertain which challenges seas the-dolphin,
aut siccum quod mergus amat, quodque ausa uolare
or dry that the-diver-bird loves, and-that having-dared to-fly
ardea sublimis pinnae confisa natanti,
the-heron lofty in-wing trusting swimming,
quodque caput spargens undis, uelut occupet imbrem,
and-that head sprinkling with-waves, as-if it-would-forestall the-rain,
instabili gressu metitur litora cornix.
with-unsteady step measures shores the-crow.
sed, si magnarum poscunt discrimina rerum,
but, if of-great demand the-hazards of-affairs,
haud dubitem praebere manus: uel litora tangam
not I-would-hesitate to-offer hands: either the-shores I-shall-touch
iussa, uel hoc potius pelagus flatusque negabunt.'
ordered, or this rather the-sea and-blasts will-deny.'

haec fatur, soluensque ratem dat carbasa uentis;
these-things he-says, and-loosing the-boat gives canvas to-winds;
ad quorum motus non solum lapsa per altum
at whose motions not only slipping through deep
aera dispersos traxere cadentia sulcos
air scattered drew falling furrows
sidera, sed summis etiam quae fixa tenentur
stars, but on-highest even which fixed are-held
astra polis sunt uisa quati. niger inficit horror
stars poles were seen to-be-shaken. black stains shuddering
terga maris, longo per multa uolumina tractu
the-back of-the-sea, with-long through many rolls stretch
aestuat unda minax, flatusque incerta futuri
seethes the-wave threatening, and-of-blast uncertain future
turbida testantur conceptos aequora uentos.
turbid attest conceived seas winds.
tum rector trepidae fatur ratis 'aspice saeuum
then the-helmsman of-trembling speaks boat 'look savage
quanta paret pelagus: Zephyros intendat an Austros
how-great-things prepares the-sea: Zephyrs it-intends or South-Winds
incertum est; puppem dubius ferit undique pontus.
uncertain is; the-ship doubtful strikes from-all-sides sea.
nubibus et caelo Notus est; si murmura ponti
by-clouds and by-sky South-Wind it-is; if murmurs of-the-sea
consulimus, Cori ueniet mare. gurgite tanto
we-consult, of-Corus will-come the-sea. in-flood so-great
nec ratis Hesperias tanget nec naufragus oras:
neither the-boat Hesperian will-touch nor shipwrecked shores:
desperare uiam et uetitos conuertere cursus
to-despair-of the-way and forbidden to-turn-back courses

sola salus. liceat uexata litora puppe
the-only safety. let-it-be-allowed with-battered shores ship
prendere, ne longe nimium sit proxima tellus.'
to-reach, lest far too-much be the-nearest land.'

V.11 · THE STORM

Caesar tells the helmsman that his only cause of fear is not knowing his passenger, whom the gods never abandon, and orders him to sail on through the storm. A whirlwind tears away the rigging, and all the winds clash at once; the sea rises to the clouds, and nature fears a return to chaos. Caesar, believing the danger worthy of him, declares that if the gods deny him war he will accept any death, since he has done enough: he has tamed the North, been consul and dictator, and needs no funeral so long as every land fears and awaits him. A tenth wave lifts the boat and sets it on a narrow shore, where he recovers his fortune.

fisus cuncta sibi cessura pericula Caesar
trusting all to-himself going-to-yield dangers Caesar
'sperne minas' inquit 'pelagi uentoque furenti
'scorn the-threats' he-says 'of-the-sea and-to-the-wind raging
trade sinum. Italiam si caelo auctore recusas
hand-over the-sail. Italy if with-heaven as-author you-refuse
me pete. sola tibi causa est haec iusta timoris,
me seek. the-only to-you cause is this just of-fear,
uectorem non nosse tuum, quem numina numquam
the-passenger not to-know your, whom the-divinities never
destituunt, de quo male tunc fortuna meretur
abandon, of whom ill then fortune deserves
cum post uota uenit. medias perrumpe procellas
when after prayers she-comes. middle break-through storms

