LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 36

The Civil War

LUCAN

Bellum Civile

The Civil War

Part Two: Books VI–X

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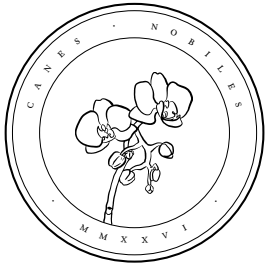
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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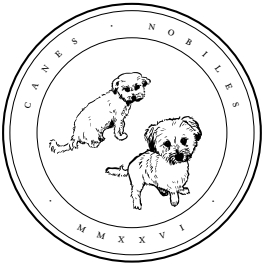

Volume 36 of the Canes Nobiles Latin interlinear texts

The Latin text follows Housman's text of Lucan, Oxford, 1926

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

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*.

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BOOK VI

VI.1 · THE SIEGE WORKS AT DYRRACHIUM

With the camps pitched on neighboring heights, Caesar, scorning the Greek towns and owing nothing now to the fates but the son-in-law, three times deploys his squadrons on the hills and offers battle; when Pompey will not come out, he marches by a hidden road on Dyrrachium. Pompey forestalls him on the rock of Petra, and the city stands on its sea-washed cliffs. Caesar then rings the scattered enemy with a vast rampart of turf, crags, and stolen walls, enclosing woods and pastures; the poet sets the work beside Troy's and Babylon's walls and laments the labor that could have joined Sestos to Abydos or cut the isthmus of Corinth; in this narrow arena, he says, the blood of Thessaly and Libya is already nursed.

Postquam castra duces pugnae iam mente propinquis
After the-camps the-leaders to-battle already in-mind near
inposuere iugis admotaque comminus arma
placed on-the-ridges and-moved-up at-close-quarters arms
parque suum uidere dei, capere omnia Caesar
and-pair their-own saw the-gods, to-take all-things Caesar
moenia Graiorum spernit Martemque secundum
the-walls of-the-Greeks scorns and-Mars favorable
iam nisi de genero fatis debere recusat.
now except from the-son-in-law to-the-fates to-owe refuses.
funestam mundo uotis petit omnibus horam
the-deadly for-the-world with-prayers he-seeks all hour
in casum quae cuncta ferat; placet alea fati
into hazard which all-things would-bring; pleases the-throw of-fate
alterutrum mersura caput. ter collibus omnis
one-or-the-other going-to-sink head. thrice on-the-hills all
explicuit turmas et signa minantia pugnam
he-deployed squadrons and standards threatening battle

testatus numquam Latiae se desse ruinae.
having-declared never to-Latin himself to-fail ruin.
ut uidet ad nullos exciri posse tumultus
when he-sees to no to-be-roused to-be-able alarms
in pugnam generum sed clauso fidere uallo,
into battle the-son-in-law but in-the-closed to-trust rampart,
signa mouet tectusque uia dumosa per arua
the-standards he-moves and-hidden by-a-way bushy through fields
Dyrrachii praeceps rapiendas tendit ad arcis.
of-Dyrrachium headlong to-be-seized he-makes for the-citadels.
hoc iter aequoreo praecepit limite Magnus,
this route by-the-seaward forestalled path Magnus,
quemque uocat collem Taulantius incola Petram
and-which calls the-hill the-Taulantian inhabitant Petra
insedit castris Ephyraeaque moenia seruat
occupied with-a-camp and-the-Ephyraean walls guards
defendens tutam uel solis turribus urbem.
defending safe even by-mere towers city.
non opus hanc ueterum nec moles structa tuetur
not the-work this of-the-ancients nor mass built protects
humanusque labor facilis, licet ardua tollat,
and-human toil easy, though high-things it-raise,
cedere uel bellis uel cuncta mouentibus annis,
to-yield either to-wars or all-things to-moving years,
sed munimen habet nullo quassabile ferro
but a-defense it-has by-no shakable steel
naturam sedemque loci; nam clausa profundo
the-nature and-the-site of-the-place; for enclosed by-the-deep
undique praecipiti scopulisque uomentibus aequor
on-every-side sheer and-by-rocks spewing the-sea

exiguo debet, quod non est insula, colli.
to-a-small it-owes, that not it-is an-island, hill.

terribiles ratibus sustentant moenia cautes,
fearsome to-ships support the-walls crags,

Ioniumque furens, rapido cum tollitur Austro,
and-the-Ionian raging, by-the-swift when it-is-raised South-Wind,

templa domosque quatit, spumatque in culmina pontus.
the-temples and-the-houses shakes, and-foams to the-roofs the-sea.

hic auidam belli rapuit spes inproba mentem
here the-greedy of-war seized hope wicked mind

Caesaris, ut uastis diffusum collibus hostem
of-Caesar, that over-vast spread-out hills the-enemy

cingeret ignarum ducto procul aggere ualli.
he-might-ring unaware with-led far-off a-mound of-rampart.

metatur terras oculis, nec caespite tantum
he-measures the-lands with-his-eyes, nor with-turf only

contentus fragili subitos attollere muros
content fragile sudden to-raise walls

ingentis cautes auolsaque saxa metallis
huge crags and-torn-out rocks from-quarries

Graiorumque domos direptaque moenia transfert.
and-of-the-Greeks the-houses and-plundered walls he-carries-over.

extruitur quod non aries inpellere saeuus,
there-is-built-up what not the-ram to-drive-in savage,

quod non ulla queat uiolenti machina belli.
what not any could of-violent engine war.

franguntur montes, planumque per ardua Caesar
are-broken mountains, and-level across heights Caesar

ducit opus; pandit fossas turritaque summis
leads the-work; he-opens trenches and-towered on-the-highest

disponit castella iugis magnoque recessu
he-sets forts ridges and-in-great a-sweep
amplexus fines saltus nemorosaque tesqua
having-embraced borders woodlands and-forested wastes
et siluas uastaque feras indagine claudit.
and woods and-vast wild-beasts in-a-ring encloses.
non desunt campi, non desunt pabula Magno,
not are-lacking plains, not are-lacking fodders to-Magnus,
castraque Caesareo circumdatus aggere mutat:
and-his-camp by-Caesar's encircled mound he-shifts:
flumina tot cursus illic exorta fatigant,
rivers so-many courses there sprung-up wear-out,
illic mersa suos; operumque ut summa reuisat
there sunk their-own; and-of-the-works that the-whole he-may-review
defessus Caesar mediis intermanet agris.
wearied Caesar in-the-midst stays-over fields.
nunc uetus Iliacos attollat fabula muros
now old the-Ilian let-raise legend walls
ascribatque deis; fragili circumdata testa
and-let-ascribe to-the-gods; with-fragile surrounded brick
moenia mirentur refugi Babylonia Parthi.
walls let-admire fleeing the-Babylonian Parthians.
en, quantum Tigris, quantum celer ambit Orontes,
lo, as-much-as the-Tigris, as-much-as swift circles the-Orontes,
Assyriis quantum populis telluris Eoae
for-the-Assyrian as-much-as peoples of-the-land Eastern
sufficit in regnum, subitum bellique tumultu
suffices for a-kingdom, sudden and-of-war in-the-tumult
raptum clausit opus. tanti periere labores.
snatched-up enclosed a-work. so-great perished labors.

tot potuere manus aut iungere Seston Abydo
so-many could hands either to-join Sestos to-Abydos
ingestoque solo Phrixeum elidere pontum,
and-with-heaped-in soil Phrixus' to-dash-out sea,
aut Pelopis latis Ephyren abrumpere regnis
or from-Pelops' broad Ephyre to-break-off realms
et ratibus longae flexus donare Maleae,
and to-ships of-long the-windings to-spare Malea,
aut aliquem mundi, quamuis natura negasset,
or some of-the-world, although nature had-denied,
in melius mutare locum. coit area belli:
into better to-change place. comes-together the-floor of-war:
hic alitur sanguis terras fluxurus in omnis,
here is-nourished blood lands going-to-flow into all,
hic et Thessalicae clades Libycaeque tenentur;
here both the-Thessalian disasters and-Libyan are-held;
aestuat angusta rabies ciuilis harena.
seethes in-a-narrow frenzy civil arena.

VI.2 · PLAGUE AND FAMINE

At first Pompey does not see the works rise, then spreads his camp wide to loosen Caesar's line. His horses starve on the trampled ground, and a plague born of the rotting dead sweeps his army until the sea air and ships from abroad relieve it. Caesar's men, free on the hills, eat grass, leaves, and unknown roots, and still the glutted enemy is besieged by the starving.

prima quidem surgens operum structura fefellit
first indeed rising of-the-works the-structure deceived
Pompeium, ueluti mediae qui tutus in aruis
Pompey, as-one of-the-middle who safe in fields

Sicaniae rabidum nescit latrare Pelorum,
of-Sicania raging knows-not to-bark Pelorus,
aut, uaga cum Tethys Rutupinaque litora feruent,
or, wandering when Tethys and-the-Rutupian shores boil,
unda Caledonios fallit turbata Britannos.
the-wave the-Caledonian escapes troubled Britons.
ut primum uasto saeptas uidet aggere terras,
as soon-as with-a-vast fenced he-sees mound lands,
ipse quoque a tuta deducens agmina Petra
himself too from safe leading-down columns Petra
diuersis spargit tumulis, ut Caesaris arma
on-scattered spreads mounds, that Caesar's arms
laxet et effuso claudentem milite tendat;
he-may-loosen and with-spread-out enclosing soldiery stretch;
ac tantum saepti uallo sibi uindicat agri,
and so-much fenced by-the-rampart for-himself claims of-land,
parua Mycenaeae quantum sacrata Dianae
small to-Mycenaean as-much-as consecrated Diana
distat ab excelsa nemoralis Aricia Roma,
stands-off from lofty woodland Aricia Rome,
quoque modo terrae praelapsus moenia Thybris
and-in-what measure of-the-land having-slid-past walls the-Tiber
in mare descendit, si nusquam torqueat amnem.
into the-sea descends, if nowhere it-should-twist its-stream.
classica nulla sonant iniussaque tela uagantur
war-trumpets none sound and-unbidden missiles wander
et fit saepe nefas iaculum temptante lacerto.
and becomes often abomination the-javelin with-testing arm.
maior cura duces miscendis abstrahit armis:
a-greater care the-leaders from-mingling draws-away arms:

Pompeium exhaustae praebenda ad gramina terrae,
Pompey of-exhausted to-be-supplied for grasses earth,
quae currens obtriuit eques gradibusque citatis
which running has-trampled the-horseman and-with-steps quickened
ungula frondentem discussit cornea campum.
the-hoof leafy has-shattered horny plain.
belliger attonsis sonipes defessus in aruis,
war-making cropped the-steed wearied in fields,
aduectos cum plena ferant praesepia culmos,
brought-in although full should-bear stalls straw,
ore nouas poscens moribundus labitur herbas
with-mouth new demanding dying slips-down grasses
et tremulo medios abrumpit poplite gyros.
and with-trembling midway breaks-off hock circles.
corpora dum soluit tabes et digerit artus,
the-bodies while loosens decay and dissolves the-limbs,
traxit iners caelum fluuidae contagia pestis
drew sluggish the-sky of-flowing the-contagions plague
obscuram in nubem. tali spiramine Nesis
murky into a-cloud. with-such breath Nesis
emittit Stygium nebulosis aera saxis
sends-out Stygian from-misty air rocks
antraque letiferi rabiem Typhonis anhelant.
and-the-caves of-death-bearing the-rage Typhon pant.
inde labant populi, caeloque paratior unda
thence totter the-peoples, and-than-the-sky readier the-water
omne pati uirus durauit uiscera caeno.
all to-suffer poison hardened its-entrails with-mud.
iam riget arta cutis distentaque lumina rumpit,
now stiffens tight the-skin and-swollen the-eyes it-bursts,

igneaque in uoltus et sacro feruida morbo
and-fiery into the-faces and with-sacred burning disease
pestis abit, fessumque caput se ferre recusat.
the-plague passes, and-the-weary head itself to-carry refuses.
iam magis atque magis praeceps agit omnia fatum,
now more and more headlong drives all-things fate,
nec medii dirimunt morbi uitamque necemque,
nor in-between separate diseases and-life and-death,
sed languor cum morte uenit; turbaque cadentum
but languor with death comes; and-by-the-crowd of-the-falling
aucta lues, dum mixta iacent incondita uiuis
increased the-pestilence, while mingled lie unburied with-the-living
corpora; nam miseros ultra tentoria ciues
bodies; for the-wretched beyond the-tents citizens
spargere funus erat. tamen hos minuere labores
to-scatter a-funeral was. yet these lessened hardships
a tergo pelagus pulsusque Aquilonibus aer
from behind the-sea and-driven by-the-North-Winds air
litoraque et plenae peregrina messe carinae.
and-shores and full with-foreign harvest ships.
at liber terrae spatiosis collibus hostis
but free of-land on-spacious hills the-enemy
aere non pigro nec inertibus angitur undis,
by-air not sluggish nor by-stagnant is-distressed waters,
sed patitur saeuam, ueluti circumdatus arta
but he-suffers savage, as-if surrounded by-a-tight
opsidione, famem. nondum turgentibus altam
siege, hunger. not-yet swelling tall
in segetem culmis cernit miserabile uolgus
into the-crop with-stalks he-sees the-wretched throng

in pecudum cecidisse cibos et carpere dumos
into of-cattle to-have-fallen fodder and to-crop thorns
et foliis spoliare nemus letumque minantis
and of-leaves to-strip the-grove and-death threatening
uellere ab ignotis dubias radicibus herbas.
to-pluck from unknown doubtful roots herbs.
quae mollire queunt flamma, quae frangere morsu,
what to-soften they-can with-flame, what to-break with-the-bite,
quaeque per abrasas utero demittere fauces,
and-what through scraped into-the-belly to-send-down throats,
plurimaque humanis ante hoc incognita mensis
and-very-many to-human before this unknown tables
diripiens miles saturum tamen obsidet hostem.
snatching the-soldier glutted yet besieges the-enemy.

VI.3 · SCAEVA

Pompey breaks out at the fort of Minicius, and his eagles cross the rampart; one man, the centurion Scaeva, snatches the place back. Calling the fleeing Caesarians back with scorn, he stands on the collapsing mound, hurls down corpses and beams, and leaps among the enemy like a leopard over hunting-spears. His sword grows blunt with gore, and spears stand fixed in his bones, a new pair for Fortune to watch, a war against a man.

ut primum libuit ruptis euadere claustris
as soon-as it-pleased from-broken to-escape the-barriers
Pompeio cunctasque sibi permittere terras,
to-Pompey and-all to-himself to-throw-open the-lands,
non obscura petit latebrosae tempora noctis,
not the-obscure he-seeks of-lurking times night,

et raptum furto soceri cessantibus armis
and snatched by-stealth of-the-father-in-law with-idle arms
dedignatur iter: latis exire ruinis
disdains a-route: through-broad to-go-out ruins
quaerit, et inpulso turres confringere uallo,
he-seeks, and with-the-battered towers to-shatter rampart,
perque omnis gladios et qua uia caede paranda est.
and-through all swords and where the-way by-slaughter to-be-won is.
opportuna tamen ualli pars uisa propinqui,
convenient yet of-the-rampart part seemed near,
qua Minici castella uacant, et confraga densis
where of-Minicius the-forts stand-empty, and broken with-thick
arboribus dumeta tegunt. hic puluere nullo
trees thickets cover. here by-dust no
proditus agmen agit subitusque in moenia uenit.
betrayed his-column he-drives and-sudden onto the-walls comes.
tot simul e campis Latiae fulsere uolucres,
so-many at-once from the-plains Latin flashed birds,
tot cecinere tubae. nequid uictoria ferro
so-many sounded trumpets. lest-anything the-victory to-steel
deberet, pauor attonitos confecerat hostes.
should-owe, panic the-astounded had-finished-off enemy.
quod solum ualuit uirtus, iacuere perempti
that alone availed valor, lay slain
debuerant quo stare loco, qui uolnera ferrent
they-ought in-which to-stand place, who wounds might-bear
iam derant, et nimbus agens tot tela peribat.
now were-lacking, and the-cloud driving so-many missiles was-being-lost.
tum piceos uoluunt inmissae lampades ignes,
then pitchy roll hurled torches fires,

tum quassae nutant turres lapsumque minantur,
then battered totter towers and-a-fall threaten,
roboris inpacti crebros gemit agger ad ictus.
of-oak driven-in frequent groans the-mound at blows.
iam Pompeianae celsi super ardua ualli
now Pompeian of-the-high over the-heights rampart
exierant aquilae, iam mundi iura patebant:
had-gone-out eagles, now of-the-world the-rights lay-open:
quem non mille simul turmis nec Caesare toto
which not a-thousand at-once with-squadrons nor with-Caesar whole
auferret Fortuna locum uictoribus unus
could-take-away Fortune the-place from-the-victors one-man
eripuit uetuitque capi, seque arma tenente
snatched and-forbade to-be-taken, and-with-himself arms holding
ac nondum strato Magnum uicisse negauit.
and not-yet laid-low Magnus to-have-conquered denied.
Scaeua uiro nomen: castrorum in plebe merebat
Scaeva to-the-man the-name: of-the-camp in the-commons he-served
ante feras Rhodani gentes; ibi sanguine multo
before the-wild of-the-Rhone tribes; there with-blood much
promotus Latiam longo gerit ordine uitem,
promoted the-Latin in-long he-bears rank vine-staff,
pronus ad omne nefas et qui nesciret in armis
prone to every abomination and who did-not-know in arms
quam magnum uirtus crimen ciuilibus esset.
how great valor a-crime civil was.
hic ubi quaerentis socios iam Marte relicto
he when seeking his-comrades now with-Mars abandoned
tuta fugae cernit, ‘quo uos pauor’ inquit ‘adegit
the-safety of-flight he-sees, ‘whither you panic’ he-says ‘has-driven

inpius et cunctis ignotus Caesaris armis?
impious and to-all unknown of-Caesar arms?
terga datis morti? cumulo uos desse uirorum
backs do-you-give to-death? to-the-heap you to-be-wanting of-men
non pudet et bustis interque cadauera quaeri?
not are-you-ashamed and to-the-pyres and-among corpses to-be-sought?
non ira saltem, iuuenes, pietate remota
not by-anger at-least, young-men, with-dutifulness removed
stabitis? e cunctis, per quos erumperet hostis,
will-you-stand? out-of all, through whom might-break-out the-enemy,
nos sumus electi. non paruo sanguine Magni
we are chosen. not with-little blood of-Magnus
iste dies ierit. peterem felicior umbras
this day will-have-gone. I-would-seek more-fortunate the-shades
Caesaris in uoltu: testem hunc fortuna negauit:
of-Caesar in the-sight: witness this fortune has-denied:
Pompeio laudante cadam. confringite tela
with-Pompey praising I-shall-fall. shatter the-weapons
pectoris inpulsu iugulisque retundite ferrum.
with-the-breast's thrust and-with-throats blunt the-steel.
iam longinqua petit puluis sonitusque ruinae,
now far-off reaches the-dust and-the-sound of-the-ruin,
securasque fragor concussit Caesaris aures.
and-the-untroubled the-crash has-struck of-Caesar ears.
uincimus, o socii: ueniet qui uindicet arces
we-conquer, O comrades: will-come one-who may-avenge the-citadel
dum morimur.' mouit tantum uox illa furorem,
while we-die.' moved so-much voice that frenzy,
quantum non primo succendunt classica cantu,
as-much-as not at-the-first kindle trumpets blast,

mirantesque uirum atque auidi spectare secuntur
and-wondering at-the-man and greedy to-watch follow
scituri iuuenes, numero deprensa locoque
going-to-know the-young-men, by-number caught and-by-place
an plus quam mortem uirtus daret. ille ruenti
whether more than death valor might-give. he on-the-collapsing
aggere consistit, primumque cadauera plenis
mound takes-his-stand, and-first corpses from-full
turribus euoluit subeuntisque obruit hostis
towers rolls-out and-the-advancing overwhelms enemy
corporibus, totaeque uiro dant tela ruinae,
with-bodies, and-the-whole to-the-man give weapons ruin,
roboraque et moles hosti seque ipse minatur.
and-oak and masses at-the-enemy and-himself he threatens.
nunc sude nunc duro contraria pectora conto
now with-a-stake now with-a-hard facing breasts pole
detrudit muris, et ualli summa tenentis
he-thrusts-down from-the-walls, and of-the-rampart the-top holding
amputat ense manus; caput obterit ossaque saxo
cuts-off with-the-sword the-hands; the-head he-crushes and-the-bones with-a-stone
ac male defensum fragili conpage cerebrum
and badly protected by-its-fragile frame the-brain
dissipat; alterius flamma crinesque genasque
scatters; of-another with-flame and-the-hair and-the-cheeks
succendit, strident oculis ardentibus ignes.
he-kindles, hiss in-the-eyes burning fires.
ut primum cumulo crescente cadauera murum
as soon-as with-the-heap growing the-corpses the-wall
admouere solo, non segnior extulit illum
brought-up to-the-ground, not more-sluggish carried him

saltus et in medias iecit super arma cateruas,
a-leap and into the-midst threw over the-arms companies,
quam per summa rapit celerem uenabula pardum.
than over the-tops snatches the-swift hunting-spears leopard.
tunc densos inter cuneos conpressus et omni
then thick among wedges pressed and by-all
uallatus bello uincit, quem respicit, hostem.
walled-in war he-conquers, whom he-looks-back-at, enemy.
iamque hebes et crasso non asper sanguine mucro
and-now blunt and with-clotted not sharp blood the-point
perdidit ensis opus, frangit sine uolnere membra.
lost the-sword its-work, it-breaks without a-wound limbs.
illum tota premit moles, illum omnia tela,
him whole presses the-mass, him all weapons,
nulla fuit non certa manus, non lancea felix;
none was not sure hand, not lance lucky;
parque nouum Fortuna uidet concurrere, bellum
and-a-pair new Fortune sees to-clash, a-war
atque uirum. fortis crebris sonat ictibus umbo,
and a-man. strong with-frequent rings blows the-boss,
et galeae fragmenta cauae conpressa perurunt
and of-the-helmet the-fragments hollow crushed burn
tempora, nec quicquam nudis uitalibus obstat
his-temples, nor anything to-the-bare vitals stands-in-the-way
iam praeter stantis in summis ossibus hastas.
now except standing in the-topmost bones spears.

Scaeva meets every weapon with his bare breast, like a Libyan elephant shaking off spears; a Cretan arrow pierces his eye, and he tears it out with the eye and tramples them. Feigning surrender, he asks to be carried to Magnus' camp and kills Aulus, who comes to take him, and cries that his love of death outweighs their love of Pompey's cause; then the dust of Caesar's cohorts is seen, sparing Magnus the disgrace of whole companies fleeing one man. His comrades worship him like a god and hang his arms on Mars, but the poet mourns that such valor served only to make a master.

quid nunc, uaesani, iaculis leuibusue sagittis
why now, madmen, with-javelins or-with-light arrows
perditis haesuros numquam uitalibus ictus?
do-you-waste going-to-stick never in-the-vitals blows?
hunc aut tortilibus uibrata falarica neruis
him either from-twisted hurled the-falarica cords
obruat aut uasti muralia pondera saxi,
let-overwhelm or of-vast the-wall-breaking weights rock,
hunc aries ferro ballistaque limine portae
him the-ram with-iron and-the-ballista from-the-threshold of-the-gate
promoueat. stat non fragilis pro Caesare murus
let-drive-off. stands not fragile for Caesar a-wall
Pompeiumque tenet. iam pectora non tegit armis,
and-Pompey holds-back. now his-breast not he-covers with-arms,
ac ueritus credi clipeo laeuaque uacasse
and fearing to-be-believed with-his-shield and-his-left-hand to-have-been-idle
aut culpa uixisse sua tot uolnera belli
or by-fault to-have-lived his-own so-many wounds of-war
solus obit densamque ferens in pectore siluam
alone he-meets and-a-thick bearing in his-breast forest

iam gradibus fessis, in quem cadat, eligit hostem.
now with-steps weary, on whom he-may-fall, chooses an-enemy.
sic Libycus densis elephans oppressus ab armis
so the-Libyan thick elephant pressed by arms
omne repercussum squalenti missile tergo
every rebounding from-its-scaly missile back
frangit et haerentis mota cute discutit hastas:
breaks and clinging with-moved hide shakes-off spears:
uiscera tuta latent penitus, citraque cruorem
the-vitals safe lie-hidden deep, and-short-of blood
confixae stant tela ferae: tot facta sagittis,
fixed stand the-weapons in-the-beast: so-many made by-arrows,
tot iaculis unam non explent uolnera mortem.
so-many by-javelins one not fill wounds death.
Dictaea procul, ecce, manu Gortynis harundo
a-Dictaean far-off, look, by-hand Gortynian reed
tenditur in Scaeuam, quae uoto certior omni
is-aimed at Scaeva, which than-prayer surer every
in caput atque oculi laeuom descendit in orbem.
into the-head and of-the-eye the-left descends into orb.
ille moras ferri neruorum et uincula rumpit
he the-delays of-the-iron of-the-sinews and the-bonds breaks
adfixam uellens oculo pendente sagittam
the-fixed plucking-out with-the-eye hanging arrow
intrepidus, telumque suo cum lumine calcat.
undaunted, and-the-shaft his-own with eye tramples.
Pannonis haud aliter post ictum saeuior ursa,
the-Pannonian not otherwise after the-blow more-savage she-bear,
cum iaculum parua Libys ammentauit habena,
when the-javelin with-small the-Libyan has-thonged strap,

se rotat in uolnus telumque irata receptum
herself spins into the-wound and-the-weapon angry received
inpetit et secum fugientem circumit hastam.
attacks and with-herself fleeing circles the-spear.
perdiderat uoltum rabies, stetit imbre cruento
had-destroyed his-face frenzy, stood with-a-shower bloody
informis facies. laetus fragor aethera pulsat
shapeless his-countenance. glad the-roar the-sky strikes
uictorum: maiora uiris e sanguine paruo
of-the-victors: greater to-the-men from blood small
gaudia non faceret conspectum in Caesare uolnus.
joys not would-make seen on Caesar a-wound.
ille tegens alta suppressum mente furorem,
he hiding in-deep suppressed his-mind frenzy,
mitis et a uoltu penitus uirtute remota,
mild and from his-face deep valor removed,
'parcite', ait 'ciues; procul hinc auertite ferrum.
'spare', he-says 'citizens; far hence turn-away the-steel.
conlatura meae nil sunt iam uolnera morti:
going-to-contribute to-my nothing are now wounds death:
non eget ingestis sed uolsis pectore telis.
not it-needs heaped-on but plucked from-the-breast weapons.
tollite et in Magni uiuentem ponite castris.
lift and in of-Magnus living place-me the-camp.
hoc uestro praestate duci: sit Scaeua relicti
this to-your offer leader: let-be Scaeva of-abandoned
Caesaris exemplum potius quam mortis honestae.'
Caesar an-example rather than of-a-death honorable.'
credidit infelix simulatis uocibus Aulus
believed unlucky the-feigned words Aulus

nec uidit recto gladium mucrone tenentem,
nor saw with-straight the-sword point holding,
membraque captiui pariter laturus et arma
and-the-limbs of-the-captive alike going-to-carry and arms
fulmineum mediis excepit faucibus ensem.
the-lightning-swift in-the-middle-of caught his-throat sword.
incaluit uirtus, atque una caede refectus
grew-hot valor, and by-one slaughter restored
'soluat' ait 'poenas, Scaeuam quicumque subactum
'let-him-pay' he-says 'the-penalty, Scaeva whoever overcome
sperauit. pacem gladio si quaerit ab isto
hoped. peace sword if seeks from this
Magnus, adorato summittat Caesare signa.
Magnus, with-worshiped let-him-lower Caesar his-standards.
an similem uestri segnemque ad fata putatis?
or like you and-sluggish toward fates do-you-think?
Pompei uobis minor est causaeque senatus
of-Pompey to-you less is and-of-the-cause of-the-senate
quam mihi mortis amor.' simul haec effatur, et altus
than to-me of-death the-love.' at-once these-things he-utters, and high
Caesareas puluis testatur adesse cohortes.
Caesarian dust bears-witness to-be-at-hand cohorts.
dedecus hic belli Magno crimenque remisit,
the-disgrace here of-war to-Magnus and-the-reproach remitted,
ne solum totae fugerent te, Scaeua, cateruae.
lest alone whole should-flee you, Scaeva, companies.
subducto qui Marte ruis; nam sanguine fuso
with-withdrawn who Mars you-fall; for with-blood shed
uires pugna dabat. labentem turba suorum
strength the-fight gave. falling the-crowd of-his-own

excipit atque umeris defectum inponere gaudet;
catches and on-their-shoulders the-faint to-place rejoices;
ac uelut inclusum perfosso in pectore numen
and as-if shut-up the-pierced in breast divinity
et uiuam magnae speciem Virtutis adorant;
and living of-great the-likeness Valor they-worship;
telaque confixis certant euellere membris,
and-the-weapons from-the-transfixed strive to-pluck limbs,
exornantque deos ac nudum pectore Martem
and-adorn the-gods and bare on-his-breast Mars
armis, Scaeua, tuis: felix hoc nomine famae,
with-arms, Scaeva, your: happy in-this name of-fame,
si tibi durus Hiber aut si tibi terga dedisset
if to-you hard the-Spaniard or if to-you his-back had-given
Cantaber exiguis aut longis Teutonus armis.
the-Cantabrian with-small or with-long the-Teuton arms.
non tu bellorum spoliis ornare Tonantis
not you of-wars with-the-spoils to-adorn of-the-Thunderer
templa potes, non tu laetis ululare triumphis.
the-temples can, not you in-glad to-shout triumphs.
infelix, quanta dominum uirtute parasti!
unlucky, with-how-great a-master valor you-have-made-ready!

Repulsed on one side, Pompey storms the forts by the sea and spreads his camp over the plain, as the Po overflows its banks. Caesar comes too late, finds his walls broken and the marks of ruin already cold, and attacks Torquatus, but Pompey pours his lines down from the hills and Caesar's army flees in blind panic; Pompey holds back the swords, and the poet cries that Rome would have been free if Sulla had stood in his place, and Utica, Munda, and the Nile spared. Caesar marches for Thessaly; Pompey, urged to return to Italy, refuses to fight in Rome's temples and follows him.

nec magis hac Magnus castrorum parte repulsus
nor more on-this Magnus of-the-camp side repulsed
intra claustra piger dilato Marte quieuit,
within the-barriers sluggish with-postponed Mars rested,
quam mare lassatur, cum se tollentibus Euris
than the-sea is-wearied, when itself with-rising East-Winds
frangentem fluctus scopulum ferit aut latus alti
breaking the-waves a-crag it-strikes or the-side of-a-high
montis adest seramque sibi parat unda ruinam.
mountain is-at and-a-late for-itself prepares the-wave ruin.
hinc uicina petens placido castella profundo
hence neighboring seeking on-the-calm forts deep
incursu gemini Martis rapit, armaque late
with-the-onset of-a-twin Mars he-seizes, and-arms widely
spargit et effuso laxat tentoria campo,
he-scatters and over-a-spread-out loosens tents plain,
mutandaeque iuuat permissa licentia terrae.
and-of-changing pleases the-granted license ground.
sic pleno Padus ore tumens super aggere tutas
so with-full the-Po mouth swelling over the-embankment safe

excurrit ripas et totos concutit agros;
runs-out banks and whole shakes fields;
succubuit siqua tellus cumuloque furentem
has-given-way if-any land and-the-mass raging
undarum non passa ruit, tum flumine toto
of-waters not having-endured collapses, then with-stream whole
transit et ignotos operit sibi gurgite campos:
it-crosses and unknown covers for-itself with-flood plains:
illos terra fugit dominos, his rura colonis
from-those land flees owners, to-these the-fields farmers
accedunt donante Pado. uix proelia Caesar
come with-giving the-Po. scarcely the-battles Caesar
senserat, elatus specula quae prodidit ignis:
had-perceived, raised from-a-watchtower which betrayed a-fire:
inuenit inpulsos presso iam puluere muros,
he-finds struck-down with-settled now dust the-walls,
frigidaque, ut ueteris, deprendit signa ruinae.
and-cold, as of-an-old, discovers the-marks ruin.
accendit pax ipsa loci, mouitque furorem
kindles the-peace itself of-the-place, and-moved frenzy
Pompeiana quies et uicto Caesare somnus.
the-Pompeian quiet and with-conquered Caesar sleep.
ire uel in clades properat dum gaudia turbet.
to-go even into disasters he-hastens provided joys he-disturb.
Torquato ruit inde minax, qui Caesaris arma
on-Torquatus he-rushes thence menacing, who Caesar's arms
segnius haud uidit, quam malo nauta tremente
more-slowly not saw, than with-the-mast the-sailor trembling
omnia subducit Circaeae uela procellae;
all takes-in of-the-Circaean sails storm;

agminaque interius muro breuiore recepit,
and-his-columns further-in with-a-wall shorter he-received,
densius ut parua disponeret arma corona.
more-densely that in-a-small he-might-set arms ring.
transierat primi Caesar munimina ualli,
had-crossed of-the-first Caesar the-defenses rampart,
cum super e totis immisit collibus arma
when from-above from all sent arms hills
effuditque acies obsaeptum Magnus in hostem.
and-poured-out battle-lines the-hemmed-in Magnus against enemy.
non sic Hennaeis habitans in uallibus horret
not so the-Hennaean dwelling in valleys shudders
Enceladum spirante Noto, cum tota cauernas
at-Enceladus with-blowing the-South-Wind, when whole the-caverns
egerit et torrens in campos defluit Aetna,
has-emptied and pouring into the-plains flows-down Aetna,
Caesaris ut miles glomerato puluere uictus
Caesar's as soldier by-the-gathered dust conquered
ante aciem caeci trepidus sub nube timoris
before the-battle-line blind trembling under a-cloud of-fear
hostibus occurrit fugiens inque ipsa pauendo
the-enemy meets fleeing and-into the-very by-dreading
fata ruit. totus mitti ciuilibus armis
fates rushes. whole to-be-spent in-civil arms
usque uel in pacem potuit cruor: ipse furentis
all-the-way even into peace could the-blood: himself raging
dux tenuit gladios. felix ac libera regum,
the-leader held-back the-swords. happy and free of-kings,
Roma, fores iurisque tui, uicisset in illo
Rome, you-would-be and-of-right your-own, had-conquered in that

si tibi Sulla loco. dolet, heu, semperque dolebit
if for-you Sulla place. it-grieves, alas, and-always will-grieve
quod scelerum, Caesar, prodest tibi summa tuorum,
that of-crimes, Caesar, profits you the-sum your,
cum genero pugnasse pio. pro tristia fata!
with the-son-in-law to-have-fought dutiful. O sad fates!
non Uticae Libye clades, Hispania Mundae
not Utica's Libya the-disasters, Spain Munda's
flesset et infando pollutus sanguine Nilus
would-have-wept and by-unspeakable polluted blood the-Nile
nobilius Phario gestasset rege cadauer,
a-nobler than-the-Pharian would-have-carried king corpse,
nec Iuba Marmaricas nudus pressisset harenas
nor Juba the-Marmaric naked would-have-pressed sands
Poenorumque umbras placasset sanguine fuso
and-of-the-Carthaginians the-shades would-have-appeased with-blood shed
Scipio, nec sancto caruisset uita Catone.
Scipio, nor of-holy would-have-been-deprived life Cato.
ultimus esse dies potuit tibi Roma malorum,
the-last to-be day could for-you Rome of-evils,
exire e mediis potuit Pharsalia fatis.
to-go-out from the-midst could Pharsalia fates.
deserit auerso possessam numine sedem
he-abandons with-turned-away occupied divinity the-seat
Caesar et Emathias lacero petit agmine terras.
Caesar and Emathian with-a-mangled seeks column lands.
arma secuturum soceri, quacumque fugasset,
the-arms going-to-follow of-the-father-in-law, wherever he-had-put-to-flight,
temptauere suo comites deuertere Magnum
tried with-their-own the-comrades to-divert Magnus

hortatu, patrias sedes atque hoste carentem
urging, his-ancestral seats and of-the-enemy empty
Ausoniam peteret. 'numquam me Caesaris' inquit
Ausonia he-should-seek. 'never myself of-Caesar' he-says
'exemplo reddam patriae, numquamque uidebit
'by-the-example I-shall-restore to-the-fatherland, and-never will-see
me nisi dimisso redeuntem milite Roma.
me except with-dismissed returning soldiery Rome.
Hesperiam potui motu surgente tenere,
Hesperia I-could with-the-upheaval rising to-hold,
si uellem patriis aciem committere templis
if I-wished in-the-ancestral battle to-join temples
ac medio pugnare foro. dum bella relegem,
and in-the-middle to-fight forum. so-that wars I-may-banish,
extremum Scythici transcendam frigoris orbem
the-farthest of-the-Scythian I-will-cross cold world
ardentisque plagas. uictor tibi, Roma, quietem
and-the-burning zones. victor from-you, Rome, rest
eripiam, qui, ne premerent te proelia, fugi?
shall-I-snatch, who, lest should-press you battles, fled?
a potius, nequid bello patiaris in isto,
ah rather, lest-anything war you-suffer in this,
te Caesar putet esse suam.' sic fatus in ortus
you Caesar may-think to-be his-own.' so having-spoken toward the-risings
Phoebeos condixit iter, terraeque secutus
of-Phoebus he-appointed his-route, and-of-the-land following
deuia, qua uastos aperit Candauia saltus,
the-byways, where vast opens Candavia woodlands,
contigit Emathiam, bello quam fata parabant.
reached Emathia, for-war which the-fates were-preparing.

The poet describes Thessaly: ringed by Ossa, Pelion, Othrys, Pindus, and Olympus, once a single marsh until Hercules parted the mountains and Tempe let the waters out. He names its cities, among them Achilles' Pharsalus, Larisa, and Thebes, and its rivers, the Peneus taking every stream that does not reach the sea itself, all but the Titaresos, said to flow from the Styx. Here the Centaurs were born, the first war-horse leapt from rock struck by Neptune's trident, the first ship sailed, coin was first struck, Python came down to Cirrha's fields, and Aloeus' sons piled Pelion on Ossa.

Thessaliam, qua parte diem brumalibus horis
Thessaly, on-which side the-day in-winter hours
attollit Titan, rupes Ossaea coercet;
raises the-Titan, the-cliffs of-Ossa hem-in;
cum per summa poli Phoebum trahit altior aestas,
when through the-heights of-the-pole Phoebus draws higher summer,
Pelion opponit radiis nascentibus umbras;
Pelion sets-against the-rays being-born shadows;
at medios ignes caeli rapidique Leonis
but the-middle fires of-the-sky and-of-the-swift Lion
solstitiale caput nemorosus summouet Othrys.
solstitial head wooded keeps-off Othrys.
excipit aduersos Zephyros et Iapyga Pindus
receives opposing Zephyrs and Iapyx Pindus
et maturato praecidit uespere lucem;
and with-hastened cuts-short evening the-light;
nec metuens imi Borean habitator Olympi
nor fearing of-lowest Boreas the-dweller Olympus
lucentem totis ignorat noctibus Arcton.
the-shining for-whole knows-not nights Bear.

hos inter montis media qui ualle premuntur,
these between mountains in-the-middle which valley are-pressed,
perpetuis quondam latuere paludibus agri,
by-perpetual once lay-hidden marshes fields,
flumina dum campi retinent nec peruia Tempe
rivers while the-plains hold-back nor passable Tempe
dant aditus pelagi, stagnumque inplentibus unum
give access of-the-sea, and-a-pool for-the-filling one
crescere cursus erat. postquam discessit Olympo
to-grow the-course was. after parted from-Olympus
Herculea grauis Ossa manu subitaeque ruinam
by-Herculean heavy Ossa hand and-of-the-sudden the-collapse
sensit aquae Nereus, melius mansura sub undis
felt water Nereus, better going-to-remain under the-waves
Emathis aequorei regnum Pharsalos Achillis
Emathian of-the-sea-born the-realm Pharsalus of-Achilles
eminet et, prima Rhoeteia litora pinu
stands-out and, with-the-first Rhoetean shores pine
quae tetigit, Phylace Pteleosque et Dorion ira
which touched, Phylace and-Pteleos and Dorion for-the-wrath
flebile Pieridum; Trachin pretioque nefandae
lamentable of-the-Pierides; Trachis and-by-the-price of-the-unspeakable
lampados Herculeis fortis Meliboea pharetris
torch with-Herculean strong Meliboea quivers
atque olim Larisa potens; ubi nobile quondam
and once Larisa mighty; where noble once
nunc super Argos arant, ueteres ubi fabula Thebas
now over Argos they-plow, ancient where legend Thebes
monstrat Echionias, ubi quondam Pentheos exul
shows Echionian, where once of-Pentheus the-exile

colla caputque ferens supremo tradidit igni
the-neck and-head bearing to-the-last handed fire
questa quod hoc solum nato rapuisset Agaue.
having-complained that this alone from-her-son she-had-snatched Agave.
ergo abrupta palus multos discessit in amnes.
therefore broken the-marsh many parted into streams.
purus in occasus, parui sed gurgitis, Aeas
clear into the-settings, of-small but flood, the-Aeas
Ionio fluit inde mari, nec fortior undis
into-the-Ionian flows thence sea, nor stronger in-waves
labitur auectae pater Isidis, et tuus, Oeneu,
glides of-carried-off the-father Isis, and your, Oeneus,
paene gener crassis oblimat Echinadas undis,
almost son-in-law with-thick silts-up the-Echinades waves,
et Meleagream maculatus sanguine Nessi
and Meleager's stained with-the-blood of-Nessus
Euhenos Calydona secat. ferit amne citato
Euhenos Calydon cuts. strikes with-stream quickened
Maliacas Spercheos aquas, et flumine puro
the-Malian the-Spercheos waters, and with-stream clear
inrigat Amphrysos famulantis pascua Phoebi.
waters the-Amphrysos of-serving the-pastures Phoebus.
accipit Asopos cursus Phoenixque Melasque
receives the-Asopos courses and-Phoenix and-Melas
quique nec umentis nebulas nec rore madentem
and-who neither moist mists nor with-dew dripping
aera nec tenues uentos suspirat Anauros,
air nor thin winds breathes-out the-Anauros,
et quisquis pelago per se non cognitus amnis
and whoever to-the-sea by itself not known stream

Peneo donauit aquas: it gurgite rapto
to-the-Peneus has-given its-waters: goes with-flood seized
Apidanos numquamque celer nisi mixtus Enipeus;
the-Apidanos and-never swift unless mingled the-Enipeus;
solus, in alterius nomen cum uenerit undae,
alone, into of-another the-name when it-has-come water,
defendit Titaresos aquas lapsusque superne
keeps-off the-Titaresos its-waters and-gliding on-top
gurgite Penei pro siccis utitur aruis.
the-flood of-the-Peneus as-if dry uses fields.
hunc fama est Stygiis manare paludibus amnem
this the-report is from-Stygian to-flow marshes stream
et capitis memorem fluuii contagia uilis
and of-its-source mindful of-a-river the-contagions common
nolle pati superumque sibi seruare timorem.
to-refuse to-suffer and-of-the-gods-above for-itself to-keep the-fear.
ut primum emissis patuerunt amnibus arua,
as soon-as with-sent-out lay-open streams the-fields,
pinguis Bebrycio discessit uomere sulcus;
the-rich by-the-Bebrycian parted plowshare furrow;
mox Lelegum dextra pressum descendit aratrum,
soon of-the-Leleges by-the-right-hand pressed went-down the-plow,
Aeolidae Dolopesque solum fregere coloni
the-Aeolidae and-Dolopes the-soil broke settlers
et Magnetes equis, Minyae gens cognita remis.
and the-Magnetes with-horses, the-Minyae a-race known for-oars.
illic semiferos Ixionidas Centauros
there the-half-beast sons-of-Ixion Centaurs
feta Pelethroniis nubes effudit in antris:
pregnant Pelethronian a-cloud poured-out in caves:

aspera te Pholoes frangentem, Monyche, saxa,
rough you of-Pholoe breaking, Monychus, rocks,
teque sub Oetaeo torquentem uertice uolsas,
and-you under Oeta's whirling summit torn-up,
Rhoece ferox, quas uix Boreas inuerteret ornos,
Rhoecus fierce, which scarcely Boreas would-overturn ash-trees,
hospes et Alcidae magni Phole, teque, per amnem
host and of-Alcides great Pholus, and-you, across the-river
inprobe Lernaeas uector passure sagittas,
shameless Lernaean ferryman going-to-suffer arrows,
teque, senex Chiron, gelido qui sidere fulgens
and-you, old Chiron, with-a-cold who constellation shining
inpetis Haemonio maiorem Scorpion arcu.
attack with-the-Haemonian greater Scorpion bow.
hac tellure feri micuerunt semina Martis.
in-this land wild flashed-forth the-seeds of-Mars.
primus ab aequorea percussis cuspide saxis
first from the-sea-god's struck by-trident rocks
Thessalicus sonipes, bellis feralibus omen,
the-Thessalian steed, for-wars deadly an-omen,
exiluit, primus chalybem frenosque momordit
leapt-out, first the-steel and-bridles bit
spumauitque nouis Lapithae domitoris habenis.
and-foamed at-new of-the-Lapith tamer reins.
prima fretum scindens Pagasaeo litore pinus
the-first the-strait cleaving from-the-Pagasaean shore pine
terrenum ignotas hominem proiecit in undas.
the-earthly unknown man flung-forth into waves.
primus Thessalicae rector telluris Ionos
first of-the-Thessalian ruler land Ionos

in formam calidae percussit pondera massae
into the-shape of-hot struck the-weights mass
fudit et argentum flammis aurumque moneta
melted and silver in-flames and-gold into-coin
fregit et inmensis coxit fornacibus aera.
broke and in-vast smelted furnaces bronze.
illic, quod populos scelerata inpegit in arma,
there, what peoples wicked has-driven into arms,
diuitias numerare datum est. hinc maxima serpens
riches to-count granted it-was. hence the-greatest serpent
descendit Python Cirrhaeaque fluxit in arua,
descended Python and-the-Cirrhaean flowed into fields,
unde et Thessalicae ueniunt ad Pythia laurus.
whence also the-Thessalian come for the-Pythian laurels.
inpius hinc prolem superis inmisit Aloeus,
impious hence offspring against-the-gods-above sent Aloeus,
inseruit celsis prope se cum Pelion astris
he-inserted lofty almost itself when Pelion stars
sideribusque uias incurrens abstulit Ossa.
and-of-the-constellations the-paths running-into took-away Ossa.

As the leaders camp on the doomed ground, fear fills the cowards' minds, and Sextus, the unworthy son of Pompey, seeks the future not from Delos or Delphi but from the forbidden arts of the Thessalian witches. The poet tells their power: their herbs and chants compel the gods, kindle unlawful love in hard old men, halt the alternation of day and night, raise storms, freeze rivers, stop the rush of the heavens, and draw down the moon until she foams on the herbs below. He asks whether the gods obey by duty, by fear, or by some god the spells command.

hac ubi damnata fatis tellure locarunt
on-this when doomed by-the-fates land had-placed
castra duces, cunctos belli praesaga futuri
their-camps the-leaders, all of-the-war foreboding coming
mens agitat, summique grauem discriminis horam
the-mind stirs, and-of-the-supreme heavy crisis the-hour
aduentare palam est, propius iam fata moueri.
to-approach plain it-is, nearer now the-fates to-be-moved.
degeneres trepidant animi peioraque uersant;
degenerate tremble spirits and-worse-things turn-over;
ad dubios pauci praesumpto robore casus
toward doubtful a-few with-anticipated strength chances
spemque metumque ferunt. turbae sed mixtus inerti
and-hope and-fear bring. to-the-crowd but mingled sluggish
Sextus erat, Magno proles indigna parente,
Sextus was, of-Magnus offspring unworthy father,
cui mox Scyllaeis exul grassatus in undis
whose soon Scyllaean an-exile ranging in waves
polluit aequoreos Siculus pirata triumphos.
defiled the-sea-won a-Sicilian pirate triumphs.

qui stimulante metu fati praenoscere cursus,
he goaded by-fear of-fate to-know-beforehand the-courses,
inpatiensque morae uenturisque omnibus aeger,
and-impatient of-delay and-at-coming all-things sick,
non tripodas Deli, non Pythia consulit antra,
not the-tripods of-Delos, not the-Pythian consults caves,
nec quaesisse libet primis quid frugibus altrix
nor to-have-asked pleases-him with-first what fruits nurse
aere Iouis Dodona sonet, quis noscere fibra
by-the-bronze of-Jupiter Dodona sounds, who to-know by-the-entrail
fata queat, quis prodat aues, quis fulgura caeli
the-fates could, who might-reveal birds, who the-lightnings of-the-sky
seruet et Assyria scrutetur sidera cura,
might-watch and with-Assyrian might-search-out the-stars care,
aut siquid tacitum sed fas erat. ille supernis
or if-anything secret but lawful it-was. he to-the-gods-above
detestanda deis saeuorum arcana magorum
detestable gods of-cruel the-secrets wizards
nouerat et tristis sacris feralibus aras,
had-known and grim with-rites deathly altars,
umbrarum Ditisque fidem, miseroque liquebat
of-the-shades and-of-Dis the-trustworthiness, and-to-the-wretched it-was-clear
scire parum superos. uanum saeuumque furorem
to-know too-little the-gods-above. the-empty and-cruel frenzy
adiuuat ipse locus uicinaque moenia castris
aids itself the-place and-neighboring walls to-the-camp
Haemonidum, ficti quas nulla licentia monstri
of-the-Haemonian-women, of-a-feigned whom no license monster
transierit, quarum quidquid non creditur ars est.
could-pass-beyond, of-whom whatever not is-believed art is.