tutela secure mea. caeli iste fretique,
in-protection secure my. of-the-sky that and-of-the-sea,
non puppis nostrae labor est: hanc Caesare pressam
not of-ship our the-labor is: this by-Caesar pressed
a fluctu defendet onus, nec longa furori
from the-wave will-defend the-burden, nor long to-the-frenzy
uentorum saeuo dabitur mora: proderit undis
of-winds savage will-be-given delay: will-profit the-waves
ista ratis. ne flecte manum, fuge proxima uelis
this ship. do-not turn the-hand, flee nearest with-sails
litora; tum Calabro portu te crede potitum
shores; then of-Calabrian harbor yourself believe having-gained
cum iam non poterit puppi nostraeque saluti
when now not will-be-able to-the-ship and-to-our safety
altera terra dari. quid tanta strage paretur
another land to-be-given. what by-so-great havoc is-prepared
ignoras: quaerit pelagi caelique tumultu
you-know-not: seeks of-sea and-of-sky by-tumult
quod praestet Fortuna mihi.' non plura locuto
what may-grant Fortune to-me.' not more to-him-having-spoken
auolsit laceros percussa puppe rudentis
tore-off torn with-struck ship ropes
turbo rapax fragilemque super uolitantia malum
the-whirlwind rapacious and-fragile over flying the-mast
uela tulit; sonuit uictis conpagibus alnus.
sails bore; sounded with-conquered joints the-alder.
inde ruunt toto concita pericula mundo.
thence rush from-whole roused dangers world.
primus ab oceano caput exeris Atlanteo,
first from ocean the-head you-lift Atlantic,

Core, mouens aestus. iam te tollente furebat
Corus, moving tides. now with-you raising was-raging
pontus et in scopulos totas erexerat undas:
the-sea and onto crags whole had-raised waves:
occurrit gelidus Boreas pelagusque retundit,
meets icy Boreas and-the-sea beats-back,
et dubium pendet, uento cui concidat, aequor.
and doubtful hangs, to-wind which it-should-fall, the-sea.
sed Scythici uicit rabies Aquilonis et undas
but of-Scythian conquered the-madness North-Wind and waves
torsit et abstrusas penitus uada fecit harenas.
whirled and hidden deep shallows made sands.
nec perfert pontum Boreas ad saxa, suumque
nor carries-through the-sea Boreas to rocks, and-its-own
in fluctus Cori frangit mare, motaque possunt
against waves of-Corus breaks sea, and-moved can
aequora subductis etiam concurrere uentis.
seas with-withdrawn even to-clash winds.
non Euri cessasse minas, non imbribus atrum
not of-Eurus to-have-ceased threats, not with-rains black
Aeolii iacuisse Notum sub carcere saxi
of-Aeolian to-have-lain South-Wind under prison rock
crediderim; cunctos solita de parte ruentis
I-would-believe; all usual from part rushing
defendisse suas uiolento turbine terras,
to-have-defended their-own with-violent whirl lands,
sic pelagus mansisse loco. nam priua procellis
thus the-sea to-have-stayed in-place. for individual by-storms
aequora rapta ferunt; Aegaeas transit in undas
seas snatched they-report; Aegean passes into waves

Tyrrhenum, sonat Ionio uagus Hadria ponto.
Tyrrhenian, sounds in-Ionian wandering Adriatic sea.
a quotiens frustra pulsatos aequore montis
ah how-often in-vain beaten by-sea mountains
obruit ille dies! quam celsa cacumina pessum
overwhelmed that day! how lofty peaks to-the-bottom
tellus uicta dedit! non ullo litore surgunt
earth conquered gave! not on-any shore rise
tam ualidi fluctus, alioque ex orbe uoluti
so strong waves, and-another from world rolled
a magno uenere mari, mundumque coercens
from great came sea, and-the-world confining
monstriferos agit unda sinus. sic rector Olympi
monster-bearing drives the-wave gulfs. so the-ruler of-Olympus
cuspide fraterna lassatum in saecula fulmen
with-trident brotherly wearied through ages thunderbolt
adiuuit, regnoque accessit terra secundo,
helped, and-to-kingdom was-added the-earth second,
cum mare conuoluit gentes, cum litora Tethys
when the-sea rolled-together nations, when shores Tethys
noluit ulla pati caelo contenta teneri.
was-unwilling any to-endure with-sky content to-be-held.
tum quoque tanta maris moles creuisset in astra
then also so-great of-the-sea mass would-have-grown to stars
ni superum rector pressisset nubibus undas.
had-not of-the-gods-above the-ruler pressed with-clouds waves.
non caeli nox illa fuit: latet obsitus aer
not of-sky night that was: lies-hidden covered air
infernae pallore domus nimbisque grauatus
of-the-infernal with-pallor house and-with-rainclouds weighed