Thessala quin etiam tellus herbasque nocentes
Thessalian moreover even the-land and-herbs harmful
rupibus ingenuit sensuraque saxa canentes
on-its-crags has-produced and-going-to-feel rocks chanting
arcanum ferale magos. ibi plurima surgunt
the-secret deathly wizards. there very-many rise
uim factura deis, et terris hospita Colchis
force going-to-do to-the-gods, and to-the-lands a-guest the-Colchian
legit in Haemoniis quas non aduexerat herbas.
gathered in Haemonian which not she-had-brought herbs.
inpia tot populis, tot surdas gentibus aures
impious to-so-many peoples, to-so-many deaf nations the-ears
caelicolum dirae conuertunt carmina gentis.
of-the-heaven-dwellers of-the-dire turn the-spells race.
una per aetherios exit uox illa recessus
alone through ethereal goes-out voice that recesses
uerbaque ad inuitum perfert cogentia numen,
and-words to unwilling carries compelling divinity,
quod non cura poli caelique uolubilis umquam
which not the-care of-the-pole and-of-the-sky revolving ever
auocat. infandum tetigit cum sidera murmur,
calls-away. the-unspeakable has-touched when the-stars murmur,
tum, Babylon Persea licet secretaque Memphis
then, Babylon the-Persian though and-secret Memphis
omne uetustorum soluat penetrale magorum,
every of-the-ancient should-open shrine wizards,
abducet superos alienis Thessalis aris.
will-draw-away the-gods-above from-foreign the-Thessalian altars.
carmine Thessalidum dura in praecordia fluxit
by-the-spell of-the-Thessalian-women hard into hearts has-flowed

non fatis adductus amor, flammisque seueri
not by-the-fates drawn love, and-with-flames stern
inlicitis arsere senes. nec noxia tantum
illicit have-burned old-men. nor noxious only
pocula proficiunt aut cum turgentia suco
cups avail or when swelling with-juice
frontis amaturae subducunt pignora fetae:
of-the-brow going-to-love they-steal pledges of-the-mother:
mens hausti nulla sanie polluta ueneni
the-mind of-drunk by-no venom polluted poison
excantata perit. quos non concordia mixti
enchanted perishes. whom not the-concord of-mingled
alligat ulla tori blandaeque potentia formae
binds any bed and-of-alluring the-power beauty
traxerunt torti magica uertigine fili.
they-have-drawn of-twisted with-magic whirling thread.
cessauere uices rerum, dilataque longa
have-ceased the-alternations of-things, and-delayed by-long
haesit nocte dies. legi non paruit aether,
stuck night day. the-law not obeyed the-ether,
torpuit et praeceps audito carmine mundus,
grew-numb and headlong at-the-heard spell world,
axibus et rapidis inpulsos Iuppiter urguens
on-the-axles and swift driven-on Jupiter urging
miratur non ire polos. nunc omnia conplent
wonders not to-go the-poles. now all-things they-fill
imbribus et calido praeducunt nubila Phoebo,
with-rains and before-hot draw clouds Phoebus,
et tonat ignaro caelum Ioue: uocibus isdem
and thunders with-unknowing the-sky Jupiter: by-words the-same

umentis late nebulas nimbosque solutis
moist widely mists and-rainclouds with-loosened
excussere comis. uentis cessantibus aequor
they-have-shaken-out hair. with-the-winds ceasing the-sea
intumuit, rursus uetitum sentire procellas
has-swelled, again forbidden to-feel storms
conticuit turbante Noto; puppemque ferentes
has-fallen-silent with-troubling the-South-Wind; and-the-ship carrying
in uentum tumuere sinus. de rupe pependit
into the-wind have-swelled sails. from the-cliff has-hung
abscisa fixus torrens, amnisque cucurrit
sheer fixed the-torrent, and-the-river has-run
non qua pronus erat. Nilum non extulit aestas,
not where downhill it-was. the-Nile not raised the-summer,
Maeander derexit aquas, Rhodanumque morantem
the-Maeander straightened its-waters, and-the-Rhone lingering
praecipitauit Arar. summisso uertice montes
has-hurled-headlong the-Arar. with-lowered summit mountains
explicuere iugum, nubes suspexit Olympus,
have-unfolded their-ridge, the-clouds has-looked-up-at Olympus,
solibus et nullis Scythicae, cum bruma rigeret,
with-suns and no the-Scythian, when winter was-stiffening,
dimaduere niues. inpulsam sidere Tethyn
have-melted snows. driven by-the-star Tethys
reppulit Haemonium defenso litore carmen.
has-driven-back the-Haemonian with-defended shore spell.
terra quoque inmoti concussit ponderis axes,
the-earth too of-unmoved has-shaken the-weight axes,
et medium uergens titubauit nisus in orbem.
and the-middle tending has-tottered its-pressure toward orb.

tantae molis onus percussum uoce recessit
of-so-great mass the-load struck by-a-voice has-retreated
perspectumque dedit circum labentis Olympi.
and-a-view-through gave around of-revolving Olympus.
omne potens animal leti genitumque nocere
every mighty animal of-death and-born to-harm
et pauet Haemonias et mortibus instruit artes.
both fears the-Haemonian and with-deaths equips arts.
has auidae tigres et nobilis ira leonum
these the-greedy tigers and noble the-wrath of-lions
ore fouent blando; gelidos his explicat orbes
with-mouth caress fawning; the-cold for-these unfolds coils
inque pruinoso coluber distenditur aruo;
and-on frosty the-snake is-stretched-out field;
uiperei coeunt abrupto corpore nodi,
viperine join with-broken body knots,
humanoque cadit serpens adflata ueneno.
and-by-human falls the-serpent breathed-on venom.
quis labor hic superis cantus herbasque sequendi
what toil this for-the-gods-above spells and-herbs of-following
spernendique timor? cuius commercia pacti
and-of-scorning fear? of-what the-dealings pact
obstrictos habuere deos? parere necesse est,
bound have-held the-gods? to-obey necessary is-it,
an iuuat? ignota tantum pietate merentur,
or does-it-please? by-unknown only dutifulness do-they-earn,
an tacitis ualuere minis? hoc iuris in omnis
or by-silent have-they-prevailed threats? this of-right over all
est illis superos, an habent haec carmina certum
is to-them gods-above, or have these spells a-fixed

imperiosa deum, qui mundum cogere quidquid
imperious god, who the-world to-compel whatever
cogitur ipse potest? illis et sidera primum
is-compelled himself can? by-them also the-stars first
praecipiti deducta polo, Phoebeque serena
from-the-headlong drawn-down pole, and-Phoebe clear
non aliter diris uerborum obsessa uenenis
not otherwise by-dire of-words besieged poisons
palluit et nigris terrenisque ignibus arsit,
has-grown-pale and with-black and-earthly fires has-burned,
quam si fraterna prohiberet imagine tellus
than if from-her-brother's should-keep-off image the-earth
insereretque suas flammis caelestibus umbras;
and-should-insert its-own into-the-flames heavenly shadows;
et patitur tantos cantu depressa labores
and suffers such-great by-the-spell pressed-down toils
donec suppositas propior despumet in herbas.
until laid-beneath nearer she-foams-down onto herbs.

Erictho, who scorns even the witches' rites as too dutiful, lives among tombs and pyres, gaunt and pale, and needs no prayer to the gods, who grant her whatever she asks. She buries the living, snatches the bones and ashes of the dead from pyres, and cuts the unborn from the womb for her altars. Fearing that the war may move elsewhere, she has bound Philippi to Thessaly with her spells, hoping to plunder the corpses of kings; Sextus' men find her on a sheer crag where Haemus slopes down to the ridges of Pharsalia.

hos scelerum ritus, haec dirae crimina gentis
these of-crimes rites, these of-the-dire crimes race
effera damnarat nimiae pietatis Erictho
savage had-condemned as-too-great dutifulness Erictho
inque nouos ritus pollutam duxerat artem.
and-into new rites the-polluted had-led art.
illi namque nefas urbis summittere tecto
to-her for an-abomination of-a-city to-put-under roof
aut laribus ferale caput, desertaque busta
or under-household-gods the-deathly head, and-the-deserted pyres
incolit et tumulos expulsis obtinet umbris
she-inhabits and the-tombs with-expelled occupies shades
grata deis Erebi. coetus audire silentum,
pleasing to-the-gods of-Erebus. the-gatherings to-hear of-the-silent,
nosse domos Stygias arcanaque Ditis operti
to-know the-homes Stygian and-the-secrets of-Dis hidden
non superi, non uita uetat. tenet ora profanae
not the-gods-above, not life forbids. holds the-face of-the-profane-one
foeda situ macies, caeloque ignota sereno
foul with-mold leanness, and-to-the-sky unknown clear

terribilis Stygio facies pallore grauatur
terrible with-Stygian countenance pallor is-weighed-down
inpexis onerata comis: si nimbus et atrae
with-unkempt burdened hair: if a-raincloud and black
sidera subducunt nubes, tunc Thessala nudis
the-stars withdraw clouds, then the-Thessalian from-bare
egreditur bustis nocturnaque fulmina captat.
goes-out pyres and-nocturnal lightnings catches.
semina fecundae segetis calcata perussit
the-seeds of-fruitful crop trodden she-has-burned
et non letiferas spirando perdidit auras.
and not deadly by-breathing has-ruined breezes.
nec superos orat nec cantu supplice numen
nor the-gods-above she-prays nor with-chant suppliant divinity
auxiliare uocat nec fibras illa litantis
helping calls nor the-entrails she of-the-sacrificer
nouit: funereas aris inponere flammas
knows: funereal on-altars to-place flames
gaudet et accenso rapuit quae tura sepulchro.
she-rejoices and from-the-kindled she-has-snatched which incense tomb.
omne nefas superi prima iam uoce precantis
every abomination the-gods-above at-the-first already voice of-her-praying
concedunt carmenque timent audire secundum.
grant and-the-spell fear to-hear second.
uiuentis animas et adhuc sua membra regentis
of-living the-souls and still their-own limbs ruling
infodit busto, fatis debentibus annos
she-has-buried in-a-tomb, with-the-fates owing years
mors inuita subit; peruersa funera pompa
death unwilling comes; with-reversed funerals procession

rettulit a tumulis, fugere cadauera letum.
she-has-brought-back from the-tombs, have-fled corpses death.
fumantis iuuenum cineres ardentiaque ossa
smoking of-the-young the-ashes and-burning bones
e mediis rapit illa rogis ipsamque parentes
from the-midst snatches she pyres and-itself parents
quam tenuere facem, nigroque uolantia fumo
which held torch, and-in-black flying smoke
feralis fragmenta tori uestesque fluentis
of-the-deathly the-fragments couch and-garments flowing
colligit in cineres et olentis membra fauillas.
she-collects into ashes and smelling-of limbs embers.
ast, ubi seruantur saxis, quibus intimus umor
but, when they-are-kept in-stone, by-which inmost the-moisture
ducitur, et tracta durescunt tabe medullae
is-drawn, and with-drawn-off harden decay marrows
corpora, tunc omnis auide desaeuit in artus
bodies, then all greedily she-rages on limbs
inmergitque manus oculis gaudetque gelatos
and-plunges her-hands into-the-eyes and-rejoices frozen
effodisse orbes et siccae pallida rodit
to-have-dug-out orbs and of-the-dry pale gnaws
excrementa manus. laqueum nodosque nocentis
growths hand. the-noose and-knots harmful
ore suo rupit, pendentia corpora carpsit
with-mouth her-own she-has-broken, hanging bodies has-plucked
abrasitque cruces percussaque uiscera nimbis
and-scraped crosses and-beaten vitals by-rainstorms
uolsit et incoctas admisso sole medullas.
has-torn and baked by-the-admitted sun marrows.

insertum manibus chalybem nigramque per artus
driven-in into-the-hands the-iron and-black through the-limbs
stillantis tabi saniem uirusque coactum
of-dripping decay the-gore and-poison congealed
sustulit et neruo morsus retinente pependit.
she-has-taken and with-the-sinew the-bite holding has-hung.
et, quodcumque iacet nuda tellure cadauer,
and, whatever lies on-bare ground corpse,
ante feras uolucresque sedet; nec carpere membra
before the-beasts and-birds she-sits; nor to-pluck the-limbs
uolt ferro manibusque suis, morsusque luporum
she-wishes with-iron and-with-hands her-own, and-the-bites of-wolves
expectat siccis raptura e faucibus artus.
awaits dry going-to-snatch out-of throats the-limbs.
nec cessant a caede manus, si sanguine uiuo
nor cease from slaughter her-hands, if blood living
est opus, erumpat iugulo qui primus aperto,
is need, it-should-burst-out from-the-throat which first opened,
extaque funereae poscunt trepidantia mensae.
and-the-entrails funereal demand quivering tables.
uolnere sic uentris, non qua natura uocabat,
by-a-wound so of-the-belly, not where nature was-calling,
extrahitur partus calidis ponendus in aris;
is-drawn-out the-offspring hot to-be-placed on altars;
et quotiens saeuis opus est ac fortibus umbris
and as-often-as for-savage need there-is and strong shades
ipsa facit manes. hominum mors omnis in usu est.
she-herself makes ghosts. of-men death every in use is.
illa genae florem primaeuo corpore uolsit,
she of-the-cheek the-bloom from-youthful body has-torn,

illa comam laeua morienti abscidit ephebo.
she the-hair with-left-hand from-the-dying has-cut youth.
saepe etiam caris cognato in funere dira
often even upon-the-dear of-a-kinsman at funeral the-dire
Thessalis incubuit membris atque oscula figens
Thessalian has-lain-over limbs and kisses fixing
truncauitque caput conpressaque dentibus ora
and-has-maimed the-head and-pressed-together by-the-teeth mouth
laxauit siccoque haerentem gutture linguam
has-loosened and-to-the-dry clinging throat tongue
praemordens gelidis infudit murmura labris
biting-off into-the-cold has-poured murmurs lips
arcanumque nefas Stygias mandauit ad umbras.
and-a-secret abomination Stygian has-sent to shades.
hanc ut fama loci Pompeio prodidit, alta
her when the-fame of-the-place to-Pompey betrayed, in-the-deep
nocte poli, Titan medium quo tempore ducit
night of-the-pole, the-Titan the-midst at-which time leads
sub nostra tellure diem, deserta per arua
under our earth day, deserted through fields
carpit iter. fidi scelerum suetique ministri
he-takes his-way. faithful of-crimes and-accustomed ministers
effractos circum tumulos ac busta uagati
broken around tombs and pyres having-wandered
conspexere procul praerupta in caute sedentem,
saw-her far-off a-sheer on crag sitting,
qua iuga deuexus Pharsalica porrigit Haemus.
where its-ridges sloping Pharsalian stretches Haemus.
illa magis magicisque deis incognita uerba
she to-wizards and-to-magic gods unknown words

temptabat carmenque nouos fingebat in usus.
was-trying and-a-spell new was-fashioning for uses.
namque timens, ne Mars alium uagus iret in orbem
for fearing, lest Mars another wandering should-go into world
Emathis et tellus tam multa caede careret,
Emathian and the-land so much of-slaughter should-lack,
pollutos cantu dirisque uenefica sucis
polluted with-chant and-with-dire the-poisoner juices
conspersos uetuit transmittere bella Philippos,
sprinkled she-forbade to-pass-on the-wars Philippi,
tot mortes habitura suas usuraque mundi
so-many deaths going-to-have its-own and-going-to-use of-the-world
sanguine: caesorum truncare cadauera regum
the-blood: of-the-slain to-maim the-corpses kings
sperat et Hesperiae cineres auertere gentis
she-hopes and of-Hesperian the-ashes to-turn-aside race
ossaque nobilium tantosque adquirere manes.
and-the-bones of-nobles and-such-great to-acquire ghosts.
hic ardor solusque labor, quid corpore Magni
this her-ardor and-only toil, what from-the-body of-Magnus
proiecto rapiat, quos Caesaris inuolet artus.
cast-out she-may-snatch, which of-Caesar she-may-pounce-on limbs.

Sextus begs her to reveal how the war will end; she answers that the fates' great chain cannot be changed, but the future can be known, and the easiest way is to raise one of the newly dead. She chooses a corpse with lungs unwounded, drags it by a hook to a cave beneath a dark yew, and, robed like a Fury with vipers in her hair, tells the trembling young men to lay aside their fears.

quam prior adfatur Pompei ignaua propago.
whom first addresses of-Pompey the-cowardly offspring.
'o decus Haemonidum, populis quae pandere fata
'O glory of-the-Haemonian-women, to-peoples who to-reveal the-fates
quaeque suo uentura potes deuertere cursu,
and-who from-its-own coming-things can to-turn-aside course,
te precor ut certum liceat mihi noscere finem
you I-pray that sure it-be-allowed to-me to-know the-end
quem belli fortuna paret. non ultima turbae
which of-the-war the-fortune prepares. not the-last of-the-throng
pars ego Romanae, Magni clarissima proles,
part I Roman, of-Magnus the-most-famous offspring,
uel dominus rerum uel tanti funeris heres.
either lord of-the-world or of-so-great a-funeral heir.
mens dubiis perculsa pauet rursusque parata est
my-mind by-doubts struck trembles and-again ready is
certos ferre metus: hoc casibus eripe iuris,
sure to-bear fears: this from-chances snatch power,
ne subiti caecique ruant. uel numina torque
lest sudden and-blind they-rush. either the-divinities twist
uel tu parce deis et manibus exprime uerum.
or you spare the-gods and from-the-shades press-out the-truth.

Elysias resera sedes ipsamque uocatam,
the-Elysian unbar seats and-herself summoned,
quos petat e nobis, Mortem mihi coge fateri.
whom she-seeks out-of us, Death to-me compel to-confess.
non humilis labor est: dignum, quod quaerere cures
not humble the-toil is: worthy, which to-seek you-should-take-care
uel tibi, quo tanti praeponderet alea fati.'
even for-you, to-which of-so-great may-tip the-die fate.'
inpia laetatur uulgato nomine famae
impious rejoices at-the-spread name of-her-fame
Thessalis, et contra 'si fata minora moueres,
the-Thessalian, and in-reply 'if fates lesser you-were-moving,
pronum erat, o iuuenis, quos uelles' inquit 'in actus
easy it-was, O young-man, which you-would-wish' she-says 'into acts
inuitos praebere deos. conceditur arti,
unwilling to-offer the-gods. it-is-granted to-art,
unam cum radiis presserunt sidera mortem,
one when with-rays have-pressed the-stars death,
inseruisse moras; et, quamuis fecerit omnis
to-have-inserted delays; and, although should-have-made all
stella senem, medios herbis abrumpimus annos.
a-star old, the-middle with-herbs we-break-off years.
at, simul a prima descendit origine mundi
but, once from the-first descends origin of-the-world
causarum series, atque omnia fata laborant
of-causes the-series, and all fates labor
si quicquam mutare uelis, unoque sub ictu
if anything to-change you-wish, and-one under blow
stat genus humanum, tum, Thessala turba fatemur,
stands the-race human, then, Thessalian throng we-confess,

plus Fortuna potest. sed, si praenoscere casus
more Fortune can. but, if to-know-beforehand the-chances
contentus, facilesque aditus multique patebunt
content-you-are, and-easy approaches and-many will-lie-open
ad uerum: tellus nobis aetherque chaosque
to the-truth: the-earth to-us and-the-ether and-chaos
aequoraque et campi Rhodopaeaque saxa loquentur.
and-the-seas and the-plains and-the-Rhodopean rocks will-speak.
sed pronum, cum tanta nouae sit copia mortis,
but easy, when so-great of-new may-be the-supply of-death,
Emathiis unum campis attollere corpus,
from-the-Emathian one plains to-raise body,
ut modo defuncti tepidique cadaueris ora
so-that of-just dead and-warm corpse the-mouth
plena uoce sonent, nec membris sole perustis
with-full voice may-sound, nor from-limbs by-the-sun scorched
auribus incertum feralis strideat umbra.'
to-the-ears uncertain the-deathly may-squeak shade.'
dixerat, et noctis geminatis arte tenebris
she-had-spoken, and of-night with-doubled by-art darkness
maestum tecta caput squalenti nube pererrat
sad covered head with-a-squalid cloud she-wanders-through
corpora caesorum tumulis proiecta negatis.
the-bodies of-the-slain with-tombs cast-out denied.
continuo fugere lupi, fugere reuolsis
at-once fled the-wolves, fled with-pulled-out
unguibus inpastae uolucres, dum Thessala uatem
talons unfed birds, while the-Thessalian a-prophet
eligit et gelidas leto scrutata medullas
chooses and the-cold by-death having-searched marrows

pulmonis rigidi stantis sine uolnere fibras
of-the-lung stiff standing without a-wound the-fibers
inuenit et uocem defuncto in corpore quaerit.
finds and a-voice the-dead in body seeks.
fata peremptorum pendent iam multa uirorum,
the-fates of-the-slain hang now many men,
quem superis reuocasse uelit. si tollere totas
which to-the-gods-above to-have-recalled she-may-wish. if to-raise whole
temptasset campis acies et reddere bello,
she-had-tried from-the-plains battle-lines and to-restore to-war,
cessissent leges Erebi, monstroque potenti
would-have-yielded the-laws of-Erebus, and-by-a-monster mighty
extractus Stygio populus pugnasset Auerno.
dragged-out from-Stygian the-people would-have-fought Avernus.
electum tandem traiecto gutture corpus
chosen at-last with-pierced throat the-body
ducit, et inserto laqueis feralibus unco
she-leads, and with-inserted into-the-nooses deathly a-hook
per scopulos miserum trahitur per saxa cadauer
over the-crags the-wretched is-dragged over the-rocks corpse
uicturum, montisque caui, quem tristis Erictho
going-to-live, and-of-the-mountain hollow, which grim Erictho
damnarat sacris, alta sub rupe locatur.
had-condemned for-the-rites, the-high under crag is-placed.
haud procul a Ditis caecis depressa cauernis
not far from of-Dis the-blind sunk caverns
in praeceps subsedit humus, quam pallida pronis
into the-steep has-settled the-ground, which pale with-bending
urguet silua comis et nullo uertice caelum
presses a-wood with-foliage and with-no top the-sky

suspiciens Phoebo non peruia taxus opacat.
looking-up-at to-Phoebus not passable the-yew darkens.
marcentes intus tenebrae pallensque sub antris
withering within darkness and-pale under the-caves
longa nocte situs numquam nisi carmine factum
with-long night mold never except by-a-spell made
lumen habet. non Taenariis sic faucibus aer
light has. not at-the-Taenarian so jaws the-air
sedit iners, maestum mundi confine latentis
has-settled inert, the-sad of-the-world border hidden
ac nostri, quo non metuant admittere manes
and ours, where not they-would-fear to-admit ghosts
Tartarei reges. nam, quamuis Thessala uates
the-Tartarean kings. for, although the-Thessalian prophetess
uim faciat fatis, dubium est, quod traxerit illuc
force should-do to-the-fates, doubtful it-is, because she-dragged there
aspiciat Stygias an quod descenderit umbras.
she-sees Stygian or because she-has-descended shades.
discolor et uario furialis cultus amictu
many-colored and with-varied fury-like garb robe
induitur, uoltusque aperitur crine remoto,
she-is-dressed, and-her-face is-uncovered with-hair removed,
et coma uipereis substringitur horrida sertis.
and her-hair with-viper is-bound-up bristling garlands.
ut pauidos iuuenis comites ipsumque trementem
when trembling of-the-young-man the-comrades and-himself shaking
conspicit exanimi defixum lumina uoltu,
she-sees lifeless fixed his-eyes in-face,
'ponite' ait 'trepida conceptos mente timores:
'put-down' she-says 'in-trembling conceived mind fears:

iam noua, iam uera reddetur uita figura,
now new, now true will-be-restored life in-shape,
ut quamuis pauidi possint audire loquentem.
so-that however trembling they-can to-hear him-speaking.
si uero Stygiosque lacus ripamque sonantem
if indeed and-Stygian lakes and-the-bank sounding
ignibus ostendam, si me praebente uideri
with-fires I-should-show, if with-me providing to-be-seen
Eumenides possint uillosaque colla colubris
the-Eumenides could and-shaggy necks with-snakes
Cerberus excutiens et uincti terga gigantes,
Cerberus shaking and bound in-the-backs giants,
quis timor, ignaui, metuentis cernere manes?'
what fear, cowards, of-those-fearing to-see the-ghosts?'

VI.10 · THE SPELL

She fills the corpse's breast with fresh blood and every poison nature breeds, among them a dog's foam, the echeneis, and the phoenix's ash. Her voice mingles the cries of dogs, wolves, owls, beasts, and snakes, then she calls on the Eumenides, Chaos, Dis, Persephone, Hecate, the doorkeeper who feeds the savage dog, and Charon to send back a soul only just gone down. The shade stands by, dreading to return, and she lashes the corpse with a snake and threatens Tisiphone, Megaera, Hecate, Persephone, and the god whom the Furies fear.

pectora tum primum feruenti sanguine supplet
the-breast then first with-boiling blood she-fills
uolneribus laxata nouis taboque medullas
by-wounds opened new and-from-the-gore the-marrows
abluit et uirus large lunare ministrat.
washes and poison abundantly lunar supplies.

huc quidquid fetu genuit natura sinistro
here whatever with-birth has-produced nature ill-omened
miscetur: non spuma canum quibus unda timori est,
is-mixed: not the-foam of-dogs to-whom water a-terror is,
uiscera non lyncis, non durae nodus hyaenae
the-entrails not of-the-lynx, not of-the-hard the-knot hyena
defuit et cerui pastae serpente medullae,
was-lacking and of-the-stag fed on-a-serpent the-marrows,
non puppem retinens Euro tendente rudentis
not the-ship holding-back with-the-East-Wind stretching the-ropes
in mediis echenais aquis oculique draconum
in the-middle the-echeneis waters and-the-eyes of-dragons
quaeque sonant feta tepefacta sub alite saxa,
and-what sound pregnant warmed under the-bird stones,
non Arabum uolucer serpens innataque rubris
not of-the-Arabs the-winged serpent and-born-in the-red
aequoribus custos pretiosae uipera conchae
seas the-guardian of-the-precious viper shell
aut uiuentis adhuc Libyci membrana cerastae
or of-the-living still Libyan the-skin horned-snake
aut cinis Eoa positi phoenicis in ara.
or the-ash the-Eastern of-laid phoenix on altar.
quo postquam uiles et habentis nomina pestis
into-which after cheap and having names plagues
contulit, infando saturatas carmine frondis
she-gathered, with-unspeakable soaked spell leaves
et, quibus os dirum nascentibus inspuit, herbas
and, on-which the-mouth dire as-they-were-born she-spat, herbs
addidit et quidquid mundo dedit ipsa ueneni.
she-added and whatever to-the-world gave herself of-poison.

tum uox Lethaeos cunctis pollentior herbis
then the-voice the-Lethean than-all mightier herbs
excantare deos confundit murmura primum
to-enchant gods pours-together murmurs first
dissona et humanae multum discordia linguae.
dissonant and from-human much discordant tongue.
latratus habet illa canum gemitusque luporum,
the-barking has it of-dogs and-the-groans of-wolves,
quod trepidus bubo, quod strix nocturna queruntur,
what the-trembling owl, what the-screech-owl nocturnal complain,
quod strident ululantque ferae, quod sibilat anguis;
what shriek and-howl beasts, what hisses the-snake;
exprimit et planctus inlisae cautibus undae
it-expresses also the-beating dashed on-crags of-the-wave
siluarumque sonum fractaeque tonitrua nubis:
and-of-the-woods the-sound and-of-the-broken the-thunder cloud:
tot rerum uox una fuit. mox cetera cantu
of-so-many things the-voice one was. soon the-rest with-chant
explicat Haemonio penetratque in Tartara lingua.
she-unfolds Haemonian and-penetrates into Tartarus with-her-tongue.
'Eumenides Stygiumque nefas Poenaeque nocentum
'Eumenides and-Stygian abomination and-Punishments of-the-guilty
et Chaos innumeros auidum confundere mundos
and Chaos countless greedy to-confound worlds
et rector terrae, quem longa in saecula torquet
and ruler of-the-earth, whom long for ages tortures
mors dilata deum; Styx et quos nulla meretur
the-death delayed of-the-gods; Styx and whom none earns
Thessalis Elysios; caelum matremque perosa
Thessalian Elysian-fields; the-sky and-mother hating

Persephone, nostraeque Hecates pars ultima, per quam
Persephone, and-of-our Hecate part last, through whom
manibus et mihi sunt tacitae commercia linguae,
for-the-ghosts and for-me are of-silent dealings tongue,
ianitor et sedis laxae, qui uiscera saeuo
door-keeper and of-the-seat wide, who the-entrails to-savage
spargis nostra cani, repetitaque fila sorores
scatter our dog, and-respun the-threads sisters
tracturae, tuque o flagrantis portitor undae,
going-to-draw, and-you O of-burning ferryman water,
iam lassate senex ad me redeuntibus umbris,
now wearied old-man to me by-returning shades,
exaudite preces. si uos satis ore nefando
hear prayers. if you enough with-mouth unspeakable
pollutoque uoco, si numquam haec carmina fibris
and-polluted I-call, if never these spells of-entrails
humanis ieiuna cano, si pectora plena
human fasting I-sing, if breasts full
saepe deo laui calido prosecta cerebro,
often of-god I-have-washed with-warm cut-open brain,
si quisquis uestris caput extaque lancibus infans
if whoever on-your head and-entrails dishes infant
inposuit uicturus erat, parete precanti.
placed going-to-live was, obey me-praying.
non in Tartareo latitantem poscimus antro
not in Tartarean lurking we-demand cave
adsuetamque diu tenebris, modo luce fugata
and-accustomed long to-darkness, just-now from-the-light put-to-flight
descendentem animam; primo pallentis hiatu
descending a-soul; at-the-first of-pale gaping

haeret adhuc Orci, licet has exaudiat herbas,
it-clings still Orcus, though these it-may-hear herbs,
ad manes uentura semel. ducis omnia nato
to the-ghosts going-to-come once. of-the-leader all-things to-the-son
Pompeiana canat nostri modo militis umbra,
Pompeian let-sing of-our just-now soldier the-shade,
si bene de uobis ciuilia bella merentur.'
if well of you civil wars deserve.'
haec ubi fata caput spumantiaque ora leuauit,
these when having-said her-head and-foaming mouth she-raised,
aspicit astantem proiecti corporis umbram,
she-sees standing-by of-the-cast-out body the-shade,
exanimis artus inuisaque claustra timentem
the-lifeless limbs and-hated barriers fearing
carceris antiqui. pauet ire in pectus apertum
of-its-prison old. it-dreads to-go into the-breast opened
uisceraque et ruptas letali uolnere fibras.
and-the-entrails and torn by-the-deadly wound fibers.
a miser, extremum cui mortis munus inique
ah wretch, the-last to-whom of-death gift unjustly
eripitur, non posse mori. miratur Erictho
is-snatched, not to-be-able to-die. wonders Erictho
has fatis licuisse moras, irataque morti
these to-the-fates to-have-been-allowed delays, and-angry at-death
uerberat inmotum uiuo serpente cadauer,
lashes the-unmoved with-living serpent corpse,
perque cauas terrae, quas egit carmine, rimas
and-through hollow of-the-earth, which she-drove with-spell, cracks
manibus inlatrat regnique silentia rumpit.
at-the-ghosts barks and-of-the-realm the-silences breaks.

‘Tisiphone uocisque meae securа Megaera,
‘Tisiphone and-of-voice my heedless Megaera,
non agitis saeuis Erebi per inane flagellis
not do-you-drive with-savage of-Erebus through the-void whips
infelicem animam? iam uos ego nomine uero
the-unlucky soul? now you I by-name true
eliciam Stygiasque canes in luce superna
will-call-forth and-Stygian bitches in light upper
destituam; per busta sequar per funera custos,
will-leave-stranded; through pyres I-will-follow through funerals a-guard,
expellam tumulis, abigam uos omnibus urnis.
I-will-drive-(you)-out from-tombs, I-will-chase you from-all urns.
teque deis, ad quos alio procedere uoltu
and-you to-the-gods, to whom with-another to-come-forth face
ficta soles, Hecate pallenti tabida forma,
feigned you-are-wont, Hecate in-pale wasting shape,
ostendam faciemque Erebi mutare uetabo.
I-will-show and-the-face of-Erebus to-change I-will-forbid.
eloquar inmenso terrae sub pondere quae te
I-will-speak-out vast of-the-earth under weight what you
contineant, Hennaea, dapes, quo foedere maestum
hold-back, Hennaean, the-feasts, on-what compact the-sad
regem noctis ames, quae te contagia passam
king of-night you-love, what you contaminations having-suffered
noluerit reuocare Ceres. tibi, pessime mundi
would-not-wish to-recall Ceres. upon-you, worst of-the-world
arbiter, inmittam ruptis Titana cauernis,
judge, I-will-send-in through-broken the-Titan caverns,
et subito feriere die. paretis, an ille
and suddenly you-will-be-struck by-day. do-you-obey, or that-one

conpellandus erit, quo numquam terra uocato
to-be-addressed will-be, at-whom never the-earth called
non concussa tremit, qui Gorgona cernit apertam
not shaken trembles, who the-Gorgon beholds uncovered
uerberibusque suis trepidam castigat Erinyn,
and-with-scourges his-own the-trembling chastises Erinys,
indespecta tenet uobis qui Tartara, cuius
unseen-into holds by-you who Tartarus, of-whom
uos estis superi, Stygias qui perierat undas?'
you are the-gods-above, the-Stygian who has-perjured waters?'

VI.11 · THE PROPHECY OF THE DEAD

The blood grows warm, the corpse leaps up, and Erictho promises it a pyre beyond any spell if it speaks the truth. Weeping, the soldier tells that the Roman shades are at war, the Decii and Camillus mourning, Catiline and the Gracchi exulting; Pompey's house will find a calm place among the dead. Erictho burns the body and leads Sextus back before dawn.

protinus astrictus caluit cruor atraque fouit
at-once clotted grew-warm the-blood and-the-black warmed
uolnera et in uenas extremaque membra cucurrit.
wounds and into the-veins and-the-outermost limbs ran.
percussae gelido trepidant sub pectore fibrae,
struck the-cold tremble under breast the-fibers,
et noua desuetis subrepens uita medullis
and new to-the-unaccustomed creeping-in life marrows
miscetur morti. tunc omnis palpitat artus,
mingles with-death. then all throbs limbs,
tenduntur nerui; nec se tellure cadauer
are-stretched the-sinews; nor itself from-the-earth the-corpse

paulatim per membra leuat, terraque repulsum est
little-by-little through the-limbs raises, and-by-the-earth repelled it-was
erectumque semel. distento lumina rictu
and-raised at-once. with-stretched the-eyes gape
nudantur. nondum facies uiuentis in illo,
are-bared. not-yet the-face of-one-living in it,
iam morientis erat: remanet pallorque rigorque,
already of-one-dying it-was: remains and-pallor and-stiffness,
et stupet inlatus mundo. set murmure nullo
and it-is-dazed brought-back to-the-world. but with-murmur no
ora astricta sonant: uox illi linguaque tantum
the-mouth tight sounds: voice to-it and-tongue only
responsura datur. 'dic' inquit Thessala 'magna,
going-to-answer is-given. 'tell' says the-Thessalian 'for-great,
quod iubeo, mercede mihi; nam uera locutum
what I-bid, reward to-me; for true-things having-spoken
inmunem toto mundi praestabimus aeuo
exempt for-the-whole of-the-world we-will-make age
artibus Haemoniis: tali tua membra sepulchro,
from-arts Haemonian: with-such your limbs a-tomb,
talibus exuram Stygio cum carmine siluis,
with-such I-will-burn Stygian with spell woods,
ut nullos cantata magos exaudiat umbra.
that no enchanted wizards may-hear shade.
sit tanti uixisse iterum: nec uerba nec herbae
let-it-be of-such-worth to-have-lived again: neither words nor herbs
audebunt longae somnum tibi soluere Lethes
will-dare long the-sleep for-you to-loosen of-Lethe
a me morte data. tripodas uatesque deorum
by me with-death given. tripods and-prophets of-the-gods

sors obscura decet: certus discedat, ab umbris
a-lot obscure befits: sure let-him-depart, from the-shades
quisquis uera petit duraeque oracula mortis
whoever true-things seeks and-of-hard the-oracles death
fortis adit. ne parce, precor: da nomina rebus,
bravely approaches. do-not spare, I-pray: give names to-things,
da loca; da uocem qua mecum fata loquantur.'
give places; give a-voice by-which with-me the-fates may-speak.'
addidit et carmen, quo, quidquid consulit, umbram
she-added also a-spell, by-which, whatever she-consults, the-shade
scire dedit. maestum fletu manante cadauer
to-know she-granted. sad with-weeping flowing the-corpse
'tristia non equidem Parcarum stamina' dixit
'the-sad not indeed of-the-Parcae threads' said
'aspexi tacitae reuocatus ab aggere ripae:
'I-have-seen of-the-silent called-back from the-mound bank:
quod tamen e cunctis mihi noscere contigit umbris
what yet out-of all to-me to-know has-befallen shades
effera Romanos agitat discordia manes
savage the-Roman drives discord ghosts
inpiaque infernam ruperunt arma quietem;
and-impious the-infernal have-broken arms quiet;
Elysias Latii sedes ac Tartara maesta
the-Elysian of-Latium seats and Tartarus sad
diuersi liquere duces. quid fata pararent
opposing have-left leaders. what the-fates were-preparing
hi fecere palam. tristis felicibus umbris
these made plain. sad on-the-happy shades
uoltus erat: uidi Decios natumque patremque,
the-face was: I-saw the-Decii and-son and-father,

lustrales bellis animas, flentemque Camillum
purifying for-wars souls, and-weeping Camillus
et Curios, Sullam de te, Fortuna, querentem;
and the-Curii, Sulla about you, Fortune, complaining;
deplorat Libycis perituram Scipio terris
laments in-Libyan going-to-perish Scipio lands
infaustam subolem; maior Carthaginis hostis
his-ill-starred offspring; the-elder of-Carthage enemy
non seruituri maeret Cato fata nepotis:
not of-(one)-going-to-be-a-slave mourns Cato the-fates his-descendant:
solum te, consul depulsis prime tyrannis
alone you, consul with-driven-out first tyrants
Brute, pias inter gaudentem uidimus umbras.
Brutus, dutiful among rejoicing we-saw shades.
abruptis Catilina minax fractisque catenis
with-broken Catiline menacing and-with-shattered chains
exultat Mariique truces nudique Cethegi;
exults and-the-Marii fierce and-the-bare Cethegi;
uidi ego laetantis, popularia nomina, Drusos
saw I rejoicing, popular names, the-Drusi
legibus inmodicos ausosque ingentia Gracchos;
in-laws immoderate and-having-dared huge-things the-Gracchi;
aeternis chalybis nodis et carcere Ditis
with-eternal of-steel knots and in-the-prison of-Dis
constrictae plausere manus, camposque piorum
bound have-applauded hands, and-the-fields of-the-dutiful
poscit turba nocens. regni possessor inertis
demands the-throng guilty. of-the-realm the-possessor idle
pallentis aperit sedes, abruptaque saxa
pale opens seats, and-broken rocks

asperat et durum uinclis adamanta, paratque
sharpens and hard for-bonds adamant, and-prepares
poenam uictori. refer haec solacia tecum,
punishment for-the-victor. carry-back these consolations with-you,
o iuuenis, placido manes patremque domumque
O young-man, in-calm the-ghosts and-your-father and-house
expectare sinu regnique in parte serena
to-await bosom and-of-the-realm in part clear
Pompeis seruare locum. nec gloria paruae
for-the-Pompeys to-keep a-place. nor the-glory of-short
sollicitet uitae: ueniet quae misceat omnis
let-trouble life: will-come which may-mingle all
hora duces. properate mori, magnoque superbi
an-hour leaders. hasten to-die, and-with-great proud
quamuis e paruis animo descendite bustis
although from small mind descend pyres
et Romanorum manes calcate deorum.
and of-the-Romans the-ghosts trample gods.
quem tumulum Nili, quem Thybridis adluat unda
which tomb of-the-Nile, which of-the-Tiber may-wash the-wave
quaeritur, et ducibus tantum de funere pugna est.
is-asked, and for-the-leaders only about the-funeral the-fight is.
tu fatum ne quaere tuum: cognoscere Parcae
you fate do-not seek your-own: to-know the-Parcae
me reticente dabunt; tibi certior omnia uates
with-me keeping-silent will-grant; to-you a-surer all-things prophet
ipse canet Siculis genitor Pompeius in aruis,
himself will-sing the-Sicilian father Pompey in fields,
ille quoque incertus quo te uocet, unde repellat,
he too uncertain whither you he-should-call, whence he-should-drive,

quas iubeat uitare plagas, quae sidera mundi.
which he-should-bid to-avoid regions, which constellations of-the-world.
Europam, miseri, Libyamque Asiamque timete:
Europe, wretched-ones, and-Libya and-Asia fear:
distribuit tumulos uestris fortuna triumphis.
has-distributed tombs to-your fortune triumphs.
o miseranda domus, toto nil orbe uidebis
O pitiable house, in-the-whole nothing world you-will-see
820 tutius Emathia.' sic postquam fata peregit,
safer than-Emathia.' so after the-fates he-had-completed,
stat uoltu maestus tacito mortemque reposcit.
he-stands in-face sad silent and-death demands-back.
carminibus magicis opus est herbisque, cadauer
of-spells magic need there-is and-of-herbs, the-corpse
ut cadat, et nequeunt animam sibi reddere fata
that may-fall, and cannot the-soul to-themselves to-restore the-fates
consumpto iam iure semel. tunc robore multo
with-used-up already their-right once. then with-wood much
825 extruit illa rogum; uenit defunctus ad ignes.
builds she a-pyre; comes the-dead-man to the-fires.
accensa iuuenem positum strue liquit Erictho
on-the-kindled the-young-man laid pile left Erictho
tandem passa mori, Sextoque ad castra parentis
at-last allowing to-die, and-with-Sextus to the-camp of-his-father
it comes; et caelo lucis ducente colorem,
she-goes as-companion; and with-the-sky of-light leading the-color,

dum ferrent tutos intra tentoria gressus,
until they-might-bring safe within the-tents their-steps,
iussa tenere diem densas nox praestitit umbras. 830
ordered to-hold-back the-day thick night provided shadows.

BOOK VII

VII.1 · POMPEY'S DREAM

The sun rises slowly and clouded on the day of Pharsalus, and Pompey's last night of happiness deceives him with a dream of his own theater, the Roman people applauding him as on his first triumph from Spain. The poet does not know whether the dream looked back to joys or foretold grief, and begs the sentinels not to wake him; Rome will mourn him even under Caesar's eyes. At dawn the army clamors for battle and calls Pompey slow and fond of power.

Segnior, Oceano quam lex aeterna uocabat,
More-sluggish, to-the-Ocean than the-law eternal was-calling,
luctificus Titan numquam magis aethera contra
grief-bringing the-Titan never more the-ether against
egit equos cursumque polo rapiente retorsit,
drove his-horses and-his-course with-the-pole sweeping turned-back,
defectusque pati uoluit raptaeque labores
and-eclipses to-suffer he-wished and-of-snatched the-toils
lucis, et attraxit nubes, non pabula flammis
light, and drew-to-himself clouds, not as-food for-his-flames
sed ne Thessalico purus luceret in orbe.
but lest the-Thessalian clear he-might-shine on world.
at nox felicis Magno pars ultima uitae
but the-night of-happy for-Magnus the-part last life
sollicitos uana decepit imagine somnos.
the-anxious with-an-empty deceived image sleep.
nam Pompeiani uisus sibi sede theatri
for of-the-Pompeian he-seemed to-himself in-the-seat theater
innumeram effigiem Romanae cernere plebis
the-countless image of-the-Roman to-behold commons

attollique suum laetis ad sidera nomen
and-to-be-raised his-own glad to the-stars name
uocibus et plausu cuneos certare sonantes;
with-voices and with-applause the-wedges to-vie resounding;
qualis erat populi facies clamorque fauentis
such-as was of-the-people the-face and-the-shout favoring
olim, cum iuuenis primique aetate triumphi,
once, when a-young-man and-of-his-first in-age triumph,
post domitas gentes quas torrens ambit Hiberus
after the-subdued nations which rushing circles the-Ebro
et quaecumque fugax Sertorius inpulit arma,
and whatever fleeing Sertorius drove arms,
Vespere pacato, pura uenerabilis aeque
with-the-West pacified, in-the-plain revered equally
quam currus ornante toga, plaudente senatu
as the-chariot adorning toga, with-applauding senate
sedit adhuc Romanus eques; seu fine bonorum
he-sat still a-Roman knight; whether at-the-end of-good-things
anxia mens curis ad tempora laeta refugit,
anxious the-mind from-cares to times happy fled-back,
siue per ambages solitas contraria uisis
or through riddles accustomed opposite to-things-seen
uaticinata quies magni tulit omina planctus,
prophesying sleep of-great brought omens lamentation,
seu uetito patrias ultra tibi cernere sedes
or with-(it)-forbidden ancestral further for-you to-behold seats
sic Romam Fortuna dedit. ne rumpite somnos,
thus Rome Fortune gave. do-not break his-sleep,
castrorum uigiles, nullas tuba uerberet aures.
of-the-camp sentries, no trumpet should-strike ears.

crastina dira quies et imagine maesta diurna
tomorrow's dire rest and with-image sad of-day
undique funestas acies feret, undique bellum.
on-all-sides deadly battle-lines will-bring, on-all-sides war.
unde pares somnos populis noctemque beatam?
whence equal sleep for-the-peoples and-a-night blessed?
o felix, si te uel sic tua Roma uideret!
O happy, if you even so your Rome were-seeing!
donassent utinam superi patriaeque tibique
had-given would-that the-gods-above and-to-the-fatherland and-to-you
unum, Magne, diem, quo fati certus uterque
one, Magnus, day, on-which of-fate sure each
extremum tanti fructum raperetis amoris.
the-last of-so-great fruit you-might-snatch love.
tu uelut Ausonia uadis moriturus in urbe,
you as-if the-Ausonian go going-to-die in city,
illa rati semper de te sibi conscia uoti
she of-fulfilled always about you to-herself conscious vow
hoc scelus haud umquam fatis haerere putauit,
this crime not ever to-the-fates to-cling thought,
sic se dilecti tumulum quoque perdere Magni.
so herself of-beloved the-tomb also to-lose Magnus.
te mixto flesset luctu iuuenisque senexque
you with-mingled would-have-wept grief and-young-man and-old-man
iniussusque puer; lacerasset crine soluto
and-unbidden the-boy; would-have-torn with-hair loosened
pectora femineum ceu Bruti funere uolgus.
breasts the-womanly as at-Brutus' funeral crowd.
nunc quoque, tela licet paueant uictoris iniqui,
now too, the-weapons though they-fear of-the-victor unjust,

nuntiet ipse licet Caesar tua funera, flebunt,
let-announce himself though Caesar your funeral, they-will-weep,
sed dum tura ferunt, dum laurea serta Tonanti.
but while incense they-carry, while laurel garlands to-the-Thunderer.
o miseri, quorum gemitus edere dolorem,
O wretched, whose groans have-consumed grief,
qui te non pleno pariter planxere theatro.
who you not in-a-full together lamented theater.
uicerat astra iubar, cum mixto murmure turba
had-conquered the-stars the-radiance, when with-mingled murmur the-throng
castrorum fremuit fatisque trahentibus orbem
of-the-camp roared and-with-the-fates dragging the-world
signa petit pugnae. miseri pars maxima uolgi
the-signals demands of-battle. of-the-wretched the-part greatest crowd
non totum uisura diem tentoria circum
not whole going-to-see the-day the-tent around
ipsa ducis queritur magnoque accensa tumultu
the-very of-the-leader complains and-by-great inflamed uproar
mortis uicinae properantis admouet horas.
of-death near hastening brings-up the-hours.
dira subit rabies: sua quisque ac publica fata
dire comes-on madness: his-own each-one and public fates
praecipitare cupit; segnis pauidusque uocatur
to-hasten desires; sluggish and-fearful is-called
ac nimium patiens soceri Pompeius, et orbis
and too tolerant of-the-father-in-law Pompey, and of-the-world
indulgens regno, qui tot simul undique gentis
indulging to-the-kingship, who so-many at-once from-everywhere nations
iuris habere sui uellet pacemque timeret.
of-right to-have his-own would-wish and-peace would-fear.

nec non et reges populique queruntur Eoi
nor not also the-kings and-peoples complain Eastern
bella trahi patriaque procul tellure teneri.
the-wars to-be-dragged-out and-from-the-native far land to-be-held.
hoc placet, o superi, cum uobis uertere cuncta
this pleases-you, O gods-above, when for-you to-overturn all-things
propositum, nostris erroribus addere crimen?
is-resolved, to-our errors to-add guilt?
cladibus inruimus nocituraque poscimus arma;
into-disasters we-rush and-going-to-harm we-demand arms;
in Pompeianis uotum est Pharsalia castris.
in the-Pompeian a-prayer is Pharsalia camp.

VII.2 · CICERO AND POMPEY

Cicero, the greatest master of Roman eloquence, speaks for them all: he asks Pompey to use Fortune, says the chiefs of his camp and his kings beg him to let Caesar be conquered, and reproaches him for his doubt. Pompey groans, sees the fates against him, and yields: he could have won without slaughter, by starving the enemy, but the blind army prefers to fight; he lays the war in Fortune's hands and foresees that Pompey's name will be either hated or pitied. The camp seethes in fear, and men sharpen swords and fill quivers as if for the war of gods and giants.

cunctorum uoces Romani maximus auctor
of-all the-voices of-Roman the-greatest master
Tullius eloquii, cuius sub iure togaque
Tullius eloquence, whose under rule and-toga
pacificas saeuos tremuit Catilina securis,
peaceful savage trembled-at Catiline axes,
pertulit iratus bellis, cum rostra forumque
conveyed angry at-the-wars, when the-rostra and-forum

optaret passus tam longa silentia miles.
he-longed-for having-endured so long silences a-soldier.
addidit inualidae robur facundia causae.
added to-the-weak strength his-eloquence cause.
'hoc pro tot meritis solum te, Magne, precatur
'this for so-many services alone you, Magnus, entreats
uti se Fortuna uelis, proceresque tuorum
to-use her Fortune that-you-would-wish, and-the-chiefs of-your
castrorum regesque tui cum supplice mundo
camp and-the-kings your with suppliant world
adfusi uinci socerum patiare rogamus.
prostrate to-be-conquered the-father-in-law that-you-allow we-ask.
humani generis tam longo tempore bellum
for-the-human race so long a-time a-war
Caesar erit? merito Pompeium uincere lente
Caesar will-be? deservedly Pompey to-conquer slowly
gentibus indignum est a transcurrente subactis.
for-nations a-disgrace it-is by one-passing-through subdued.
quo tibi feruor abit aut quo fiducia fati?
whither for-you your-fire has-gone or whither your-confidence in-fate?
de superis, ingrate, times causamque senatus
about the-gods-above, ungrateful, do-you-fear and-the-cause of-the-senate
credere dis dubitas? ipsae tua signa reuellent
to-entrust to-the-gods do-you-hesitate? themselves your standards will-tear-up
prosilientque acies: pudeat uicisse coactum.
and-will-leap-forward the-battle-lines: be-it-shameful to-have-conquered compelled.
si duce te iusso, si nobis bella geruntur,
if as-leader you appointed, if for-us the-wars are-waged,
sit iuris, quocumque uelint, concurrere campo.
let-it-be of-our-right, on-whatever they-wish, to-clash plain.

quid mundi gladios a sanguine Caesaris arces?
why of-the-world the-swords from the-blood of-Caesar do-you-keep?
uibrant tela manus, uix signa morantia quisquam
brandish weapons the-hands, scarcely the-standards lingering anyone
expectat: propera, ne te tua classica linquant.
awaits: hasten, lest you your trumpets leave.
scire senatus auet, miles te, Magne, sequatur
to-know the-senate longs, soldier you, Magnus, follows
an comes.' ingemuit rector sensitque deorum
or comrade.' groaned the-ruler and-felt of-the-gods
esse dolos et fata suae contraria menti.
to-be tricks and the-fates to-his opposed mind.
'si placet hoc' inquit 'cunctis, si milite Magno,
'if pleases this' he-says 'to-all, if a-soldier Magnus,
non duce tempus eget, nil ultra fata morabor:
not a-leader the-hour needs, no further the-fates I-will-delay:
inuoluat populos una fortuna ruina
let-envelop the-peoples in-one fortune ruin
sitque hominum magnae lux ista nouissima parti.
and-let-be of-men for-a-great light that the-last part.
testor, Roma, tamen Magnum quo cuncta perirent
I-call-to-witness, Rome, yet Magnus on-which all-things should-perish
accepisse diem. potuit tibi uolnere nullo
to-have-accepted the-day. could for-you with-wound no
stare labor belli; potui sine caede subactum
to-stand the-toil of-war; I-could without slaughter subdued
captiuumque ducem uiolatae tradere paci.
and-captive the-leader to-violated hand-over peace.
quis furor, o caeci, scelerum? ciuilia bella
what frenzy, O blind, of-crimes? civil wars

gesturi metuunt ne non cum sanguine uincant.
going-to-wage they-fear lest not with blood they-conquer.
abstulimus terras, exclusimus aequore toto,
we-have-taken-away lands, we-have-shut-out from-sea whole,
ad praematuras segetum ieiuna rapinas
to premature of-the-crops hungry plunderings
agmina conpulimus, uotumque effecimus hosti
columns we-have-driven, and-a-prayer we-have-brought-about for-the-enemy
ut mallet sterni gladiis mortemque suorum
that he-would-prefer to-be-laid-low by-swords and-the-death of-his-own
permiscere meis. belli pars magna peracta est
to-mingle with-mine. of-the-war part great accomplished is
his, quibus effectum est ne pugnam tiro paueret,
by-these, by-which brought-about it-is lest the-battle the-recruit should-fear,
si modo uirtutis stimulis iraeque calore
if only of-valor by-the-goads and-of-anger by-the-heat
signa petunt. multos in summa pericula misit
the-standards they-seek. many into the-highest dangers has-sent
uenturi timor ipse mali. fortissimus ille est
of-coming the-fear itself evil. the-bravest he is
qui, promptus metuenda pati, si comminus instent,
who, ready things-to-be-feared to-suffer, if at-close-quarters they-press,
et differre potest. placet haec tam prospera rerum
also to-put-off can. it-pleases these so prosperous affairs
tradere fortunae, gladio permittere mundi
to-hand-over to-fortune, to-the-sword to-entrust of-the-world
discrimen; pugnare ducem quam uincere malunt.
the-decision; to-fight the-leader than to-conquer they-prefer.
res mihi Romanas dederas, Fortuna, regendas:
affairs to-me Roman you-had-given, Fortune, to-be-ruled:

accipe maiores et caeco in Marte tuere.
receive-them greater and blind in Mars protect-them.
Pompei nec crimen erit nec gloria bellum.
of-Pompey neither the-guilt will-be nor the-glory the-war.
uincis apud superos uotis me, Caesar, iniquis:
you-conquer before the-gods-above with-prayers me, Caesar, unjust:
pugnatur. quantum scelerum quantumque malorum
it-is-being-fought. how-much of-crimes and-how-much of-evils
in populos lux ista feret! quot regna iacebunt!
upon the-peoples light that will-bring! how-many kingdoms will-lie!
sanguine Romano quam turbidus ibit Enipeus!
with-blood Roman how muddy will-go the-Enipeus!
prima uelim caput hoc funesti lancea belli,
first I-would-wish the-head this of-deadly the-lance war,
si sine momento rerum partisque ruina
if without the-weighting of-affairs and-of-the-party ruin
casurum est, feriat; neque enim uictoria Magno
going-to-fall it-is, it-should-strike; nor indeed victory for-Magnus
laetior. aut populis inuisum hac clade peracta
happier. either to-the-peoples hated with-this disaster accomplished
aut hodie Pompeius erit miserabile nomen:
or today Pompey will-be a-pitiable name:
omne malum uicti, quod sors feret ultima rerum,
every evil of-the-conquered, which lot will-bring last of-affairs,
omne nefas uictoris erit.' sic fatur et arma
every abomination of-the-victor will-be.' so he-speaks and arms
permittit populis frenosque furentibus ira
grants to-the-peoples and-the-reins to-those-raging with-anger
laxat et ut uictus uiolento nauita Coro
loosens and as conquered by-violent the-sailor Caurus

dat regimen uentis ignauumque arte relicta
gives the-steering to-the-winds and-the-idle with-skill abandoned
puppis onus trahitur. trepido confusa tumultu
of-the-ship burden is-dragged. in-trembling confused uproar
castra fremunt, animique truces sua pectora pulsant
the-camp roars, and-spirits fierce their-own breasts beat
ictibus incertis. multorum pallor in ore
with-blows uncertain. of-many pallor on the-face
mortis uenturae faciesque simillima fato.
of-death coming and-an-appearance most-like to-fate.
aduenisse diem qui fatum rebus in aeuum
to-have-come the-day which the-fate for-affairs for ever
conderet humanis, et quaeri, Roma quid esset,
should-found human, and to-be-asked, Rome what might-be,
illo Marte, palam est. sua quisque pericula nescit
in-that Mars, plain it-is. his-own each-one dangers knows-not
attonitus maiore metu. quis litora ponto
stunned by-greater fear. who the-shores by-the-sea
obruta, quis summis cernens in montibus aequor
overwhelmed, who the-topmost seeing on mountains the-sea
aetheraque in terras deiecto sole cadentem,
and-the-ether onto the-lands with-cast-down sun falling,
tot rerum finem, timeat sibi? non uacat ullos
of-so-many things the-end, would-fear for-himself? not there-is-leisure any
pro se ferre metus: urbi Magnoque timetur.
for himself to-bear fears: for-the-city and-for-Magnus it-is-feared.
nec gladiis habuere fidem, nisi cautibus asper
nor in-their-swords they-had faith, unless on-crags rough
exarsit mucro; tunc omnis lancea saxo
blazed the-point; then every lance on-stone

erigitur, tendunt neruis melioribus arcus,
is-straightened, they-string with-sinews better bows,
cura fuit lectis pharetras inplere sagittis,
care it-was with-chosen the-quivers to-fill arrows,
auget eques stimulos frenorumque artat habenas.
increases the-horseman his-spurs and-of-the-bridles tightens the-reins.
si liceat superis hominum conferre labores,
if it-be-allowed to-the-gods-above of-men to-compare the-toils,
non aliter Phlegra rabidos tollente gigantas
not otherwise with-Phlegra raging raising giants
Martius incaluit Siculis incudibus ensis
Mars' grew-hot on-Sicilian anvils sword
et rubuit flammis iterum Neptunia cuspis
and grew-red in-flames again Neptune's trident
spiculaque extenso Paean Pythone recoxit,
and-the-arrows with-outstretched Paean Python re-forged,
Pallas Gorgoneos diffudit in aegida crines,
Pallas the-Gorgon's spread over aegis hair,
Pallenaea Ioui mutauit fulmina Cyclops.
Pallene's for-Jupiter renewed thunderbolts the-Cyclops.