deprimitur, fluctusque in nubibus accipit imbrem.
is-pressed-down, and-the-wave in clouds receives rain.
lux etiam metuenda perit, nec fulgura currunt
light even to-be-feared perishes, nor lightnings run
clara, sed obscurum nimbosus dissilit aer.
bright, but darkly cloudy bursts-apart air.
tum superum conuexa tremunt atque arduus axis
then of-the-gods-above vaults tremble and lofty axis
intonuit motaque poli conpage laborant.
thundered and-with-moved of-the-pole framework labor.
extimuit natura chaos; rupisse uidentur
feared nature chaos; to-have-broken seem
concordes elementa moras rursusque redire
harmonious elements delays and-again to-return
nox manes mixtura deis. spes una salutis,
night shades going-to-mingle with-gods. hope one of-safety,
quod tanta mundi nondum periere ruina.
that in-so-great of-the-world not-yet they-have-perished ruin.
quantum Leucadio placidus de uertice pontus
as-much-as Leucadian calm from summit the-sea
despicitur, tantum nautae uidere trementes
is-looked-down-on, so-much sailors saw trembling
fluctibus e summis praeceps mare; cumque tumentes
waves from top headlong sea; and-when swelling
rursus hiant undae uix eminet aequore malus.
again gape waves scarcely stands-out from-sea mast.
nubila tanguntur uelis et terra carina.
clouds are-touched by-sails and earth by-keel.
nam pelagus, qua parte sedet, non celat harenas
for the-sea, in-what part it-settles, not hides sands

exhaustum in cumulos, omnisque in fluctibus unda est.
drained into heaps, and-all in waves water is.
artis opem uicere metus, nescitque magister
of-art the-help conquered fears, and-knows-not the-helmsman
quam frangat, cui cedat aquae. discordia ponti
which he-should-break, to-which he-should-yield water. discord of-the-sea
succurrit miseris, fluctusque euertere puppem
helps the-wretched, and-the-wave to-overturn ship
non ualet in fluctum: uictum latus unda repellens
not is-able against wave: conquered side the-water driving-back
erigit, atque omni surgit ratis ardua uento.
raises, and with-every rises ship lofty wind.
non humilem Sasona uadis
not low Sason with-shoals
oraeque malignos
and-of-coast hostile
Ambraciae portus, scopulosa Ceraunia nautae
of-Ambracia harbors, rocky Ceraunia the-sailors
summa timent. credit iam digna pericula Caesar
top fear. believes now worthy dangers Caesar
fatis esse suis. 'quantusne euertere' dixit
to-fates to-be his-own. 'how-great to-overturn' he-said
'me superis labor est, parua quem puppe sedentem
'me for-the-gods-above labor is, in-small whom ship sitting
tam magno petiere mari! si gloria leti
so with-great they-have-sought sea! if the-glory of-death
est pelago donata mei bellisque negamur,
is to-the-sea given my and-from-wars we-are-denied,
intrepidus quamcumque datis mihi, numina, mortem
undaunted whatever you-give me, divinities, death