Fortune shows the coming disaster by signs: fire falls from the sky, the standards weep and are hard to lift, the victim flees the altar, and the soldiers see the mountains clash and their dead fathers before their eyes. An augur on the Euganean hill cries that the great day is come. Pompey's line is drawn up, Lentulus on the left, Domitius on the right, Scipio in the center, the Cappadocians and Pontic horse by the Enipeus, and the kings and peoples of the East on the dry plain.

non tamen abstinuit uenturos prodere casus
not however refrained the-coming to-reveal chances
per uarias Fortuna notas. nam, Thessala rura
through various Fortune signs. for, the-Thessalian fields
cum peterent, totus uenientibus obstitit aether
when they-were-seeking, whole to-those-coming opposed the-ether
aduersasque faces inmensoque igne columnas
and-opposing torches and-with-immense fire columns
et trabibus mixtis auidos typhonas aquarum
and with-beams mingled greedy whirlwinds of-waters
detulit atque oculos ingesto fulgure clausit;
it-brought-down and the-eyes with-hurled-in lightning shut;
excussit cristas galeis capulosque solutis
it-struck-off the-crests from-helmets and-the-hilts with-loosened
perfudit gladiis ereptaque pila liquauit,
drenched swords and-snatched javelins melted,
aetherioque nocens fumauit sulpure ferrum;
and-with-ethereal harmful smoked sulfur the-steel;
uixque reuolsa solo maiori pondere pressum
and-scarcely torn-up from-the-soil with-greater weight pressed
signiferi mersere caput rorantia fletu
the-standard-bearers sank their-head dripping with-weeping

usque ad Thessaliam Romana et publica signa.
all-the-way to Thessaly Roman and public standards.
admotus superis discussa fugit ab ara
brought to-the-gods-above the-shattered fled from altar
taurus et Emathios praeceps se iecit in agros,
the-bull and the-Emathian headlong itself flung into fields,
nullaque funestis inuenta est uictima sacris.
and-no for-the-deadly found was victim rites.
(at tu quos scelerum superos, quas rite uocasti
(but you which of-crimes gods-above, which duly have-you-called
Eumenidas, Caesar? Stygii quae numina regni
Eumenides, Caesar? of-the-Stygian what divinities kingdom
infernumque nefas et mersos nocte furores
and-infernal abomination and plunged in-night frenzies
inpia tam saeue gesturus bella litasti?)
impious so savagely going-to-wage wars have-you-propitiated?)
iam (dubium, monstrisne deum, nimione pauore
now (doubtful, whether-by-the-portents of-the-gods, or-by-excessive panic
crediderint) multis concurrere uisus Olympo
they-believed) to-many to-clash seemed with-Olympus
Pindus et abruptis mergi conuallibus Haemus,
Pindus and in-broken to-be-sunk valleys Haemus,
edere nocturnas belli Pharsalia uoces,
to-utter nocturnal of-war Pharsalia voices,
ire per Ossaeam rapidus Boebeida sanguis;
to-go through Ossa's swift Boebeis blood;
inque uicem uoltus tenebris mirantur opertos
and-in turn faces in-darkness they-wonder-at covered
et pallere diem galeisque incumbere noctem
and to-be-pale the-day and-on-the-helmets to-lie the-night

defunctosque patres et iuncti sanguinis umbras
and-the-dead fathers and of-joined blood the-shades
ante oculos uolitare suos. sed mentibus unum
before eyes to-flit their-own. but for-their-minds one
hoc solamen erat, quod uoti turba nefandi
this solace was, that of-the-prayer the-throng unspeakable
conscia, quae patrum iugulos, quae pectora fratrum
conscious, which of-fathers the-throats, which the-breasts of-brothers
sperabat, gaudet monstris, mentisque tumultum
was-hoping-for, rejoices in-the-portents, and-of-the-mind the-uproar
atque omen scelerum subitos putat esse furores.
and the-omen of-crimes sudden thinks to-be frenzies.
quid mirum populos quos lux extrema manebat
what wonder peoples whom light last was-awaiting
lymphato trepidasse metu, praesaga malorum
with-frenzied to-have-trembled fear, foreboding of-evils
si data mens homini est? Tyriis qui Gadibus hospes
if given a-mind to-man is? at-Tyrian who Gadeira a-stranger
adiacet Armeniumque bibit Romanus Araxen,
lies-near and-the-Armenian drinks the-Roman Araxes,
sub quocumque die, quocumque est sidere mundi,
under whatever sky, whatever he-is constellation of-the-world,
maeret et ignorat causas animumque dolentem
grieves and knows-not the-causes and-his-mind grieving
corripit, Emathiis quid perdat nescius aruis.
he-rebukes, on-the-Emathian what he-may-lose unaware fields.
Euganeo, si uera fides memorantibus, augur
on-the-Euganean, if true trust to-those-relating, an-augur
colle sedens, Aponus terris ubi fumifer exit
hill sitting, Aponus from-the-earth where smoking comes-out

atque Antenorei dispergitur unda Timaui,
and of-Antenor's is-dispersed the-water Timavus,
'uenit summa dies, geritur res maxima,' dixit
'has-come the-supreme day, is-being-waged the-matter greatest,' he-said
'inpia concurrunt Pompei et Caesaris arma',
'impious clash of-Pompey and of-Caesar arms',
seu tonitrus ac tela Iouis praesaga notauit,
whether the-thunders and weapons of-Jupiter foreboding he-noted,
aethera seu totum discordi obsistere caelo
the-ether whether whole to-discordant to-oppose sky
perspexitque polos, seu numen in aethere maestum
and-he-saw-through the-poles, or a-divinity in the-ether sad
solis in obscuro pugnam pallore notauit.
of-the-sun in obscure the-battle pallor marked.
dissimilem certe cunctis quos explicat egit
unlike certainly to-all which she-unfolds made
Thessalicum natura diem: si cuncta perito
Thessalian nature the-day: if all-things by-a-skilled
augure mens hominum caeli noua signa notasset,
augur the-mind of-men of-the-sky new signs had-marked,
spectari toto potuit Pharsalia mundo.
to-be-watched by-whole could Pharsalia world.
o summos hominum, quorum fortuna per orbem
O highest of-men, whose fortune through the-world
signa dedit, quorum fatis caelum omne uacauit!
signs gave, whose for-fates the-sky whole had-leisure!
haec et apud seras gentes populosque nepotum,
these-things even among late nations and-peoples of-descendants,
siue sua tantum uenient in saecula fama
whether by-their-own only they-will-come to ages fame

siue aliquid magnis nostri quoque cura laboris
or-if anything to-great of-our too the-care toil
nominibus prodesse potest, cum bella legentur,
names to-profit can, when the-wars will-be-read,
spesque metusque simul perituraque uota mouebunt,
and-hope and-fear together and-doomed prayers will-move,
attonitique omnes ueluti uenientia fata,
and-astounded all as-if coming fates,
non transmissa, legent et adhuc tibi, Magne, fauebunt.
not passed-by, will-read and still you, Magnus, will-favor.
miles, ut aduerso Phoebi radiatus ab ictu
the-soldiery, as the-opposite of-Phoebus irradiated from blow
descendens totos perfudit lumine colles,
descending whole drenched with-light the-hills,
non temere inmissus campis: stetit ordine certo
not at-random sent-in onto-the-plains: stood in-order fixed
infelix acies. cornus tibi cura sinistri,
unlucky the-battle-line. of-the-wing to-you the-care left,
Lentule, cum prima, quae tum fuit optima bello,
Lentulus, with the-first, which then was best in-war,
et quarta legione datur. tibi, numine pugnax
and the-fourth legion is-given. to-you, with-divinity combative
aduerso Domiti, dextri frons tradita Martis.
hostile Domitius, of-the-right the-front was-handed Mars.
at medii robur belli fortissima densant
but of-the-middle the-strength of-war the-bravest pack
agmina, quae Cilicum terris deducta tenebat
columns, which from-the-Cilicians' lands brought-down held
Scipio, miles in hoc, Libyco dux primus in orbe.
Scipio, a-soldier in this, the-Libyan a-leader first in world.

at iuxta fluuios et stagna undantis Enipei
but beside the-rivers and pools of-the-flooding Enipeus
Cappadocum montana cohors et largus habenae
of-the-Cappadocians the-mountain cohort and generous of-the-rein
Ponticus ibat eques. sicci sed plurima campi
the-Pontic went horseman. of-the-dry but most plain
tetrarchae regesque tenent magnique tyranni
tetrarchs and-kings hold and-great tyrants
atque omnis Latio quae seruit purpura ferro.
and all to-Latin which serves purple steel.
illuc et Libye Numidas et Creta Cydonas
there both Libya Numidians and Crete Cydonians
misit, Ityraeis cursus fuit inde sagittis,
sent, for-the-Ituraean course was thence arrows,
inde, truces Galli, solitum prodistis in hostem,
thence, fierce Gauls, the-accustomed you-went-forth against enemy,
illic pugnaces commouit Hiberia caetras.
there combative moved Spain shields.
eripe uictori gentis et sanguine mundi
snatch from-the-victor the-nations and with-the-blood of-the-world
fuso, Magne, semel totos consume triumphos.
shed, Magnus, at-once whole use-up triumphs.

Caesar sees the enemy descending to the plain and, after a moment's doubt, addresses his soldiers: this is the day promised at the Rubicon, and the battle will show which side took arms more justly. He fights not for himself but that they may be free and rule over nations; the enemy are Greek youths from the wrestling-grounds and a babble of barbarians. Today brings reward or punishment, crosses, chains, and his head on the rostra, for they fight a Sullan leader; he will kill himself before the eyes of any man who looks back. He prays that the gods may give the war to whichever leader does not think he must draw the savage sword on the conquered, tells his men to spare fleeing citizens but not to be moved by a kinsman's face, and has the rampart leveled.

illo forte die Caesar statione relicta
on-that by-chance day Caesar with-his-post left

ad segetum raptus moturus signa repente
for of-crops plunder going-to-move his-standards suddenly

conspicit in planos hostem descendere campos,
sees onto the-level the-enemy to-descend plains,

oblatumque uidet uotis sibi mille petitum
and-offered he-sees in-prayers by-himself a-thousand sought

tempus, in extremos quo mitteret omnia casus.
time, into the-extreme in-which he-might-send all-things chances.

aeger quippe morae flagransque cupidine regni
sick indeed of-delay and-burning with-desire of-kingship

coeperat exiguo tractu ciuilia bella
he-had-begun in-small extension civil wars

ut lentum damnare nefas. discrimina postquam
as a-slow to-condemn abomination. the-crises after

aduentare ducum supremaque proelia uidit
to-approach of-the-leaders and-the-final battles he-saw

casuram et fatis sensit nutare ruinam,
going-to-fall and with-the-fates he-felt to-totter the-ruin,
illa quoque in ferrum rabies promptissima paulum
that too for the-steel madness most-eager a-little
languit, et casus audax spondere secundos
grew-faint, and chances bold to-promise favorable
mens stetit in dubio, quam nec sua fata timere
the-mind stood in doubt, which neither its-own fates to-fear
nec Magni sperare sinunt. formidine mersa
nor Magnus' to-hope allow. with-dread sunk
prosilit hortando melior fiducia uolgo.
leaps-forth for-urging better confidence the-crowd.
'o domitor mundi, rerum fortuna mearum,
'O tamer of-the-world, of-the-affairs fortune my,
miles, adest totiens optatae copia pugnae.
soldiery, is-here so-often longed-for the-chance of-battle.
nil opus est uotis, iam fatum accersite ferro.
nothing need there-is of-prayers, now fate summon with-steel.
in manibus uestris, quantus sit Caesar, habetis.
in hands your, how-great may-be Caesar, you-have.
haec est illa dies mihi quam Rubiconis ad undas
this is that day for-me which of-the-Rubicon by the-waves
promissam memini, cuius spe mouimus arma,
promised I-remember, whose in-hope we-moved arms,
in quam distulimus uetitos remeare triumphos,
into which we-postponed forbidden to-return triumphs,
haec, fato quae teste probet, quis iustius arma
this, with-fate which as-witness may-prove, who more-justly arms
sumpserit; haec acies uictum factura nocentem est.
took; this battle-line the-conquered going-to-make guilty is.

si pro me patriam ferro flammisque petistis,
if for me the-fatherland with-steel and-with-flames you-have-attacked,
nunc pugnate truces gladioque exsoluite culpam:
now fight fierce and-with-the-sword pay-off the-guilt:
nulla manus, belli mutato iudice, pura est.
no hand, of-war with-changed judge, pure is.
non mihi res agitur, sed, uos ut libera sitis
not for-me the-matter is-being-waged, but, you that free may-be
turba, precor gentes ut ius habeatis in omnes.
a-throng, I-pray nations that right you-may-have over all.
ipse ego priuatae cupidus me reddere uitae
myself I of-private longing myself to-return-to life
plebeiaque toga modicum conponere ciuem,
and-in-plebeian toga a-modest to-compose citizen,
omnia dum uobis liceant, nihil esse recuso.
all-things provided to-you be-allowed, nothing to-be I-refuse.
inuidia regnate mea. nec sanguine multo
with-the-odium reign my. nor with-blood much
spem mundi petitis: Grais delecta iuuentus
the-hope of-the-world you-seek: from-the-Greek chosen youth
gymnasiis aderit studioque ignaua palaestrae
gymnasia will-be-present and-by-the-pursuit idle of-the-wrestling-ground
et uix arma ferens, aut mixtae dissona turbae
and scarcely arms bearing, or of-mixed discordant crowd
barbaries, non illa tubas, non agmine moto
barbarism, not that the-trumpets, not with-column moved
clamorem latura suum. ciuilia paucae
the-shout going-to-bear its-own. civil few
bella manus facient: pugnae pars magna leuabit
wars hands will-make: of-the-battle part great will-relieve

his orbem populis Romanumque obteret hostem.
of-these the-world peoples and-the-Roman will-crush enemy.
ite per ignauas gentes famosaque regna
go through cowardly nations and-notorious kingdoms
et primo ferri motu prosternite mundum;
and at-the-first of-steel motion lay-low the-world;
sitque palam, quas tot duxit Pompeius in urbem
and-let-it-be plain, which so-many led Pompey into the-city
curribus, unius gentes non esse triumphi.
in-chariots, of-one nations not to-be triumph.
Armeniosne mouet Romana potentia cuius
the-Armenians does-it-move the-Roman power of-which
sit ducis, aut emptum minimo uolt sanguine quisquam
may-be leader, or bought with-the-smallest wishes blood any
barbarus Hesperiis Magnum praeponere rebus?
barbarian to-the-Hesperian Magnus to-set-before affairs?
Romanos odere omnes, dominosque grauantur,
the-Romans hate all, and-their-masters resent,
quos nouere, magis. sed me fortuna meorum
whom they-have-known, more. but me the-fortune of-my-own
commisit manibus, quarum me Gallia testem
has-entrusted to-hands, of-which me Gaul a-witness
tot fecit bellis. cuius non militis ensem
in-so-many made wars. of-what not soldier the-sword
agnoscam? caelumque tremens cum lancea transit
shall-I-recognize? and-the-sky trembling when a-lance crosses
dicere non fallar quo sit uibrata lacerto.
to-say not I-shall-be-deceived by-what may-be brandished arm.
quod si, signa ducem numquam fallentia uestrum,
but if, signs a-leader never deceiving your,

conspicio faciesque truces oculosque minaces,
I-see and-faces fierce and-eyes threatening,
uicistis. uideor fluuios spectare cruoris
you-have-conquered. I-seem rivers to-watch of-gore
calcatosque simul reges sparsumque senatus
and-trampled together kings and-scattered of-the-senate
corpus et inmensa populos in caede natantis.
the-body and immense peoples in slaughter swimming.
sed mea fata moror, qui uos in tela furentis
but my fates I-delay, who you onto weapons raging
uocibus his teneo. ueniam date bella trahenti:
with-words these hold. pardon give the-wars to-one-dragging-out:
spe trepido; haud umquam uidi tam magna daturos
with-hope I-tremble; not ever I-have-seen so great going-to-give
tam prope me superos; camporum limite paruo
so near me the-gods-above; of-the-plains by-a-boundary small
absumus a uotis. ego sum cui Marte peracto
we-are-away from prayers. I am to-whom with-Mars accomplished
quae populi regesque tenent donare licebit.
what peoples and-kings hold to-give-away it-will-be-allowed.
quone poli motu, quo caeli sidere uerso
by-what of-the-pole motion, by-what of-the-sky constellation turned
Thessalicae tantum, superi, permittitis orae?
to-the-Thessalian so-much, gods-above, do-you-permit shore?
aut merces hodie bellorum aut poena parata.
either the-reward today of-wars or the-punishment is-ready.
Caesareas spectate cruces, spectate catenas,
Caesarian look-at crosses, look-at chains,
et caput hoc positum rostris effusaque membra
and head this set-up on-the-rostra and-poured-out limbs

Saeptorumque nefas et clausi proelia Campi.
and-of-the-Saepta the-abomination and of-the-enclosed the-battles Field.
cum duce Sullano gerimus ciuilia bella.
with a-leader Sullan we-wage civil wars.
uestri cura mouet; nam me secura manebit
for-you care moves-me; for me secure will-await
sors quaesita manu: fodientem uiscera cernet
a-lot sought by-hand: digging-into the-entrails will-see
me mea qui nondum uicto respexerit hoste.
me my-own who not-yet with-conquered will-have-looked-back enemy.
di, quorum curas abduxit ab aethere tellus
gods, whose cares has-drawn-away from the-ether the-earth
Romanusque labor, uincat quicumque necesse
and-the-Roman toil, let-him-conquer whoever necessary
non putat in uictos saeuum destringere ferrum
not thinks against the-conquered savage to-draw the-steel
quique suos ciues, quod signa aduersa tulerunt,
and-who his-own citizens, because standards opposing they-bore,
non credit fecisse nefas. Pompeius in arto
not believes to-have-done abomination. Pompey in a-narrow
agmina uestra loco uetita uirtute moueri
the-columns your place forbidden with-valor to-be-moved
cum tenuit, quanto satiauit sanguine ferrum!
when he-held, with-how-much glutted blood the-steel!
uos tamen hoc oro, iuuenes, ne caedere quisquam
you yet this I-beg, young-men, lest to-cut-down anyone
hostis terga uelit: ciuis qui fugerit esto.
of-the-enemy the-backs should-wish: a-citizen who has-fled let-him-be.
sed, dum tela micant, non uos pietatis imago
but, while weapons flash, not you of-dutifulness image

ulla nec aduersa conspecti fronte parentes
any nor in-opposing seen front parents
commoueant; uoltus gladio turbate uerendos.
should-move; the-faces with-the-sword disfigure revered.
siue quis infesto cognata in pectora ferro
whether anyone with-hostile kindred against breasts steel
ibit, seu nullum uiolarit uolnere pignus,
shall-go, or no shall-violate with-wound pledge,
ignoti iugulum tamquam scelus inputet hostis.
of-an-unknown the-throat as a-crime let-him-charge enemy.
sternite iam uallum fossasque inplete ruina,
lay-low now the-rampart and-the-trenches fill with-ruin,
exeat ut plenis acies non sparsa maniplis.
may-go-out that with-full the-battle-line not scattered maniples.
parcite ne castris: uallo tendetis in illo
spare not the-camp: the-rampart you-will-pitch in that
unde acies peritura uenit.' uix cuncta locuto
whence the-battle-line going-to-perish came.' scarcely all-things with-having-spoken

VII.5 · POMPEY'S SPEECH

Caesar's army rushes out in no order. Pompey, seeing the day is set, stands frozen, then rides along his lines: their better cause and the gods are with them, the East is gathered, and Rome's mothers and the senate beg them to fight; he would grovel at their feet with his wife and sons, and he prays not to learn slavery in old age. His sad words fire them, and they resolve to die if his fears are true.

Caesare quemque suum munus trahit, armaque raptim
Caesar each-man his-own task draws, and-arms hastily
sumpta Ceresque uiris. capiunt praesagia belli
taken and-Ceres by-the-men. they-seize the-presages of-war

calcatisque ruunt castris; stant ordine nullo,
and-with-trampled rush camp; they-stand in-order no,
arte ducis nulla, permittuntque omnia fatis.
by-art of-the-leader no, and-they-entrust all-things to-the-fates.
si totidem Magni soceros totidemque petentis
if as-many Magnus' fathers-in-law and-as-many seeking
urbis regna suae funesto in Marte locasses,
of-the-city the-kingship their-own deadly in Mars you-had-placed,
non tam praecipiti ruerent in proelia cursu.
not so with-headlong they-would-rush into battles course.
uidit ut hostiles in rectum exire cateruas
saw when hostile in straight to-go-out companies
Pompeius nullasque moras permittere bello
Pompey and-no delays to-allow to-the-war
sed superis placuisse diem, stat corde gelato
but to-the-gods-above to-have-pleased the-day, he-stands with-heart frozen
attonitus; tantoque duci sic arma timere
stunned; and-for-so-great a-leader so arms to-fear
omen erat. premit inde metus, totumque per agmen
an-omen was. he-presses-down then his-fear, and-whole through the-column
sublimi praeuectus equo 'quem flagitat' inquit
on-a-high carried-forward horse 'which demands' he-says
'uestra diem uirtus, finis ciuilibus armis,
'your day valor, the-end for-civil arms,
quem quaesistis, adest. totas effundite uires:
which you-have-sought, is-here. whole pour-out strength:
extremum ferri superest opus, unaque gentis
the-last of-steel remains work, and-one the-nations
hora trahit. quisquis patriam carosque penates,
hour drags. whoever the-fatherland and-dear household-gods,

qui subolem ac thalamos desertaque pignora quaerit,
who offspring and marriage-beds and-deserted pledges seeks,
ense petat: medio posuit deus omnia campo.
with-the-sword let-him-seek: in-the-middle has-placed god all-things plain.
causa iubet melior superos sperare secundos:
the-cause bids better the-gods-above to-hope favorable:
ipsi tela regent per uiscera Caesaris, ipsi
themselves weapons will-guide through the-entrails of-Caesar, themselves
Romanas sancire uolent hoc sanguine leges.
the-Roman to-ratify will-wish with-this blood laws.
si socero dare regna meo mundumque pararent,
if to-the-father-in-law to-give kingship my and-the-world they-were-preparing,
praecipitare meam fatis potuere senectam:
to-hurl-headlong my to-the-fates they-could old-age:
non iratorum populis urbique deorum est
not of-the-angry with-the-peoples and-the-city gods it-is
Pompeium seruare ducem. quae uincere possent
Pompey to-preserve as-leader. what to-conquer could
omnia contulimus. subiere pericula clari
all-things we-have-brought-together. have-undergone dangers famous
sponte uiri sacraque antiquus imagine miles.
voluntarily men and-with-sacred an-ancient image soldier.
si Curios his fata darent reducesque Camillos
if the-Curii to-these the-fates should-give and-returning the-Camilli
temporibus Deciosque caput fatale uouentis,
times and-the-Decii their-head deadly vowing,
hinc starent. primo gentes oriente coactae
on-this-side they-would-stand. from-the-first nations east gathered
innumeraeque urbes, quantas in proelia numquam,
and-countless cities, as-great into battles never,

exciuere manus. toto simul utimur orbe.
have-called-out hands. whole at-once we-use world.
quidquid signiferi conprensum limite caeli
whatever of-the-zodiac enclosed by-the-boundary sky
sub Noton et Borean hominum sumus, arma mouemus.
under Notus and Boreas of-men we-are, arms we-move.
nonne superfusis collectum cornibus hostem
not with-overflowing gathered horns the-enemy
in medium dabimus? paucas uictoria dextras
into the-middle shall-we-put? few victory right-hands
exigit, at plures tantum clamore cateruae
demands, but more only with-shouting companies
bella gerent: Caesar nostris non sufficit armis.
wars will-wage: Caesar for-our not suffices arms.
credite pendentes e summis moenibus urbis
believe hanging from the-topmost walls of-the-city
crinibus effusis hortari in proelia matres;
with-hair loosened to-urge to battles the-mothers;
credite grandaeuum uetitumque aetate senatum
believe the-aged and-forbidden by-age senate
arma sequi sacros pedibus prosternere canos
arms to-follow sacred at-your-feet to-lay-down white-hairs
atque ipsam domini metuentem occurrere Romam;
and herself of-a-master fearing to-run-to-meet Rome;
credite qui nunc est populus populumque futurum
believe which now is people and-the-people to-be
permixtas adferre preces: haec libera nasci,
mingled to-bring prayers: this free to-be-born,
haec uolt turba mori. siquis post pignora tanta
this wishes throng to-die. if-any after pledges so-great

Pompeio locus est, cum prole et coniuge supplex,
for-Pompey place is, with offspring and wife suppliant,
imperii salua si maiestate liceret,
of-command with-safe if majesty it-were-allowed,
uoluerer ante pedes. Magnus, nisi uincitis, exul,
I-would-grovel before your-feet. Magnus, unless you-conquer, an-exile,
ludibrium soceri, uester pudor, ultima fata
the-mockery of-the-father-in-law, your shame, the-last fates
deprecor ac turpes extremi cardinis annos,
I-pray-away and shameful of-the-last turning-point years,
ne discam seruire senex.' tam maesta locuti
lest I-learn to-be-a-slave old.' so sadly having-spoken
uoce ducis flagrant animi, Romanaque uirtus
at-the-voice of-the-leader blaze spirits, and-Roman valor
erigitur, placuitque mori, si uera timeret.
is-raised, and-it-pleased to-die, if true he-feared.

VII.6 · THE RUIN TO COME

The armies advance, one driven by fear of a king, the other by hope of one. The poet laments what this battle will cost future ages: the Latin towns will become legends, Italy will be farmed by chained slaves and Rome filled with the dregs of the world; Rome's conquest of the world is undone in a day, and liberty flees beyond the Tigris and the Rhine. No god cares for mortals, and it is a lie that Jupiter reigns; Rome's one vengeance is that the civil wars will make dead men gods.

ergo utrimque pari procurrunt agmina motu
therefore on-both-sides with-equal run-forward the-columns motion
irarum; metus hos regni, spes excitat illos.
of-angers; fear these of-kingship, hope rouses those.

hae facient dextrae, quidquid nona explicat aetas,
these will-do right-hands, whatever the-ninth unfolds age,
ut uacet a ferro. gentes Mars iste futuras
that it-may-be-free from steel. nations Mars that future
obruet et populos aeui uenientis in orbem
will-overwhelm and peoples of-the-age coming into world
erepto natale feret. tunc omne Latinum
with-snatched-away birth will-carry. then all Latin
fabula nomen erit; Gabios Veiosque Coramque
a-tale name will-be; Gabii and-Veii and-Cora
puluere uix tectae poterunt monstrare ruinae
with-dust scarcely covered will-be-able to-show ruins
Albanosque lares Laurentinosque penates,
and-the-Alban household-gods and-the-Laurentine penates,
rus uacuum, quod non habitet nisi nocte coacta
countryside empty, which not would-inhabit except on-the-night ordered
inuitus questusque Numam iussisse senator.
unwilling and-complaining Numa to-have-ordered the-senator.
non aetas haec carpsit edax monimentaque rerum
not age these-things has-plucked devouring and-the-monuments of-affairs
putria destituit: crimen ciuile uidemus
rotting has-abandoned: the-crime civil we-see
tot uacuas urbes. generis quo turba redacta est
so-many empty cities. of-the-race to-what the-throng reduced is
humani! toto populi qui nascimur orbe
human! in-whole the-peoples who are-born world
nec muros inplere uiris nec possumus agros:
neither walls to-fill with-men nor we-can fields:
urbs nos una capit. uincto fossore coluntur
a-city us one holds. by-the-chained digger are-tilled

Hesperiae segetes, stat tectis putris auitis
of-Hesperia the-crops, stands with-roofs rotting ancestral
in nullos ruitura domus, nulloque frequentem
upon no-one going-to-collapse the-house, and-with-no thronged
ciue suo Romam sed mundi faece repletam
citizen its-own Rome but with-the-world's dregs refilled
cladis eo dedimus, ne tanto in corpore bellum
of-disaster to-such-a-point we-have-given, lest so-great in body a-war
iam possit ciuile geri. Pharsalia tanti
now could civil to-be-waged. Pharsalia of-so-great
causa mali. cedant feralia nomina Cannae
the-cause evil. let-yield deathly names Cannae
et damnata diu Romanis Allia fastis.
and condemned long in-the-Roman Allia calendar.
tempora signauit leuiorum Roma malorum,
the-times has-marked of-lighter Rome evils,
hunc uoluit nescire diem. pro tristia fata!
this-one it-has-wished not-to-know day. O sad fates!
aera pestiferum tractu morbosque fluentis
the-air plague-bearing by-its-drawing and-diseases flowing
insanamque famem permissasque ignibus urbes
and-insane hunger and-surrendered to-fires cities
moeniaque in praeceps laturos plena tremores
and-walls into headlong going-to-carry full earthquakes
hi possunt explere uiri, quos undique traxit
these can to-make-up men, whom from-everywhere has-dragged
in miseram Fortuna necem, dum munera longi
to wretched Fortune death, while the-gifts of-a-long
explicat eripiens aeui populosque ducesque
she-unfolds snatching age and-peoples and-leaders

constituit campis, per quos tibi, Roma, ruenti
she-sets on-the-plains, through whom to-you, Rome, falling
ostendat quam magna cadas. quae latius orbem
she-may-show how great you-fall. which more-widely the-world
possedit, citius per prospera fata cucurrit?
has-possessed, more-quickly through prosperous fates ran?
omne tibi bellum gentis dedit, omnibus annis
every to-you war nations gave, in-all years
te geminum Titan procedere uidit in axem;
you twin the-Titan to-advance saw toward pole;
haud multum terrae spatium restabat Eoae,
not much of-the-earth space remained Eastern,
ut tibi nox, tibi tota dies, tibi curreret aether,
that for-you night, for-you whole day, for-you might-run the-ether,
omniaque errantes stellae Romana uiderent.
and-all-things the-wandering stars Roman might-see.
sed retro tua fata tulit par omnibus annis
but backward your fates bore equal to-all years
Emathiae funesta dies. hac luce cruenta
of-Emathia the-deadly day. by-this light bloody
effectum, ut Latios non horreat India fasces,
it-was-brought-about, that the-Latin not dreads India fasces,
nec uetitos errare Dahas in moenia ducat
nor forbidden to-wander the-Dahae into walls leads
Sarmaticumque premat succinctus consul aratrum,
and-the-Sarmatian presses girt-up the-consul plow,
quod semper saeuas debet tibi Parthia poenas,
that always savage owes to-you Parthia penalties,
quod fugiens ciuile nefas redituraque numquam
that fleeing civil abomination and-going-to-return never

libertas ultra Tigrim Rhenumque recessit
liberty beyond the-Tigris and-the-Rhine has-withdrawn
ac, totiens nobis iugulo quaesita, uagatur
and, so-often by-us with-the-throat sought, wanders
Germanum Scythicumque bonum, nec respicit ultra
German and-Scythian a-blessing, nor looks-back further
Ausoniam, uellem populis incognita nostris.
at-Ausonia, I-would-wish to-the-peoples unknown our.
uolturis ut primum laeuo fundata uolatu
of-the-vulture as soon-as by-the-left founded flight
Romulus infami conpleuit moenia luco,
Romulus with-an-infamous filled the-walls grove,
usque ad Thessalicas seruisses, Roma, ruinas.
all-the-way to Thessalian you-should-have-been-a-slave, Rome, ruins.
de Brutis, Fortuna, queror. quid tempora legum
about the-Bruti, Fortune, I-complain. why the-times of-laws
egimus aut annos a consule nomen habentis?
have-we-passed or the-years from a-consul their-name having?
felices Arabes Medique Eoaque tellus,
happy the-Arabs and-the-Medes and-the-Eastern land,
quam sub perpetuis tenuerunt fata tyrannis.
which under perpetual have-held the-fates tyrants.
ex populis qui regna ferunt sors ultima nostra est,
of the-peoples who kingship bear the-lot last ours is,
quos seruire pudet. sunt nobis nulla profecto
whom to-be-slaves shames. there-are for-us no assuredly
numina: cum caeco rapiantur saecula casu,
divinities: since by-blind are-swept-along the-ages chance,
mentimur regnare Iouem. spectabit ab alto
we-lie to-reign that-Jupiter. will-he-watch from the-high

aethere Thessalicas, teneat cum fulmina, caedes?
ether Thessalian, though he-holds thunderbolts, slaughters?
scilicet ipse petet Pholoen, petet ignibus Oeten
of-course himself will-strike Pholoe, will-strike with-fires Oeta
inmeritaeque nemus Rhodopes pinusque Mimantis,
and-of-undeserving the-grove Rhodope and-the-pines of-Mimas,
Cassius hoc potius feriet caput? astra Thyestae
Cassius this rather will-strike head? the-stars on-Thyestes
intulit et subitis damnauit noctibus Argos:
he-brought and with-sudden condemned nights Argos:
tot similis fratrum gladios patrumque gerenti
so-many like of-brothers swords and-of-fathers bearing
Thessaliae dabit ille diem? mortalia nulli
Thessaly will-he-give that-one day? mortal-things by-no
sunt curata deo. cladis tamen huius habemus
are cared-for god. for-the-disaster yet this we-have
uindictam, quantam terris dare numina fas est:
vengeance, as-much-as to-the-lands to-give for-divinities right it-is:
bella pares superis facient ciuilia diuos,
the-wars equal to-the-gods-above will-make civil deified-men,
fulminibus manes radiisque ornabit et astris
with-thunderbolts the-ghosts and-with-rays will-adorn and with-stars
inque deum templis iurabit Roma per umbras.
and-in of-the-gods temples will-swear Rome by shades.

The armies close to a spear's throw and see their fathers' and brothers' faces, and for a moment every heart is numb. Crastinus throws the first spear; trumpets sound and the mountains echo. The eastern archers shoot at random into the sky, but only Roman swords decide the civil war. Pompey's dense line cannot move, and Caesar's men drive through it; Pompey's cavalry pours over the wings with the light-armed troops behind, until Caesar's hidden cohorts strike their flank and the barbarian allies flee. The poet prays that the foreign dead may suffice for Pharsalia, or, if it wants Roman blood, that it spare the Galatians, Syrians, Gauls, Spaniards, and the rest, for after the war they will be the Roman people.

ut rapido cursu fati suprema morantem
as with-swift course of-fate the-last delaying

consumpsere locum, parua tellure dirempti,
they-used-up the-place, by-small ground separated,

quo sua pila cadant aut quam sibi fata minentur
where their-own javelins may-fall or what for-themselves the-fates threaten

inde manum, spectant. uultus, quo noscere possent
from-there hand, they-look. the-faces, by-which to-know they-could

facturi quae monstra forent, uidere parentum
going-to-do what monsters would-be, they-saw of-parents

frontibus aduersis fraternaque comminus arma,
with-brows opposite and-brothers' at-close-quarters arms,

nec libuit mutare locum. tamen omnia torpor
nor it-pleased to-change place. yet all numbness

pectora constrinxit, gelidusque in uiscera sanguis
breasts bound, and-cold in the-vitals blood

percussa pietate coit, totaeque cohortes
with-stricken dutifulness congeals, and-whole cohorts

pila parata diu tensis tenuere lacertis.
javelins ready long with-stretched held arms.

di tibi non mortem, quae cunctis poena paratur,
the-gods to-you not death, which for-all as-punishment is-prepared,
sed sensum post fata tuae dent, Crastine, morti,
but feeling after fate to-your may-give, Crastinus, death,
cuius torta manu commisit lancea bellum
whose by-hurled hand joined the-lance the-war
primaque Thessaliam Romano sanguine tinxit.
and-first Thessaly with-Roman blood stained.
o praeceps rabies! cum Caesar tela teneret,
O headlong madness! when Caesar weapons was-holding,
inuenta est prior ulla manus? tum stridulus aer
found was earlier any hand? then shrill the-air
elisus lituis conceptaque classica cornu,
forced by-the-clarions and-conceived the-trumpet-calls in-horn,
tunc ausae dare signa tubae, tunc aethera tendit
then dared to-give signals the-trumpets, then the-ether reaches
extremique fragor conuexa inrumpit Olympi,
and-of-the-farthest the-crash the-vaults bursts-into Olympus,
unde procul nubes, quo nulla tonitrua durant.
whence far-off clouds, where no thunders last.
excepit resonis clamorem uallibus Haemus
caught in-resounding the-shout valleys Haemus
Peliacisque dedit rursus geminare cauernis,
and-to-Pelion's gave again to-double caverns,
Pindus agit fremitus Pangaeaque saxa resultant
Pindus drives roars and-Pangaean rocks rebound
Oetaeaeque gemunt rupes, uocesque furoris
and-Oeta's groan crags, and-the-voices of-frenzy
expauere sui tota tellure relatas.
dreaded their-own by-whole land brought-back.

spargitur innumerum diuersis missile uotis:
is-scattered countless with-different the-missile prayers:
uolnera pars optat, pars terrae figere tela
wounds part wishes, part in-the-earth to-fix weapons
ac puras seruare manus. rapit omnia casus
and pure to-keep hands. sweeps all-things chance
atque incerta facit quos uolt fortuna nocentes.
and uncertain makes whom she-wishes fortune guilty.
tunc et Ityraei Medique Arabesque soluti,
then both the-Ituraeans and-Medes and-Arabs loosened,
arcu turba minax, nusquam rexere sagittas,
with-the-bow a-throng threatening, nowhere guided arrows,
sed petitur solus qui campis inminet aer;
but is-aimed-at alone which over-the-plains hangs air;
inde cadunt mortes. sceleris sed crimine nullo
thence fall deaths. of-crime but with-the-guilt no
externum maculant chalybem: stetit omne coactum
foreign they-stain steel: stood all massed
circa pila nefas. ferro subtexitur aether
around the-javelins abomination. with-iron is-veiled the-ether
noxque super campos telis conserta pependit.
and-night over the-plains with-weapons interwoven hung.
set quota pars cladis iaculis ferroque uolanti
but how-small a-part of-the-disaster by-javelins and-steel flying
exacta est! odiis solus ciuilibus ensis
done is! for-hatreds alone civil the-sword
sufficit, et dextras Romana in uiscera ducit.
suffices, and right-hands Roman into entrails leads.
Pompei densis acies stipata cateruis
Pompey's with-dense battle-line packed companies

iunxerat in seriem nexis umbonibus arma,
had-joined in a-series with-linked bosses arms,
uixque habitura locum dextras ac tela mouendi
and-scarcely going-to-have room right-hands and weapons of-moving
constiterat gladiosque suos conpressa timebat.
had-taken-position and-its-swords own crowded feared.
praecipiti cursu uaesanum Caesaris agmen
with-headlong course the-mad of-Caesar column
in densos agitur cuneos, perque arma, per hostem
into thick is-driven wedges, and-through arms, through the-enemy
quaerit iter. qua torta graues lorica catenas
seeks a-way. where twisted heavy the-cuirass chains
opponit tutoque latet sub tegmine pectus,
sets-against and-safe lies-hid under covering the-breast,
hac quoque peruentum est ad uiscera, totque per arma
here too reached it-was to the-vitals, and-so-many through arms
extremum est quod quisque ferit. ciuilia bella
the-last is what each strikes. civil wars
una acies patitur, gerit altera; frigidus inde
one battle-line suffers, wages the-other; cold on-that-side
stat gladius, calet omne nocens a Caesare ferrum.
stands the-sword, is-hot all guilty from Caesar steel.
nec Fortuna diu rerum tot pondera uertens
nor Fortune long of-affairs so-many weights turning
abstulit ingentis fato torrente ruinas.
took-away huge with-fate rushing ruins.
ut primum toto diduxit cornua campo
as soon-as over-whole spread the-wings plain
Pompeianus eques bellique per ultima fudit,
the-Pompeian horseman and-of-the-war over the-edges poured,

sparsa per extremos leuis armatura maniplos
scattered through the-outermost light armament maniples
insequitur saeuasque manus inmittit in hostem:
follows and-savage hands sends-in against the-enemy:
illic quaeque suo miscet gens proelia telo,
there each with-its-own mingles nation battles weapon,
Romanus cunctis petitur cruor; inde sagittae,
Roman by-all is-sought blood; thence arrows,
inde faces et saxa uolant spatioque solutae
thence torches and stones fly and-by-space melted
aeris et calido liquefactae pondere glandes;
of-air and by-hot liquefied weight bullets;
cum Caesar, metuens ne frons sibi prima labaret
when Caesar, fearing lest the-front for-him first should-give-way
incursu, tenet obliquas post signa cohortes,
at-the-onset, holds slanting behind the-standards cohorts,
inque latus belli, qua se uagus hostis agebat,
and-into the-flank of-the-war, where itself the-roving enemy was-driving,
emittit subitum non motis cornibus agmen.
sends-out a-sudden with-not moved wings column.
inmemores pugnae nulloque pudore timendi
forgetful of-the-fight and-with-no shame of-fearing
praecipites fecere palam ciuilia bella
headlong they-made plain civil wars
non bene barbaricis umquam commissa cateruis.
not well to-barbarian ever entrusted companies.
ut primum sonipes transfixus pectora ferro
as soon-as a-steed pierced in-the-breast with-steel
in caput effusi calcauit membra regentis,
onto the-head of-the-thrown trampled the-limbs of-its-rider,

omnis eques cessit campis, glomerataque nubes
all the-horse yielded the-plains, and-massed the-cloud
in sua conuersis praeceps ruit agmina frenis.
upon its-own with-turned headlong rushed columns reins.
perdidit inde modum caedes, ac nulla secutast
lost thence its-measure the-slaughter, and no followed
pugna, sed hinc iugulis, hinc ferro bella geruntur;
battle, but on-this-side with-throats, on-that with-steel the-wars are-waged;
nec ualet haec acies tantum prosternere quantum
nor can this battle-line so-much to-lay-low as-much-as
inde perire potest. utinam, Pharsalia, campis
on-that-side to-perish can. would-that, Pharsalia, for-plains
sufficiat cruor iste tuis, quem barbara fundunt
may-suffice blood that your, which barbarian pour-out
pectora; non alio mutentur sanguine fontes;
breasts; not by-other let-be-changed blood the-springs;
hic numerus totos tibi uestiat ossibus agros.
this number whole for-you may-clothe with-bones fields.
aut, si Romano conpleri sanguine mauis,
or, if with-Roman to-be-filled blood you-prefer,
istis parce precor; uiuant Galataeque Syrique,
these spare I-pray; let-live and-Galatians and-Syrians,
Cappadoces Gallique extremique orbis Hiberi,
Cappadocians and-Gauls and-of-the-farthest world Spaniards,
Armenii, Cilices; nam post ciuilia bella
Armenians, Cilicians; for after civil wars
hic populus Romanus erit. semel ortus in omnis
this people Roman will-be. once arisen into all
it timor, et fatis datus est pro Caesare cursus.
goes fear, and to-the-fates given is for Caesar the-course.

The fight reaches Pompey's center, where brothers and fathers stand. The poet will not tell what Rome did here. Caesar goes among his ranks like Bellona or Mars, hands out swords, bids his men strike at the enemy's faces, and points them at the senate: the Lepidi, Metelli, Corvini, and Torquati fall. Brutus fights in a plebeian helmet, and the poet warns him to save himself for Philippi, since Caesar must first reach the summit and earn so noble a death. Domitius dies mocked by Caesar, answering that he goes free to the shades and hopes Caesar will pay heavy penalties to Pompey and to them.

uentum erat ad robur Magni mediasque cateruas.
come it-was to the-core of-Magnus and-the-middle companies.
quod totos errore uago perfuderat agros
which whole in-straying wandering had-drenched fields
constitit hic bellum, fortunaque Caesaris haesit.
stopped here the-war, and-the-fortune of-Caesar stuck.
non illic regum auxiliis collecta iuuentus
not there of-kings with-auxiliaries gathered youth
bella gerit ferrumque manus mouere rogatae:
wars wages and-steel hands to-move asked:
ille locus fratres habuit, locus ille parentis.
that place brothers held, place that fathers.
hic furor, hic rabies, hic sunt tua crimina, Caesar.
here frenzy, here madness, here are your crimes, Caesar.
hanc fuge, mens, partem belli tenebrisque relinque,
this flee, mind, part of-the-war and-to-darkness leave-it,
nullaque tantorum discat me uate malorum,
and-no of-so-great learn with-me as-prophet evils,
quam multum bellis liceat ciuilibus, aetas.
how much in-wars be-allowed civil, age.

a potius pereant lacrimae pereantque querellae:
ah rather let-perish tears and-let-perish laments:
quidquid in hac acie gessisti, Roma, tacebo.
whatever in this battle-line you-did, Rome, I-will-keep-silent.
hic Caesar, rabies populis stimulusque furorum,
here Caesar, madness for-the-peoples and-the-goad of-frenzies,
nequa parte sui pereat scelus, agmina circum
lest-in-any part of-himself perish crime, the-columns around
it uagus atque ignes animis flagrantibus addit.
goes roving and fires to-spirits blazing adds.
inspicit et gladios, qui toti sanguine manent,
he-inspects also the-swords, which whole with-blood drip,
qui niteant primo tantum mucrone cruenti,
which gleam at-the-first only point bloody,
quae presso tremat ense manus, quis languida tela,
which with-pressed trembles sword hand, who slack weapons,
quis contenta ferat, quis praestet bella iubenti,
who taut bears, who supplies wars to-the-one-ordering,
quem pugnare iuuet, quis uoltum ciue perempto
whom to-fight delights, who (his)-face with-a-citizen slain
mutet; obit latis proiecta cadauera campis;
changes; he-goes-round on-wide thrown corpses plains;
uolnera multorum totum fusura cruorem
the-wounds of-many whole going-to-pour blood
opposita premit ipse manu. quacumque uagatur,
with-set-against presses himself hand. wherever he-roams,
sanguineum ueluti quatiens Bellona flagellum
bloody as-if shaking Bellona her-scourge
Bistonas aut Mauors agitans si uerbere saeuo
the-Bistonians or Mars driving if with-lash savage

Palladia stimulet turbatos aegide currus,
by-Pallas' should-goad terrified aegis chariot,
nox ingens scelerum est; caedes oriuntur et instar
night huge of-crimes is; slaughters arise and like
inmensae uocis gemitus, et pondere lapsi
of-an-immense voice a-groan, and with-the-weight of-the-fallen
pectoris arma sonant confractique ensibus enses.
breast arms sound and-broken by-swords swords.
ipse manu subicit gladios ac tela ministrat
himself with-his-hand supplies swords and weapons hands-out
aduersosque iubet ferro confundere uoltus,
and-opposing he-bids with-steel to-disfigure faces,
promouet ipse acies, inpellit terga suorum,
pushes-forward himself the-battle-lines, drives the-backs of-his-own,
uerbere conuersae cessantis excitat hastae,
with-the-blow of-turned the-idlers rouses spear,
in plebem uetat ire manus monstratque senatum:
against the-commons forbids to-go the-hands and-points-out the-senate:
scit cruor imperii qui sit, quae uiscera rerum,
he-knows blood of-empire which may-be, what the-vitals of-the-state,
unde petat Romam, libertas ultima mundi
whence he-may-seek Rome, liberty last of-the-world
quo steterit ferienda loco. permixta secundo
where may-have-stood to-be-struck place. mingled with-the-second
ordine nobilitas uenerandaque corpora ferro
rank nobility and-venerable bodies by-steel
urguentur; caedunt Lepidos caeduntque Metellos
are-pressed; they-cut-down Lepidi and-cut-down Metelli
Coruinosque simul Torquataque nomina, rerum
and-Corvini together and-Torquatus' names, of-the-state

saepe duces summosque hominum te, Magne, remoto.
often leaders and-the-highest of-men with-you, Magnus, excepted.
illic plebeia contectus casside uoltus
there with-a-plebeian covered helmet face
ignotusque hosti quod ferrum, Brute, tenebas!
and-unknown to-the-enemy what steel, Brutus, you-were-holding!
o decus imperii, spes o suprema senatus,
O glory of-empire, hope O last of-the-senate,
extremum tanti generis per saecula nomen,
the-last of-so-great race through ages name,
ne rue per medios nimium temerarius hostis,
do-not rush through the-midst too rash of-the-enemy,
nec tibi fatales admoueris ante Philippos,
nor for-yourself deadly bring-near too-soon Philippi,
Thessalia periture tua. nil proficis istic
in-Thessaly going-to-perish your-own. nothing you-achieve there
Caesaris intentus iugulo: nondum attigit arcem,
on-Caesar's intent throat: not-yet he-has-reached the-citadel,
iuris et humani columen, quo cuncta premuntur,
of-right and human the-summit, by-which all-things are-pressed,
egressus meruit fatis tam nobile letum.
having-surpassed deserved from-the-fates so noble a-death.
uiuat et, ut Bruti procumbat uictima, regnet.
let-him-live and, that of-Brutus he-may-fall victim, let-him-reign.
hic patriae perit omne decus: iacet aggere magno
here of-the-fatherland perishes all glory: lies in-a-heap great
patricium campis non mixta plebe cadauer.
patrician on-the-plains with-no mingled commons corpse.
mors tamen eminuit clarorum in strage uirorum
death yet stood-out of-famous in slaughter men

pugnacis Domiti, quem clades fata per omnis
of-combative Domitius, whom disasters the-fates through all
ducebant: nusquam Magni fortuna sine illo
were-leading: nowhere of-Magnus the-fortune without him
succubuit. uictus totiens a Caesare salua
gave-way. conquered so-often by Caesar with-safe
libertate perit: tunc mille in uolnera laetus
liberty he-perishes: then a-thousand into wounds glad
labitur ac uenia gaudet caruisse secunda.
he-sinks and pardon rejoices to-have-lacked a-second.
uiderat in crasso uersantem sanguine membra
had-seen in thick rolling blood his-limbs
Caesar, et increpitans 'iam Magni deseris arma,
Caesar, and taunting 'now Magnus' you-desert arms,
successor Domiti; sine te iam bella geruntur'
successor Domitius; without you now the-wars are-waged'
dixerat. ast illi suffecit pectora pulsans
he-had-said. but for-him sufficed the-breast beating
spiritus in uocem morientiaque ora resoluit.
breath for speech and-the-dying lips be-unloosed.
'non te funesta scelerum mercede potitum
'not you with-deadly of-crimes the-reward having-gained
sed dubium fati, Caesar, generoque minorem
but doubtful of-fate, Caesar, and-than-the-son-in-law lesser
aspiciens Stygias Magno duce liber ad umbras
seeing Stygian with-Magnus as-leader free to shades
et securus eo: te, saeuo Marte subactum,
and untroubled I-go: you, by-savage Mars subdued,
Pompeioque grauis poenas nobisque daturum,
and-to-Pompey heavy penalties and-to-us going-to-pay,

cum moriar, sperare licet.' non plura locutum
when I-die, to-hope it-is-allowed.' no more having-spoken
uita fugit, densaeque oculos uertere tenebrae.
life fled, and-thick the-eyes turned darkness.