accipiam. licet ingentis abruperit actus
I-shall-accept. though huge has-broken-off deeds
festinata dies fatis, sat magna peregi.
hastened day by-fates, enough great-things I-have-done.
Arctoas domui gentes, inimica subegi
Northern I-tamed nations, hostile I-subdued
arma metu, uidit Magnum mihi Roma secundum,
arms by-fear, saw Magnus to-me Rome second,
iussa plebe tuli fasces per bella negatos;
with-ordered plebs I-bore fasces through wars denied;
nulla meis aberit titulis Romana potestas,
no from-my will-be-absent titles Roman power,
nec sciet hoc quisquam nisi tu, quae sola meorum
nor will-know this anyone except you, who alone of-my
conscia uotorum es, me, quamuis plenus honorum
privy prayers are, me, although full of-honors
et dictator eam Stygias et consul ad umbras,
and dictator I-go Stygian and consul to shades,
priuatum, Fortuna, mori. mihi funere nullo
private, Fortune, to-die. to-me of-funeral no
est opus, o superi: lacerum retinete cadauer
is need, O gods-above: torn hold corpse
fluctibus in mediis, desint mihi busta rogusque,
waves in middle, let-be-lacking to-me tombs and-pyre,
dum metuar semper terraque expecter ab omni.'
provided I-be-feared always and-earth be-awaited from every.'
haec fatum decumus, dictu mirabile, fluctus
these-things him-having-said tenth, in-speaking wonderful, wave
inualida cum puppe leuat, nec rursus ab alto
weak with ship raises, nor again from high

aggere deiecit pelagi sed pertulit unda
heap threw-down of-the-sea but carried water
scruposisque angusta uacant ubi litora saxis
and-of-rough narrow are-empty where shores rocks
inposuit terrae. pariter tot regna, tot urbes
set onto-land. equally so-many kingdoms, so-many cities
fortunamque suam tacta tellure recepit.
and-fortune his-own with-touched land he-recovered.

V.12 · THE FLEET CROSSES

At dawn Caesar returns to his camp, where his men reproach him for risking the life on which the world depends and for scorning their loyalty. The storm passes, and the leaders in Italy, seeing the north wind rise, set sail. The fleet is scattered in the night, like cranes whose formation breaks in the wind, and at last reaches Nymphaeum, passing Lissus.

sed non tam remeans Caesar iam luce propinqua
but not so-much returning Caesar now with-light near
quam tacita sua castra fuga comitesque fefellit.
as with-silent his-own camp flight and-companions deceived.
circumfusa duci fleuit gemituque suorum
surrounding the-leader wept and-with-groaning of-his-own
et non ingratis incessit turba querellis.
and not with-ungrateful assailed the-throng complaints.
‘quo te, dure, tulit uirtus temeraria, Caesar,
‘where you, hard-one, has-carried valor rash, Caesar,
aut quae nos uiles animas in fata relinquens
or what us cheap souls to fates leaving
inuitis spargenda dabas tua membra procellis?
to-unwilling to-be-scattered were-you-giving your limbs storms?

cum tot in hac anima populorum uita salusque
when so-many in this soul of-peoples the-life and-safety
pendeat et tantus caput hoc sibi fecerit orbis,
hangs and so-great head this for-itself has-made world,
saeuitia est uoluisse mori. nullusne tuorum
savagery it-is to-have-wished to-die. has-none of-your
emeruit comitum fatis non posse superstes
earned companions to-the-fates not to-be-able surviving
esse tuis? cum te raperet mare, corpora segnis
to-be your? when you was-snatching the-sea, bodies sluggish
nostra sopor tenuit. pudet, heu! tibi causa petendae
our sleep held. it-shames, alas! for-you the-cause of-seeking
haec fuit Hesperiae, uisum est quod mittere quemquam
this was of-Hesperia, seemed it-has that to-send anyone
tam saeuo crudele mari. sors ultima rerum
so savage cruel on-sea. the-lot last of-affairs
in dubios casus et prona pericula morti
into doubtful chances and inclining dangers to-death
praecipitare solet: mundi iam summa tenentem
to-hurl is-wont: of-the-world now the-summit holding
permisisse mari tantum! quid numina lassas?
to-have-entrusted to-the-sea so-much! why the-divinities do-you-weary?
sufficit ad fatum belli fauor iste laborque
suffices for fate of-war favor that and-labor
Fortunae, quod te nostris inpegit harenis?
of-Fortune, that you on-our it-has-dashed sands?
hine usus placuere deum, non rector ut orbis
these uses pleased of-the-gods, not ruler that of-the-world
nec dominus rerum, sed felix naufragus esses?'
nor master of-things, but fortunate shipwrecked you-should-be?'

talia iactantis discussa nocte serenus
such-things the-ones-uttering with-scattered night serene
oppressit cum sole dies, fessumque tumentis
overtook with sun day, and-weary swelling
conposuit pelagus uentis patientibus undas.
calmed the-sea with-winds allowing waves.
nec non Hesperii lassatum fluctibus aequor
nor not Hesperian wearied with-waves sea
ut uidere duces, purumque insurgere caelo
when saw the-leaders, and-clear to-rise in-the-sky
fracturum pelagus Borean, soluere carinas.
going-to-break the-sea Boreas, loosed keels.
quas uentus doctaeque pari moderamine dextrae
which the-wind and-of-skilled with-equal guiding hand
permixtas habuere diu, latumque per aequor,
mingled held long, and-broad over sea,
ut terrestre, coit consertis puppibus agmen.
as on-land, assembles with-joined ships column.
sed nox saeua modum uenti uelique tenorem
but night savage the-measure of-wind and-of-sail the-steadiness
eripuit nautis excussitque ordine puppes.
snatched from-sailors and-shook-out from-order ships.
Strymona sic gelidum bruma pellente relinquunt
Strymon so icy with-winter driving they-leave
poturae te, Nile, grues, primoque uolatu
going-to-drink you, Nile, cranes, and-in-first flight
effingunt uarias casu monstrante figuras;
fashion various with-chance showing shapes;
mox, ubi percussit tensas Notus altior alas,
presently, when has-struck stretched South-Wind higher wings,

confusos temere inmixtae glomerantur in orbes,
confused at-random intermingled are-massed into circles,
et turbata perit dispersis littera pinnis.
and disturbed perishes with-scattered letter feathers.
cum primum redeunte die uiolentior aer
when first with-returning day more-violent air
puppibus incubuit Phoebeo concitus ortu,
on-ships lay with-Phoeban roused rising,
praetereunt frustra temptati litora Lissi
they-pass-by in-vain tried the-shores of-Lissus
Nymphaeumque tenent: nudas Aquilonibus undas
and-Nymphaeum hold: bare to-North-Winds waves
succedens Boreae iam portum fecerat Auster.
succeeding Boreas now a-harbor had-made South-Wind.

V.13 · CORNELIA SENT TO LESBOS

With Caesar's armies gathered against him, Pompey decides to send his wife Cornelia to Lesbos, out of danger. When she finds him weeping in the night, he tells her that the day has come for them to part, and that she must live safe so that, if he is defeated, the best part of him will remain. Cornelia answers that he dismisses her like a common divorcee and asks whether anything can be safer for her than for him; she begs him, if he must flee by sea, to steer anywhere but to her, since he will be sought on her shores. She leaves without a farewell, and passes her first night alone reaching for him in the empty bed.

undique conlatis in robur Caesaris armis
from-all-sides with-gathered into strength of-Caesar arms
summa uidens duri Magnus discrimina Martis
the-final seeing of-hard Magnus hazards Mars

iam castris instare suis seponere tutum
now camp to-press his-own to-set-aside safe
coniugii decreuit onus Lesboque remota
of-marriage decided the-burden and-on-Lesbos remote
te procul a saeui strepitu, Cornelia, belli
you far from of-savage din, Cornelia, war
occulere. heu, quantum mentes dominatur in aequas
to-hide. alas, how-much minds rules over fair
iusta Venus! dubium trepidumque ad proelia, Magne,
just Venus! doubtful and-trembling for battles, Magnus,
te quoque fecit amor; quod nolles stare sub ictu
you also made love; that you-should-be-unwilling to-stand under stroke
fortunae quo mundus erat Romanaque fata,
of-fortune in-which the-world was and-Roman fates,
coniunx sola fuit. mentem iam uerba paratam
the-wife alone was. the-mind already words prepared
destituunt, blandaeque iuuat uentura trahentem
desert, and-flattering it-pleases coming-things drawing-out
indulgere morae et tempus subducere fatis.
to-indulge delay and time to-withdraw from-the-fates.
nocte sub extrema pulso torpore quietis
night under last with-driven-off torpor of-rest
dum fouet amplexu grauidum Cornelia curis
while warms with-embrace heavy Cornelia with-cares
pectus et auersi petit oscula grata mariti,
breast and of-turned-away seeks kisses pleasing husband,
umentis mirata genas percussaque caeco
wet having-marveled-at cheeks and-struck by-blind
uolnere non audet flentem deprendere Magnum.
wound not dares weeping to-catch Magnus.