VII.9 · POMPEY'S FLIGHT

The poet will not weep for single deaths: here a nation perished, and all future ages are conquered. Pompey watches from a mound as his fortune is destroyed and, unwilling to drag the world down with him, prays the gods to spare the nations: he has a wife and sons to give the fates. He rides from the field, not weeping, with majesty intact, and the poet hails him as now free of fortune's weight, able to know what he was. After his flight the battle is no longer for Pompey but for liberty against Caesar, and the dying senate shows it fought for itself.

inpendisse pudet lacrimas in funere mundi
to-have-spent it-shames tears on the-funeral of-the-world
mortibus innumeris, ac singula fata sequentem
on-deaths countless, and single fates following
quaerere letiferum per cuius uiscera uolnus
to-ask death-dealing through whose entrails the-wound
exierit, quis fusa solo uitalia calcet,
went-out, who poured on-the-ground vitals tramples,
ore quis aduerso demissum faucibus ensem
with-mouth who facing sent-down into-his-throat the-sword
expulerit moriens anima, quis corruat ictus,
drove-out dying with-his-breath, who falls-down struck,
quis steterit dum membra cadunt, qui pectore tela
who stood while the-limbs fall, who through-the-breast weapons
transmittant aut quos campis adfixerit hasta,
send or whom to-the-plains has-fixed the-spear,

quis cruor emissis perruperit aera uenis
what blood from-sent-out has-burst-through the-air veins
inque hostis cadat arma sui, quis pectora fratris
and-on of-the-enemy falls the-arms his-own, who the-breast of-his-brother
caedat et, ut notum possit spoliare cadauer,
cuts and, that the-known he-may-be-able to-strip corpse,
abscisum longe mittat caput, ora parentis
cut-off far may-throw the-head, the-face of-his-father
quis laceret nimiaque probet spectantibus ira
who mangles and-by-excessive proves to-the-onlookers anger
quem iugulat non esse patrem. mors nulla querella
whom he-butchers not to-be his-father. death no of-lament
digna sua est, nullosque hominum lugere uacamus.
worthy its-own is, and-no men to-mourn we-have-leisure.
non istas habuit pugnae Pharsalia partes
not those had of-battle Pharsalia parts
quas aliae clades: illic per fata uirorum,
which other disasters: there through the-fates of-men,
per populos hic Roma perit; quod militis illic,
through peoples here Rome perishes; what of-a-soldier there,
mors hic gentis erat: sanguis ibi fluxit Achaeus,
the-death here of-a-nation was: blood there flowed Achaean,
Ponticus, Assyrius; cunctos haerere cruores
Pontic, Assyrian; all to-cling bloods
Romanus campisque uetat consistere torrens.
the-Roman and-on-the-plains forbids to-settle torrent.
maius ab hac acie quam quod sua saecula ferrent
a-greater from this battle-line than which its-own ages could-bear
uolnus habent populi; plus est quam uita salusque
wound have the-peoples; more it-is than life and-safety

quod perit: in totum mundi prosternimur aeuum.
what perishes: for the-whole of-the-world we-are-laid-low age.

uincitur his gladiis omnis quae seruiet aetas.
is-conquered by-these swords every which will-be-a-slave age.

proxima quid suboles aut quid meruere nepotes
the-next why offspring or why have-deserved the-grandsons

in regnum nasci? pauide num gessimus arma
into kingship to-be-born? fearfully surely-not did-we-bear arms

teximus aut iugulos? alieni poena timoris
did-we-shield or our-throats? of-another's the-penalty fear

in nostra ceruice sedet. post proelia natis
on our neck sits. after the-battles to-those-born

si dominum, Fortuna, dabas, et bella dedisses.
if a-master, Fortune, you-were-giving, also wars you-should-have-given.

iam Magnus transisse deos Romanaque fata
now Magnus to-have-passed-over the-gods and-the-Roman fates

senserat infelix, tota uix clade coactus
had-felt unlucky, by-whole scarcely the-disaster compelled

fortunam damnare suam. stetit aggere campi,
fortune to-condemn his-own. he-stood on-a-mound of-the-plain,

eminus unde omnis sparsas per Thessala rura
from-afar whence all scattered over Thessalian fields

aspiceret clades, quae bello obstante latebant.
he-might-see disasters, which with-the-war standing-in-the-way lay-hid.

tot telis sua fata peti, tot corpora fusa
by-so-many weapons his-own fates to-be-sought, so-many bodies poured-out

ac se tam multo pereuntem sanguine uidit.
and himself with-so much perishing blood he-saw.

nec, sicut mos est miseris, trahere omnia secum
nor, as the-custom is for-the-wretched, to-drag all-things with-himself

mersa iuuat gentesque suae miscere ruinae:
sunk pleases-him and-nations with-his-own to-mingle ruin:
ut Latiae post se uiuat pars maxima turbae,
that of-the-Latin after himself may-live the-greatest part throng,
sustinuit dignos etiamnunc credere uotis
he-endured worthy even-now to-believe of-prayers
caelicolas, uouitque, sui solacia casus.
the-heaven-dwellers, and-he-vowed, of-his-own the-solaces fall.
'parcite,' ait 'superi, cunctas prosternere gentes.
'spare,' he-says 'gods-above, all to-lay-low nations.
stante potest mundo Romaque superstite Magnus
with-standing can world and-Rome surviving Magnus
esse miser, si plura iuuant mea uolnera, coniunx
be wretched, if more please-you my wounds, a-wife
est mihi, sunt nati: dedimus tot pignora fatis.
is to-me, there-are sons: we-have-given so-many pledges to-the-fates.
ciuiline parum est bello, si meque meosque
civil too-little is-it for-war, if and-me and-mine
obruit? exiguae clades sumus orbe remoto?
it-overwhelms? small disasters are-we with-the-world removed?
omnia quid laceras? quid perdere cuncta laboras?
all-things why do-you-tear? why to-destroy all-things do-you-labor?
iam nihil est, Fortuna, meum.' sic fatur et arma
now nothing is, Fortune, mine.' so he-speaks and the-arms
signaque et adflictas omni iam parte cateruas
and-standards and afflicted on-every now side companies
circumit et reuocat matura in fata ruentis
goes-round and calls-back premature into fates rushing
seque negat tanti. nec derat robur in enses
and-himself denies to-be-worth-so-much. nor was-lacking strength upon swords

ire duci iuguloque pati uel pectore letum.
to-go to-the-leader and-with-the-throat to-suffer or with-the-breast death.
sed timuit, strato miles ne corpore Magni
but he-feared, with-laid-low the-soldier lest the-body of-Magnus
non fugeret, supraque ducem procumberet orbis;
not should-flee, and-over its-leader should-fall-prostrate the-world;
Caesaris aut oculis uoluit subducere mortem.
of-Caesar or from-the-eyes he-wished to-withdraw his-death.
nequiquam, infelix: socero spectare uolenti
in-vain, unlucky: to-the-father-in-law to-watch wishing
praestandum est ubicumque caput. sed tu quoque, coniunx,
to-be-offered is wherever the-head. but you too, wife,
causa fugae uoltusque tui fatisque negatum
the-cause of-flight and-the-sight your and-by-the-fates denied
parte apsente mori. tum Magnum concitus aufert
with-part absent to-die. then Magnus urged carries-off
a bello sonipes non tergo tela pauentem
from the-war the-steed not with-his-back weapons fearing
ingentisque animos extrema in fata ferentem.
and-great spirit the-last into fates bearing.
non gemitus, non fletus erat, saluaque uerendus
not groaning, not weeping there-was, and-with-safe revered
maiestate dolor, qualem te, Magne, decebat
majesty grief, such-as you, Magnus, befitted
Romanis praestare malis. non inpare uoltu
to-Roman to-show evils. not with-unequal face
aspicis Emathiam: nec te uidere superbum
you-look-on Emathia: nor you saw proud
prospera bellorum nec fractum aduersa uidebunt;
the-successes of-wars nor broken adversities will-see;

quamque fuit laeto per tres infida triumphos
and-as-much-as she-was to-the-glad through three faithless triumphs
tam misero Fortuna minor. iam pondere fati
so-much to-the-wretched Fortune less. now the-weight of-fate
deposito securus abis; nunc tempora laeta
laid-down untroubled you-go-away; now the-times happy
respexisse uacat, spes numquam inplenda recessit;
to-look-back-on there-is-leisure, the-hope never to-be-fulfilled has-withdrawn;
quid fueris nunc scire licet. fuge proelia dira
what you-were now to-know it-is-allowed. flee battles dire
ac testare deos nullum, qui perstet in armis,
and call-to-witness the-gods no-one, who persists in arms,
iam tibi, Magne, mori. ceu flebilis Africa damnis
now for-you, Magnus, to-die. as lamentable Africa in-losses
et ceu Munda nocens Pharioque a gurgite clades,
and as Munda guilty and-the-Pharian from flood the-disaster,
sic et Thessalicae post te pars maxima pugnae
so too of-the-Thessalian after you the-greatest part battle
non iam Pompei nomen populare per orbem
not now of-Pompey the-name popular through the-world
nec studium belli, sed par quod semper habemus,
nor the-zeal of-war, but the-pair which always we-have,
libertas et Caesar, erit; teque inde fugato
liberty and Caesar, will-be; and-with-you thence put-to-flight
ostendit moriens sibi se pugnasse senatus.
showed dying for-itself itself to-have-fought the-senate.

The poet consoles Pompey: whatever he suffers, to have conquered would have been worse. Larisa pours out through its walls to meet him, weeping, and offers gifts, temples, and houses, but he tells the people to show loyalty to the victor and rides on. Caesar, sated with Hesperian blood, spares the rest and leads his men to plunder the enemy camp, but the gold of the world cannot fill them. They sleep in the beds of their fathers and brothers, and the shades of their victims haunt their dreams; all the ghosts are in Caesar, pressed that night by every sword of Pharsalia and of the senate's avenging day, and lashed by the monsters of the underworld.

nonne iuuat pulsum bellis cessisse nec istud
does-it-not please driven from-wars to-have-yielded nor that
perspectasse nefas? spumantes caede cateruas
to-have-watched-through abomination? foaming with-slaughter the-companies
respice, turbatos incursu sanguinis amnes,
look-back-at, troubled by-the-onrush of-blood the-rivers,
et soceri miserere tui. quo pectore Romam
and on-the-father-in-law have-pity your. with-what heart Rome
intrabit factus campis felicior istis?
will-he-enter made on-the-plains happier these?
quidquid in ignotis solus regionibus exul,
whatever in unknown alone regions an-exile,
quidquid sub Phario positus patiere tyranno,
whatever under the-Pharian placed you-will-suffer tyrant,
crede deis, longo fatorum crede fauori,
believe the-gods, to-the-long of-the-fates believe favor,
uincere peius erat. prohibe lamenta sonare,
to-conquer worse was. forbid laments to-sound,
flere ueta populos, lacrimas luctusque remitte.
to-weep forbid the-peoples, tears and-mourning remit.

tam mala Pompei quam prospera mundus adoret.
as-much the-evils of-Pompey as the-successes let-the-world worship.
aspice securus uoltu non supplice reges,
look-on untroubled with-face not suppliant kings,
aspice possessas urbes donataque regna,
look-on the-possessed cities and-the-given kingdoms,
Aegypton Libyamque, et terras elige morti.
Egypt and-Libya, and lands choose for-death.
uidit prima tuae testis Larisa ruinae
saw first of-your witness Larisa ruin
nobile nec uictum fatis caput. omnibus illa
noble nor conquered by-the-fates head. with-all she
ciuibus effudit totas per moenia uires
citizens poured-out whole through the-walls strength
obuia ceu laeto: promittunt munera flentes,
to-meet as-if a-glad-one: they-promise gifts weeping,
pandunt templa, domos, socios se cladibus optant.
they-open temples, houses, as-comrades themselves for-the-disasters they-wish.
scilicet inmenso superest ex nomine multum,
of-course immense remains of the-name much,
teque minor solo cunctas inpellere gentes
and-than-you less alone all to-drive nations
rursus in arma potes rursusque in fata redire.
again into arms you-can and-again into fates to-return.
sed ‘quid opus uicto populis aut urbibus?’ inquit
but ‘what need for-the-conquered of-peoples or of-cities?’ he-says
‘uictori praestate fidem’. tu, Caesar, in alto
‘to-the-victor show loyalty’. you, Caesar, on high
caedis adhuc cumulo patriae per uiscera uadis,
of-slaughter still heap of-the-fatherland through the-entrails go,

at tibi iam populos donat gener. auehit inde
but to-you already the-peoples gives the-son-in-law. carries thence
Pompeium sonipes; gemitus lacrimaeque secuntur
Pompey the-steed; groans and-tears follow
plurimaque in saeuos populi conuicia diuos.
and-very-many against the-savage of-the-people reproaches gods.
nunc tibi uera fides quaesiti, Magne, fauoris
now to-you true proof of-the-sought, Magnus, favor
contigit ac fructus: felix se nescit amari.
has-befallen and fruit: the-happy-man himself knows-not to-be-loved.
Caesar, ut Hesperio uidit satis arua natare
Caesar, when with-Hesperian he-saw enough the-fields to-swim
sanguine, parcendum ferro manibusque suorum
blood, to-be-spared the-steel and-the-hands of-his-own
iam ratus ut uiles animas perituraque frustra
now thinking as cheap souls and-going-to-perish in-vain
agmina permisit uitae. sed, castra fugatos
columns he-granted to-life. but, the-camp the-routed
ne reuocent pellatque quies nocturna pauorem,
lest should-call-back and-should-drive-off rest nocturnal panic,
protinus hostili statuit succedere uallo,
at-once to-the-hostile he-decides to-advance rampart,
dum fortuna calet, dum conficit omnia terror,
while fortune is-hot, while accomplishes all-things terror,
non ueritus graue ne fessis aut Marte subactis
not fearing heavy lest to-the-weary or by-Mars subdued
hoc foret imperium. non magno hortamine miles
this should-be command. not by-great urging the-soldier
in praedam ducendus erat. 'uictoria nobis
to booty to-be-led was. 'victory for-us

plena, uiri:' dixit 'superest pro sanguine merces,
full, men:' he-said 'remains for blood the-reward,
quam monstrare meum est; neque enim donare uocabo
which to-show mine it-is; nor indeed giving I-will-call-it
quod sibi quisque dabit. cunctis, en, plena metallis
what to-himself each will-give. with-all, look, full metals
castra patent; raptum Hesperiis e gentibus aurum
the-camp lies-open; snatched Hesperian from nations the-gold
hic iacet Eoasque premunt tentoria gazas.
here lies and-Eastern press the-tents treasures.
tot regum fortuna simul Magnique coacta
of-so-many kings the-fortune together and-of-Magnus gathered
expectat dominos: propera praecedere, miles,
awaits masters: hasten to-go-ahead, soldier,
quos sequeris; quascumque tuas Pharsalia fecit
whom you-follow; whatever yours Pharsalia has-made
a uictis rapiuntur opes.'
from the-conquered are-snatched riches.'
quae fossa, quis agger
what ditch, what mound
sustineat pretium belli scelerumque petentis?
could-withstand the-price of-war and-of-crimes seeking?
scire ruunt, quanta fuerint mercede nocentes.
to-know they-rush, with-how-great have-been reward guilty.
inuenere quidem spoliato plurima mundo
they-found indeed from-the-plundered very-many world
bellorum in sumptus congestae pondera massae,
of-wars for expenses heaped weights of-mass,
sed non inpleuit cupientis omnia mentes.
but not it-filled desiring all-things minds.

quidquid fodit Hiber, quidquid Tagus expulit auri,
whatever digs the-Spaniard, whatever the-Tagus has-driven-out of-gold,
quod legit diues summis Arimaspus harenis,
what gathers the-rich from-the-topmost Arimaspian sands,
ut rapiant, paruo scelus hoc uenisse putabunt.
though they-seize, at-small crime this to-have-come they-will-think.
cum sibi Tarpeias uictor desponderit arces,
when to-himself the-Tarpeian the-victor has-betrothed citadel,
cum spe Romanae promiserit omnia praedae,
when in-hope of-Roman has-promised all-things plunder,
decipitur quod castra rapit. capit inpia plebes
he-is-deceived that the-camp he-seizes. takes impious the-commons
caespite patricio somnos, stratumque cubile
on-turf patrician sleep, and-spread the-couch
regibus infandus miles premit, inque parentum
for-kings unspeakable the-soldier presses, and-on of-parents
inque toris fratrum posuerunt membra nocentes.
and-on the-beds of-brothers placed their-limbs the-guilty.
quos agitat uaesana quies, somnique furentes
whom drives insane rest, and-the-dreams raging
Thessalicam miseris uersant in pectore pugnam.
the-Thessalian for-the-wretched turn in breast battle.
inuigilat cunctis saeuum scelus, armaque tota
keeps-watch-over all savage crime, and-arms with-whole
mente agitant, capuloque manus absente mouentur.
mind they-brandish, and-with-the-hilt hands absent are-moved.
ingemuisse putem campos, terramque nocentem
to-have-groaned I-would-think the-plains, and-the-earth guilty
inspirasse animas, infectumque aera totum
to-have-breathed-in souls, and-tainted air whole

manibus et superam Stygia formidine noctem.
with-ghosts and the-upper with-Stygian dread night.
exigit a meritis tristes uictoria poenas,
exacts from the-deserving grim victory punishments,
sibilaque et flammas infert sopor. umbra perempti
and-hissings and flames brings sleep. the-shade of-slain
ciuis adest; sua quemque premit terroris imago:
citizen is-present; its-own each presses of-terror image:
ille senum uoltus, iuuenum uidet ille figuras,
he of-old-men the-faces, of-young-men sees he the-shapes,
hunc agitant totis fraterna cadauera somnis,
this-one drive in-whole brothers' corpses sleep,
pectore in hoc pater est, omnes in Caesare manes.
breast in this a-father is, all in Caesar ghosts.
haud alios nondum Scythica purgatus in ara
not other not-yet the-Scythian purified at altar
Eumenidum uidit uoltus Pelopeus Orestes,
of-the-Eumenides saw the-faces Pelops' Orestes,
nec magis attonitos animi sensere tumultus,
nor more astounded of-mind felt the-tumults,
cum fureret, Pentheus aut, cum desisset, Agaue.
when he-raged, Pentheus or, when she-had-ceased, Agave.
hunc omnes gladii, quos aut Pharsalia uidit
him all swords, which either Pharsalia saw
aut ultrix uisura dies stringente senatu,
or the-avenging going-to-see day with-drawing the-senate,
illa nocte premunt, hunc infera monstra flagellant.
on-that night press, him infernal monsters lash.

Caesar's guilty mind sees the Styx in his sleep while Pompey still lives, yet at daybreak he gazes on the rivers of blood and the heaped corpses, orders a feast where he can see their faces, and refuses them pyres, unlike Hannibal at Cannae. The poet tells him that the dead will burn with the world at its end, that the sky covers those without an urn, and that the rotting dead drive him from the field. Wolves, lions, dogs, and birds gather to the carrion and drip gore on the victor's face and standards; the rest rot on the fields. The poet curses Thessaly, whose fields will forever turn up Roman bones, and asks the gods to let him hate the guilty land, though Italy's disasters, Sicily's waves, Mutina, and Leucas have made Philippi pure.

et quantum poenae misero mens conscia donat,
and how-much of-punishment to-the-wretched the-mind conscious remits,
quod Styga, quod manes ingestaque Tartara somnis
that the-Styx, that the-ghosts and-heaped-on Tartarus in-sleep
Pompeio uiuente uidet! tamen omnia passo,
with-Pompey living he-sees! yet all-things having-suffered,
postquam clara dies Pharsalica damna retexit,
after bright day the-Pharsalian losses uncovered,
nulla loci facies reuocat feralibus aruis
no of-the-place appearance calls-back from-the-deathly fields
haerentis oculos. cernit propulsa cruore
clinging eyes. he-sees driven-forward by-blood
flumina et excelsos cumulis aequantia colles
rivers and lofty with-heaps equaling hills
corpora, sidentis in tabem spectat aceruos
bodies, sinking into decay he-watches heaps
et Magni numerat populos, epulisque paratur
and of-Magnus counts the-peoples, and-for-a-feast is-prepared
ille locus, uoltus ex quo faciesque iacentum
that place, the-faces from which and-features of-those-lying

agnoscat. iuuat Emathiam non cernere terram
he-may-recognize. it-pleases the-Emathian not to-see land
et lustrare oculis campos sub clade latentes.
and to-survey with-the-eyes plains under slaughter hidden.
fortunam superosque suos in sanguine cernit.
his-fortune and-gods-above his-own in blood he-sees.
ac, ne laeta furens scelerum spectacula perdat,
and, lest glad raging of-crimes the-spectacle he-lose,
inuidet igne rogi miseris, caeloque nocenti
he-begrudges the-fire of-the-pyre to-the-wretched, and-on-the-sky guilty
ingerit Emathiam. non illum Poenus humator
heaps Emathia. not him the-Carthaginian burier
consulis et Libyca succensae lampade Cannae
of-the-consul and with-Libyan lit torch Cannae
conpellunt hominum ritus ut seruet in hoste,
compel of-men the-rites that he-keep toward an-enemy,
sed meminit nondum satiata caedibus ira
but he-remembers not-yet sated with-slaughters anger
ciues esse suos. petimus non singula busta
citizens to-be his-own. we-ask not single pyres
discretosque rogos: unum da gentibus ignem,
and-separate fires: one give to-the-nations fire,
non interpositis urantur corpora flammis;
not with-interposed let-be-burned the-bodies flames;
aut, generi si poena iuuat, nemus extrue Pindi,
or, of-the-son-in-law if punishment pleases, a-grove build of-Pindus,
erige congestas Oetaeo robore siluas,
raise heaped from-Oeta's oak woods,
Thessalicam uideat Pompeius ab aequore flammam.
the-Thessalian let-see Pompey from the-sea flame.

nil agis hac ira: tabesne cadauera soluat
nothing you-achieve by-this anger: whether-decay the-corpses dissolve
an rogus, haud refert; placido natura receptat
or a-pyre, not it-matters; in-calm nature takes-back
cuncta sinu, finemque sui sibi corpora debent.
all-things bosom, and-the-end of-themselves to-themselves bodies owe.
hos, Caesar, populos si nunc non usserit ignis,
these, Caesar, peoples if now not shall-have-burned fire,
uret cum terris, uret cum gurgite ponti.
it-will-burn with the-lands, it-will-burn with the-flood of-the-sea.
communis mundo superest rogus ossibus astra
common for-the-world remains a-pyre with-bones the-stars
mixturus. quocumque tuam fortuna uocabit,
going-to-mingle. wherever yours fortune will-call,
hae quoque sunt animae: non altius ibis in auras,
these too are souls: not higher you-will-go into the-airs,
non meliore loco Stygia sub nocte iacebis.
not in-a-better place Stygian under night you-will-lie.
libera fortunae mors est; capit omnia tellus
free from-fortune death is; takes all-things the-earth
quae genuit; caelo tegitur qui non habet urnam.
which it-bore; by-the-sky is-covered who not has an-urn.
tu, cui dant poenas inhumato funere gentes,
you, to-whom pay penalties with-unburied funeral nations,
quid fugis hanc cladem? quid olentis deseris agros?
why do-you-flee this slaughter? why the-reeking do-you-desert fields?
has trahe, Caesar, aquas, hoc, si potes, utere caelo.
these drink, Caesar, waters, this, if you-can, use sky.
sed tibi tabentes populi Pharsalica rura
but from-you rotting the-peoples the-Pharsalian fields

eripiunt camposque tenent uictore fugato.
snatch and-the-plains hold with-the-victor put-to-flight.
non solum Haemonii funesta ad pabula belli
not only of-the-Haemonian deathly to the-fodder war
Bistonii uenere lupi tabemque cruentae
Bistonian came wolves and-the-decay of-bloody
caedis odorati Pholoen liquere leones.
slaughter having-scented Pholoe left lions.
tunc ursae latebras, obscaeni tecta domosque
then she-bears their-lairs, filthy their-roofs and-homes
deseruere canes, et quidquid nare sagaci
deserted dogs, and whatever with-nostril keen
aera non sanum motumque cadauere sentit.
the-air not healthy and-stirred by-the-corpse senses.
iamque diu uolucres ciuilia castra secutae
and-now long birds civil camps having-followed
conueniunt. uos, quae Nilo mutare soletis
gather. you, who for-the-Nile to-exchange are-wont
Threicias hiemes, ad mollem serius Austrum
Thracian winters, to the-soft later South-Wind
istis, aues. numquam tanto se uolture caelum
go, birds. never with-so-great itself vulture the-sky
induit aut plures presserunt aera pinnae.
clothed or more pressed the-air wings.
omne nemus misit uolucres omnisque cruenta
every grove sent birds and-every bloody
alite sanguineis stillauit roribus arbor.
with-bird with-bloody dripped dews tree.
saepe super uoltus uictoris et inpia signa
often upon the-face of-the-victor and impious standards

aut cruor aut alto defluxit ab aethere tabes
either blood or the-high flowed-down from ether decay
membraque deiecit iam lassis unguibus ales.
and-limbs dropped now from-weary talons the-bird.
sic quoque non omnis populus peruenit ad ossa
so even not all the-people came to the-bones
inque feras discerptus abit; non intima curant
and-into beasts torn-apart departs; not the-innermost they-care-for
uiscera nec totas auidae sorbere medullas:
entrails nor whole greedy to-suck-up marrows:
degustant artus. Latiae pars maxima turbae
they-taste limbs. of-the-Latin the-greatest part throng
fastidita iacet; quam sol nimbique diesque
disdained lies; which sun and-rainstorms and-day
longior Emathiis resolutam miscuit aruis.
longer with-the-Emathian dissolved mingled fields.
Thessalia, infelix, quo tantum crimine, tellus,
Thessaly, unlucky, by-what so-great crime, land,
laesisti superos, ut te tot mortibus unam,
have-you-offended the-gods-above, that you with-so-many deaths alone,
tot scelerum fatis premerent? quod sufficit aeuum
with-so-many of-crimes fates they-should-press? what suffices age
inmemor ut donet belli tibi damna uetustas?
forgetful that may-grant of-war to-you the-losses antiquity?
quae seges infecta surget non decolor herba?
what crop tainted will-rise not discolored with-blade?
quo non Romanos uiolabis uomere manes?
with-what not Roman will-you-violate plowshare ghosts?
ante nouae uenient acies, scelerique secundo
before new will-come battle-lines, and-for-crime a-second

praestabis nondum siccos hoc sanguine campos.
you-will-supply not-yet dry with-this blood plains.
omnia maiorum uertamus busta licebit,
all of-our-ancestors let-us-overturn tombs though-it-be-allowed,
et stantis tumulos et qui radice uetusta
both standing mounds and those-which with-root ancient
effudere suas uictis conpagibus urnas,
have-poured-out their-own with-broken joints urns,
plus cinerum Haemoniae sulcis telluris aratur
more of-ashes of-Haemonian in-the-furrows land is-plowed
pluraque ruricolis feriuntur dentibus ossa.
and-more by-rustic are-struck harrows bones.
nullus ab Emathio religasset litore funem
no-one from the-Emathian would-have-tied shore a-rope
nauita, nec terram quisquam mouisset arator,
sailor, nor the-earth anyone would-have-stirred plowman,
Romani bustum populi, fugerentque coloni
of-the-Roman the-tomb people, and-would-flee settlers
umbrarum campos, gregibus dumeta carerent,
of-the-shades the-plains, from-flocks the-thickets would-be-free,
nullusque auderet pecori permittere pastor
and-no would-dare to-the-cattle to-allow shepherd
uellere surgentem de nostris ossibus herbam,
to-pluck rising from our bones grass,
ac, uelut inpatiens hominum uel solis iniqui
and, as-if impatient of-men either of-sun unjust
limite uel glacie, nuda atque ignota iaceres,
by-zone or by-ice, bare and unknown you-would-lie,
si non prima nefas belli sed sola tulisses.
if not the-first abomination of-war but the-only you-had-borne.

o superi, liceat terras odisse nocentis.
O gods-above, let-it-be-allowed the-lands to-hate guilty.
quid totum premitis, quid totum absoluitis orbem? 870
why whole do-you-burden, why whole do-you-acquit the-world?
Hesperiae clades et flebilis unda Pachyni
of-Hesperia the-disasters and lamentable the-wave of-Pachynus
et Mutina et Leucas puros fecere Philippos.
and Mutina and Leucas pure made Philippi.