ille gemens 'non nunc uita mihi dulcior,' inquit
he groaning 'not now than-life to-me sweeter,' he-says
'cum taedet uitae, laeto sed tempore, coniunx,
'when it-wearies of-life, in-glad but time, wife,
uenit maesta dies et quam nimiumque parumque
has-come sad day and which and-too-much and-too-little
distulimus; iam totus adest in proelia Caesar.
we-have-postponed; now whole is-here for battles Caesar.
cedendum est bellis, quorum tibi tuta latebra
to-be-yielded is to-wars, of-which for-you safe hiding-place
Lesbos erit. desiste preces temptare: negaui
Lesbos will-be. cease prayers to-try: I-have-refused
iam mihi. non longos a me patiere recessus;
already myself. not long from me you-will-endure separations;
praecipites aderunt casus: properante ruina
headlong will-be-present chances: with-hastening ruin
summa cadunt. satis est audisse pericula Magni;
the-highest fall. enough it-is to-have-heard the-dangers of-Magnus;
meque tuus decepit amor, ciuilia bella
and-me your has-deceived love, civil wars
si spectare potes. nam me iam Marte parato
if to-watch you-can. for me now with-Mars prepared
securos cepisse pudet cum coniuge somnos,
untroubled to-have-taken it-shames with wife sleeps,
eque tuo, quatiunt miserum cum classica mundum,
and-from your, shake wretched when trumpets world,
surrexisse sinu. uereor ciuilibus armis
to-have-risen bosom. I-fear to-civil arms
Pompeium nullo tristem committere damno.
Pompey with-no grieving to-commit loss.

tutior interea populis et tutior omni
safer meanwhile than-peoples and safer than-every
rege late, positamque procul fortuna mariti
king lie-hidden, and-placed far the-fortune of-the-husband
non tota te mole premat. si numina nostras
not with-whole you mass may-press. if the-divinities our
inpulerint acies, maneat pars optima Magni,
shall-have-driven-back lines, may-remain the-part best of-Magnus,
sitque mihi, si fata prement uictorque cruentus,
and-may-be to-me, if the-fates press and-the-victor bloody,
quo fugisse uelim.' uix tantum infirma dolorem
whither to-have-fled I-may-wish.' scarcely so-great weak grief
cepit, et attonito cesserunt pectore sensus.
contained, and from-stunned withdrew breast senses.
tandem uox maestas potuit proferre querellas.
at-last her-voice sad could to-bring-forth complaints.
'nil mihi de fatis thalami superisque relictum est,
'nothing to-me of fates of-the-marriage-bed and-of-the-gods-above left is,
Magne, queri: nostros non rumpit funus amores
Magnus, to-complain-of: our not breaks death loves
nec diri fax summa rogi, sed sorte frequenti
nor of-dire the-torch last pyre, but by-lot frequent
plebeiaque nimis careo dimissa marito.
and-plebeian too I-lack dismissed husband.
hostis ad aduentum rumpamus foedera taedae,
of-the-enemy at arrival let-us-break the-compact of-marriage,
placemus socerum. sic est tibi cognita, Magne,
let-us-appease the-father-in-law. thus is to-you known, Magnus,
nostra fides? credisne aliquid mihi tutius esse
our loyalty? do-you-believe anything for-me safer to-be

quam tibi? non olim casu pendemus ab uno?
than for-you? not long-since chance do-we-hang from one?
fulminibus me, saeue, iubes tantaeque ruinae
to-thunderbolts me, savage-one, you-bid and-of-so-great ruin
absentem praestare caput? secura uidetur
absent to-expose head? untroubled seems
sors tibi, cum facias etiamnunc uota, perisse?
a-lot to-you, when you-make even-now vows, to-have-perished?
ut nolim seruire malis sed morte parata
though I-be-unwilling to-be-slave to-evils but with-death prepared
te sequar ad manes, feriat dum maesta remotas
you I-should-follow to shades, strikes until sad remote
fama procul terras, uiuam tibi nempe superstes.
rumor far lands, I-shall-live to-you surely surviving.
adde quod adsuescis fatis tantumque dolorem,
add that you-accustom to-the-fates and-so-great grief,
crudelis, me ferre doces. ignosce fatenti,
cruel-one, me to-bear you-teach. pardon one-confessing,
posse pati timeo. quod si sunt uota, deisque
to-be-able to-endure I-fear. but if are vows, and-by-the-gods
audior, euentus rerum sciet ultima coniunx.
I-am-heard, the-outcome of-things will-know last the-wife.
sollicitam rupes iam te uictore tenebunt,
anxious the-crags already with-you victor will-hold,
et puppem quae fata ferat tam laeta timebo.
and the-ship which fates will-bring so glad I-shall-fear.
nec soluent audita metus mihi prospera belli,
nor will-loosen heard fears for-me the-successes of-war,
cum uacuis proiecta locis a Caesare possim
when in-empty thrown places by Caesar I-could

uel fugiente capi. notescent litora clari
even fleeing be-captured. will-become-known the-shores of-famous
nominis exilio, positaque ibi coniuge Magni
name by-exile, and-with-placed there wife of-Magnus
quis Mytilenaeas poterit nescire latebras?
who Mytilenaean will-be-able not-to-know hiding-places?
hoc precor extremum: si nil tibi uicta relinquent
this I-pray last: if nothing to-you conquered will-leave
tutius arma fuga, cum te commiseris undis,
safer arms than-flight, when yourself you-entrust to-waves,
quolibet infaustam potius deflecte carinam:
anywhere-else ill-omened rather turn keel:
litoribus quaerere meis.' sic fata relictis
on-shores you-will-be-sought my.' thus having-spoken with-left
exiluit stratis amens tormentaque nulla
she-leapt-from couches frantic and-torments no
uult differre mora. non maesti pectora Magni
wishes to-defer by-delay. not of-sad the-breast Magnus
sustinet amplexu dulci, non colla tenere,
endures with-embrace sweet, not the-neck to-hold,
extremusque perit tam longi fructus amoris,
and-last perishes of-so long fruit love,
praecipitantque suos luctus, neuterque recedens
and-they-hasten their-own griefs, and-neither withdrawing
sustinuit dixisse uale, uitamque per omnem
endured to-have-said farewell, and-life through whole
nulla fuit tam maesta dies; nam cetera damna
no was so sad day; for the-other losses
durata iam mente malis firmaque tulerunt.
with-hardened now mind by-evils and-firm they-bore.

labitur infelix manibusque excepta suorum
sinks unhappy and-by-hands received of-her-own
fertur ad aequoreas, ac se prosternit, harenas,
is-carried to of-the-sea, and herself throws-down, sands,
litoraque ipsa tenet, tandemque inlata carinaest.
and-shores themselves holds, and-at-last carried-in into-the-ship-is.
non sic infelix patriam portusque reliquit
not so unhappy the-fatherland and-harbors she-left
Hesperios, saeui premerent cum Caesaris arma.
Hesperian, savage pressed when of-Caesar arms.
fida comes Magni uadit duce sola relicto
faithful companion of-Magnus goes with-leader alone left
Pompeiumque fugit. quae nox tibi proxima uenit,
and-Pompey flees. which night to-you next came,
insomnis; uiduo tum primum frigida lecto
sleepless; in-widowed then first cold bed
atque insueta quies uni, nudumque marito
and unaccustomed rest to-her-alone, and-bare with-husband
non haerente latus. somno quam saepe grauata
not clinging side. by-sleep how often weighed
deceptis uacuum manibus conplexa cubile est
with-deceived empty hands she-embraced the-bed has
atque oblita fugae quaesiuit nocte maritum!
and having-forgotten the-flight sought at-night the-husband!
nam quamuis flamma tacitas urente medullas
for although with-flame silent burning marrow
non iuuat in toto corpus iactare cubili:
not it-pleases in whole the-body to-toss bed:
seruatur pars illa tori. caruisse timebat
is-kept part that of-the-couch. to-have-lost she-feared

Pompeio; sed non superi tam laeta parabant:
Pompey; but not the-gods-above so glad were-preparing:
instabat miserae, Magnum quae redderet, hora.
was-pressing for-the-wretched, Magnus which would-return, the-hour.