BOOK VIII

VIII.1 · POMPEY REACHES LESBOS

Pompey rides through the woods past Tempe, fearing every noise; his famous face betrays him, and those who see him are stunned. He would rather pass unknown, but Fortune exacts the price of her long favor, and he now regrets his early honors. At the mouth of the Peneus he takes a small boat and sails for Lesbos, where Cornelia, her sleep shaken by foreboding, watches every sail. She sees him come, pale, his gray hair over his face and his clothes black with dust, and faints; her maids try in vain to lift her, but he embraces her and tells her that her glory now is to love him conquered, that Magnus lives though his fortune has perished.

Iam super Herculeas fauces nemorosaque Tempe
Now beyond the-Herculean pass and-wooded Tempe

Haemoniae deserta petens dispendia siluae
of-the-Haemonian deserted seeking the-wastes forest

cornipedem exhaustum cursu stimulisque negantem
his-horn-footed exhausted by-the-run and-to-the-spurs refusing

Magnus agens incerta fugae uestigia turbat
Magnus driving uncertain of-flight the-tracks confuses

inplicitasque errore uias. pauet ille fragorem
and-entangled by-wandering paths. dreads he the-crash

motorum uentis nemorum, comitumque suorum
of-moved by-the-winds groves, and-of-his-comrades own

qui post terga redit trepidum laterique timentem
whoever behind his-back returns him-trembling and-for-his-flank fearing

exanimat. quamuis summo de culmine lapsus
frightens. though the-highest from summit fallen

nondum uile sui pretium scit sanguinis esse,
not-yet cheap of-himself the-price he-knows of-the-blood to-be,

seque, memor fati, tantae mercedis habere
and-himself, mindful of-his-fate, of-so-great a-reward to-have
credit adhuc iugulum, quantam pro Caesaris ipse
believes still his-throat, as-great-as for Caesar's himself
auolsa ceruice daret. deserta sequentem
torn-off neck he-would-give. the-deserts following
non patitur tutis fatum celare latebris
not allows in-safe his-fate to-hide hiding-places
clara uiri facies. multi, Pharsalica castra
the-famous of-the-man face. many, the-Pharsalian camp
cum peterent nondum fama prodente ruinas,
when they-were-seeking with-not-yet report revealing the-ruins,
occursu stupuere ducis uertigine rerum
at-the-meeting were-stunned of-the-leader by-the-whirl of-affairs
attoniti, cladisque suae uix ipse fidelis
astounded, and-of-the-disaster his-own scarcely himself trustworthy
auctor erat. grauis est Magno quicumque malorum
reporter was. burdensome is to-Magnus whoever of-his-evils
testis adest. cunctis ignotus gentibus esse
witness is-present. to-all unknown nations to-be
mallet et obscuro tutus transire per urbes
he-would-prefer and in-obscure safe to-pass through cities
nomine; sed poenas longi Fortuna fauoris
name; but the-penalties of-long Fortune favor
exigit a misero, quae tanto pondere famae
exacts from the-wretched, who with-so-great a-weight of-fame
res premit aduersas fatisque prioribus urguet.
his-affairs presses adverse and-with-fates earlier burdens.
nunc festinatos nimium sibi sentit honores
now hastened too-much to-himself he-feels the-honors

actaque lauriferae damnat Sullana iuuentae,
and-the-deeds of-laurel-bearing condemns Sullan youth,
nunc et Corycias classes et Pontica signa
now both the-Corycian fleets and the-Pontic standards
deiectum meminisse piget. sic longius aeuum
fallen to-remember irks-him. so longer life
destruit ingentis animos et uita superstes
destroys great spirits and life surviving
imperio. nisi summa dies cum fine bonorum
power. unless the-last day with the-end of-good-things
adfuit et celeri praeuertit tristia leto,
has-come and with-swift anticipated sorrows death,
dedecori est fortuna prior. quisquamne secundis
a-disgrace is fortune former. does-anyone to-favorable
tradere se fatis audet nisi morte parata?
hand-over himself fates dare unless with-death prepared?
litora contigerat per quae Peneius amnis
the-shores he-had-reached through which the-Peneian river
Emathia iam clade rubens exibat in aequor.
with-Emathian already slaughter reddening went-out into the-sea.
inde ratis trepidum uentis ac fluctibus inpar,
thence a-boat the-trembling-man for-winds and waves unequal,
flumineis uix tuta uadis, euexit in altum.
for-river scarcely safe shallows, carried into the-deep.
cuius adhuc remis quatitur Corcyra sinusque
whose still with-oars is-shaken Corcyra and-the-bays
Leucadii, Cilicum dominus terraeque Liburnae
Leucadian, of-the-Cilicians the-master and-of-the-land Liburnian
exiguam uector pauidus correpsit in alnum.
a-small passenger fearful crept into boat.

conscia curarum secretae in litora Lesbi
conscious of-his-cares of-secluded to the-shores Lesbos
flectere uela iubet, qua tunc tellure latebas
to-turn the-sails he-bids, in-which then land you-were-hiding
maestior, in mediis quam si, Cornelia, campis
sadder, in the-midst than if, Cornelia, of-the-plains
Emathiae stares. tristis praesagia curas
of-Emathia you-were-standing. grim presentiments your-cares
exagitant, trepida quatitur formidine somnus,
stir-up, by-trembling is-shaken fear your-sleep,
Thessaliam nox omnis habet; tenebrisque remotis
Thessaly night every holds; and-with-the-darkness removed
rupis in abruptae scopulos extremaque curris
of-the-rock onto sheer crags and-the-farthest you-run
litora; prospiciens fluctus nutantia longe
shores; looking-out-over the-waves nodding far-off
semper prima uides uenientis uela carinae,
always first you-see of-a-coming the-sails ship,
quaerere nec quicquam de fato coniugis audes.
to-ask nor anything about the-fate of-your-husband you-dare.
en ratis, ad uestros quae tendit carbasa portus!
look a-ship, toward your which stretches its-canvas harbor!
quid ferat ignoras, et nunc tibi summa pauoris
what it-may-bring you-know-not, and now to-you the-height of-fear
nuntius armorum tristis rumorque sinister.
the-messenger of-arms grim and-the-rumor ill-omened.
uictus adest coniunx. quid perdis tempora luctus?
conquered is-here your-husband. why do-you-lose the-time of-mourning?
cum possis iam flere times. tum puppe propinqua
since you-could now to-weep you-fear. then with-the-ship near

prosiluit crimenque deum crudele notauit,
she-leapt-forth and-the-crime of-the-gods cruel marked,
deformem pallore ducem uoltusque prementem
disfigured with-pallor the-leader and-his-face covering
canitiem atque atro squalentis puluere uestes.
gray-hair and with-black squalid dust garments.
obuia nox miserae caelum lucemque tenebris
coming-to-meet night from-the-wretched sky and-light with-darkness
abstulit atque animam clausit dolor; omnia neruis
took-away and her-breath shut grief; all by-sinews
membra relicta labant, riguerunt corda, diuque
the-limbs abandoned totter, stiffened her-heart, and-long
spe mortis decepta iacet. iam fune ligato
by-the-hope of-death deceived she-lies. now with-the-rope tied
litoribus lustrat uacuas Pompeius harenas.
to-the-shores surveys the-empty Pompey sands.
quem postquam propius famulae uidere fideles,
him after nearer the-maids saw faithful,
non ultra gemitus tacitos incessere fatum
not further than-groans silent to-assail fate
permisere sibi, frustraque attollere terra
they-allowed themselves, and-in-vain to-raise from-the-ground
semianimem conantur eram; quam pectore Magnus
the-half-dead they-try mistress; whom with-his-breast Magnus
ambit et astrictos refouet conplexibus artus.
embraces and the-stiffened rewarms with-embraces limbs.
coeperat in summum reuocato sanguine corpus
she-had-begun into the-top with-recalled blood body
Pompei sentire manus maestamque mariti
of-Pompey to-feel the-hands and-the-sad of-her-husband

posse pati faciem: prohibet succumbere fatis
to-be-able to-bear face: he-forbids to-succumb to-the-fates
Magnus et inmodicos castigat uoce dolores.
Magnus and immoderate chides with-his-voice griefs.
'nobile cur robur fortunae uolnere primo
'noble why the-strength of-fortune at-the-wound first
femina tantorum titulis insignis auorum
O-woman of-so-great by-the-titles distinguished ancestors
frangis? habes aditum mansurae in saecula famae.
do-you-break? you-have access of-going-to-remain for ages fame.
laudis in hoc sexu non legum iura nec arma,
of-praise in this sex not of-laws the-rights nor arms,
unica materia est coniunx miser. erige mentem,
the-only matter is a-husband wretched. raise your-mind,
et tua cum fatis pietas decertet, et ipsum
and your with fate let-dutifulness contend, and itself
quod sum uictus ama. nunc sum tibi gloria maior,
that I-am conquered love. now I-am to-you a-glory greater,
a me quod fasces et quod pia turba senatus
from me that the-fasces and that the-dutiful throng of-the-senate
tantaque discessit regum manus. incipe Magnum
and-so-great has-departed of-kings the-band. begin Magnus
sola sequi. deformis adhuc uiuente marito
alone to-follow. disfigured with-still living husband
summus et augeri uetitus dolor: ultima debet
the-highest and to-be-increased forbidden grief: last ought
esse fides lugere uirum. tu nulla tulisti
to-be loyalty to-mourn a-husband. you no have-borne

bello damna meo: uiuit post proelia Magnus
in-war losses my: lives after the-battles Magnus
sed fortuna perit. quod defles, illud amasti.' 85
but his-fortune perishes. what you-weep, that you-loved.'

VIII.2 · CORNELIA AND MYTILENE

Cornelia laments that she has brought ruin twice, to Crassus and to Pompey, and wishes she had married Caesar; she asks to be thrown into the sea as an offering, or that Julia's ghost take its revenge on her. The people of Mytilene offer Pompey their walls, temples, and youth, but he praises their loyalty, says it is enough to have made them guilty already in the victor's eyes, and asks the gods for peoples as loyal elsewhere. He takes Cornelia aboard, and the whole island weeps, more for her than for him, so modest and kind had she been among them.

uocibus his correpta uiri uix aegra leuauit
by-words these rebuked of-her-husband scarcely sick raised
membra solo talis gemitu rumpente querellas:
her-limbs from-the-ground such with-groaning breaking-through complaints:
'o utinam in thalamos inuisi Caesaris issem
'O would-that into the-bridal-chamber of-hated Caesar I-had-gone
infelix coniunx et nulli laeta marito.
unlucky wife and to-no happy husband.
bis nocui mundo: me pronuba ducit Erinys 90
twice I-have-harmed the-world: me as-bride-attendant leads Erinys
Crassorumque umbrae, deuotaque manibus illis
and-of-the-Crassi the-shades, and-devoted to-ghosts those
Assyrios in castra tuli ciuilia casus,
the-Assyrian into the-camp I-brought civil disasters,
praecipitesque dedi populos cunctosque fugaui
and-headlong I-gave the-peoples and-all I-put-to-flight

a causa meliore deos. o maxime coniunx,
from the-cause better gods. O greatest husband,
o thalamis indigne meis, hoc iuris habebat
O for-a-marriage unworthy mine, this of-right had
in tantum fortuna caput? cur inpia nupsi,
over so-great fortune a-head? why impious did-I-marry,
si miserum factura fui? nunc accipe poenas,
if wretched going-to-make I-was? now receive penalties,
sed quas sponte luam: quo sit tibi mollius aequor,
but which willingly I-may-pay: that may-be for-you gentler the-sea,
certa fides regum totusque paratior orbis,
sure the-loyalty of-kings and-whole readier the-world,
sparge mari comitem. mallem felicibus armis
scatter on-the-sea your-companion. I-would-prefer with-fortunate arms
dependisse caput: nunc clades denique lustra,
to-have-paid my-head: now your-disasters at-last purify,
Magne, tuas. ubicumque iaces ciuilibus armis
Magnus, your-own. wherever you-lie with-civil arms
nostros ulta toros, ades huc atque exige poenas,
our having-avenged marriage, come here and exact penalties,
Iulia crudelis, placataque paelice caesa
Julia cruel, and-appeased with-the-mistress slain
Magno parce tuo.' sic fata iterumque refusa
Magnus spare your.' so having-spoken and-again sinking-back
coniugis in gremium cunctorum lumina soluit
of-her-husband into the-lap of-all the-eyes she-melted
in lacrimas. duri flectuntur pectora Magni,
into tears. of-hard is-bent the-breast Magnus,
siccaque Thessalia confudit lumina Lesbos.
and-the-dry by-Thessaly has-dissolved eyes Lesbos.

tunc Mytilenaeum pleno iam litore uolgus
then of-Mytilene with-full now shore the-throng
adfatur Magnum. ‘si maxima gloria nobis
addresses Magnus. ‘if the-greatest glory to-us
semper erit tanti pignus seruasse mariti,
always will-be of-so-great the-pledge to-have-kept husband,
tu quoque deuotos sacro tibi foedere muros
you too devoted by-sacred to-you treaty walls
oramus sociosque lares dignere uel una
we-pray and-allied household-gods deign even with-one
nocte tua: fac, Magne, locum, quem cuncta reuisant
night your: make, Magnus, a-place, which all may-revisit
saecula, quem ueniens hospes Romanus adoret.
ages, which coming the-stranger Roman may-worship.
nulla tibi subeunda magis sunt moenia uicto:
no for-you to-be-entered more are walls conquered:
omnia uictoris possunt sperare fauorem,
all-things of-the-victor can to-hope-for favor,
haec iam crimen habent. quid, quod iacet insula ponto,
these already guilt have. what, that lies the-island in-the-sea,
Caesar eget ratibus? procerum pars magna coibit
Caesar lacks ships? of-the-chiefs part great will-gather
certa loci; noto reparandum est litore fatum.
sure of-the-place; on-a-known to-be-repaired is shore fate.
accipe templorum cultus aurumque deorum;
receive of-the-temples the-adornments and-the-gold of-the-gods;
accipe, si terris, si puppibus ista iuuentus
receive, if for-lands, if for-ships that youth
aptior est; tota, quantum ualet, utere Lesbo.
fitter is; whole, as-much-as it-avails, use Lesbos.

hoc solum crimen meritae bene detrahe terrae,
this alone the-crime from-deserving well remove land,
ne nostram uideare fidem felixque secutus
lest our you-should-seem loyalty and-fortunate having-followed
et damnasse miser.' tali pietate uirorum
and to-have-condemned wretched.' at-such dutifulness of-men
laetus in aduersis et mundi nomine gaudens
glad in adversities and of-the-world for-the-name rejoicing
esse fidem 'nullum toto mihi' dixit 'in orbe
to-be loyalty 'no whole for-me' he-said 'in world
gratius esse solum non paruo pignore uobis
more-welcome to-be soil not by-a-small pledge to-you
ostendi: tenuit nostros hac obside Lesbos
has-been-shown: has-held our by-this hostage Lesbos
adfectus; hic sacra domus carique penates,
affections; here my-sacred home and-dear household-gods,
hic mihi Roma fuit. non ulla in litora puppem
here to-me Rome was. not any to shores my-ship
ante dedi fugiens, saeui cum Caesaris iram
before I-gave fleeing, of-savage when Caesar the-anger
iam scirem meritam seruata coniuge Lesbon,
already I-knew to-have-earned by-my-preserved wife Lesbos,
non ueritus tantam ueniae committere uobis
not fearing so-great of-pardon to-entrust to-you
materiam. sed iam satis est fecisse nocentis:
material. but now enough it-is to-have-made-you guilty:
fata mihi totum mea sunt agitanda per orbem.
the-fates by-me whole my are to-be-driven through the-world.
heu nimium felix aeterno nomine Lesbos,
alas too happy with-eternal name Lesbos,

siue doces populos regesque admittere Magnum,
whether you-teach peoples and-kings to-admit Magnus,
seu praestas mihi sola fidem. nam quaerere certum est,
or you-show to-me alone loyalty. for to-seek resolved it-is,
fas quibus in terris, ubi sit scelus. accipe, numen
right which in lands, where may-be crime. receive, divinity
siquod adhuc mecum es, uotorum extrema meorum:
if-any still with-me you-are, of-the-prayers the-last of-mine:
da similis Lesbo populos, qui Marte subactum
give like Lesbos peoples, who by-Mars subdued
non intrare suos infesto Caesare portus,
not to-enter their-own with-hostile Caesar harbors,
non exire uetent.' dixit, maestamque carinae
not to-go-out forbid.' he-spoke, and-the-sad onto-the-ship
inposuit comitem. cunctos mutare putares
put his-companion. all to-change you-would-think
tellurem patriaeque solum: sic litore toto
land and-of-the-fatherland the-soil: so on-shore whole
plangitur, infestae tenduntur in aethera dextrae.
there-is-lamenting, hostile are-stretched into the-ether right-hands.
Pompeiumque minus, cuius fortuna dolorem
and-Pompey less, whose fortune grief
mouerat, ast illam, quam toto tempore belli
had-moved, but her, whom in-whole the-time of-the-war
ut ciuem uidere suam, discedere cernens
as a-citizen they-saw their-own, to-depart seeing
ingemuit populus; quam uix, si castra mariti
groaned the-people; whom scarcely, if the-camp of-her-husband
uictoris peteret, siccis dimittere matres
victorious she-were-seeking, with-dry to-send-away the-mothers

iam poterant oculis: tanto deuinxit amore
now could eyes: with-so-great bound love
hos pudor, hos probitas castique modestia uoltus,
these her-modesty, these her-uprightness and-of-chaste the-restraint face,
quod summissa animis, nulli grauis hospita turbae,
that humble in-spirit, to-no burdensome guest throng,
stantis adhuc fati uixit quasi coniuge uicto.
of-standing still fate she-lived as-if with-husband conquered.

VIII.3 · THE VOYAGE AND THE MESSAGE TO PARTHIA

At night Pompey asks the pilot how he steers by the stars, and the pilot explains the Bear and Canopus; Pompey tells him only to keep far from Emathia and Hesperia. His son and the scattered senators join him, and kings still follow the exile. He sends Deiotarus to the Parthian king with a message: by their old treaty, his own past mercy, and the triumphs he spared them, let the Parthians arm against Caesar. The king obeys in a servant's dress, and Pompey sails past Ephesus, Samos, Cos, and Rhodes, puts in at Phaselis, and sights the Taurus.

iam pelago medios Titan demissus ad ignes
now into-the-sea the-middle the-Titan sent-down to fires
nec quibus abscondit nec siquibus exerit orbem
neither to-whom he-hides nor if-to-any he-shows his-orb
totus erat. uigiles Pompei pectore curae
whole was. watchful in-Pompey's breast cares
nunc socias adeunt Romani foederis urbes
now the-allied approach of-the-Roman treaty cities
et uarias regum mentes, nunc inuia mundi
and the-various of-kings minds, now the-trackless of-the-world
arua super nimios soles Austrumque iacentis.
fields beyond excessive suns and-the-South-Wind lying.

saepe labor maestus curarum odiumque futuri
often the-toil sad of-cares and-the-loathing of-the-future
proiecit fessos incerti pectoris aestus,
threw-out the-weary of-the-uncertain breast tides,
rectoremque ratis de cunctis consulit astris,
and-the-pilot of-the-ship about all he-consults stars,
unde notet terras, quae sit mensura secandi
whence he-may-mark the-lands, what may-be the-measure of-cutting
aequoris in caelo, Syriam quo sidere seruet
the-sea in the-sky, Syria by-what star he-may-keep
aut quotus in Plaustro Libyam bene derigat ignis.
or which in the-Wain Libya well may-steer fire.
doctus ad haec fatur taciti seruator Olympi
learned to these-things speaks of-silent the-watcher Olympus
'signifero quaecumque fluunt labentia caelo,
'in-the-star-bearing whatever flow gliding sky,
numquam stante polo miseros fallentia nautas,
never with-standing pole the-wretched deceiving sailors,
sidera non sequimur, sed, qui non mergitur undis
stars not we-follow, but, which not is-sunk in-the-waves
axis inocciduus gemina clarissimus Arcto,
the-axis never-setting with-twin most-bright Bear,
ille regit puppes. hic cum mihi semper in altum
that rules ships. this when for-me always into the-height
surget et instabit summis minor Ursa ceruchis,
shall-rise and shall-stand-over the-highest the-lesser Bear yard-arms,
Bosporon et Scythiae curuantem litora Pontum
the-Bosporus and of-Scythia curving the-shores Pontus
spectamus. quidquid descendet ab arbore summa
we-look-at. whatever shall-descend from the-mast top

Arctophylax propiorque mari Cynosura feretur,
Arctophylax and-nearer to-the-sea Cynosura shall-be-borne,
in Syriae portus tendit ratis. inde Canopos
toward of-Syria the-harbors heads the-ship. then Canopus
excipit, Australi caelo contenta uagari
receives, in-the-southern sky content to-wander
stella, timens Borean: illa quoque perge sinistra
star, fearing Boreas: it too keep to-the-left
trans Pharon, in medio tanget ratis aequore Syrtim.
beyond Pharos, in the-middle will-touch the-ship sea Syrtis.
sed quo uela dari, quo nunc pede carbasa tendi
but whither the-sails to-be-given, with-what now foot the-canvas to-be-stretched
nostra iubes?' dubio contra cui pectore Magnus
our do-you-bid?' doubtful in-reply to-whom with-heart Magnus
'hoc solum toto' respondit 'in aequore serua,
'this alone whole' answered 'in sea keep,
ut sit ab Emathiis semper tua longius oris
that may-be from the-Emathian always your further shores
puppis et Hesperiam pelago caeloque relinquas:
ship and Hesperia by-sea and-sky you-leave:
cetera da uentis. comitem pignusque recepi
the-rest give to-the-winds. my-companion and-pledge I-have-recovered
depositum: tum certus eram quae litora uellem,
deposited: then sure I-was what shores I-wanted,
nunc portum fortuna dabit'. sic fatur; at ille
now a-harbor fortune will-give'. so he-speaks; but he
iusto uela modo pendentia cornibus aequis
at-the-right the-sails measure hanging with-yards equal
torsit et in laeuum puppim dedit, utque secaret
twisted and to the-left the-ship gave, and-that it-might-cut

quas Asinae cautes et quas Chios asperat undas
which of-Asina the-crags and which Chios roughens waves
hos dedit in proram, tenet hos in puppe rudentes.
these he-gave to the-prow, he-holds these at the-stern ropes.
aequora senserunt motus aliterque secante
the-seas felt the-motion and-otherwise with-cutting
iam pelagus rostro nec idem spectante carina
now the-sea beak nor the-same facing keel
mutauere sonum. non sic moderator equorum,
changed their-sound. not so the-driver of-horses,
dexteriore rota laeuum cum circumit axem,
with-the-righter wheel the-left when he-circles axle,
cogit inoffensae currus accedere metae.
forces untouched the-chariot to-approach turning-post.
ostendit terras Titan et sidera texit.
showed the-lands the-Titan and the-stars hid.
sparsus ab Emathia fugit quicumque procella,
scattered from the-Emathian fled whoever storm,
adsequitur Magnum; primusque a litore Lesbi
overtakes Magnus; and-first from the-shore of-Lesbos
occurrit gnatus, procerum mox turba fidelis.
meets-him his-son, of-the-chiefs soon the-throng faithful.
nam neque deiecto fatis acieque fugato
for neither from-the-thrown-down by-the-fates and-from-the-battle put-to-flight
abstulerat Magno reges fortuna ministros:
had-taken-away from-Magnus kings fortune as-servants:
terrarum dominos et sceptra Eoa tenentis
of-the-lands the-lords and scepters Eastern holding
exul habet comites. iubet ire in deuia mundi
the-exile has as-comrades. he-bids to-go into the-byways of-the-world

Deiotarum, qui sparsa ducis uestigia legit.
Deiotarus, who scattered of-the-leader the-tracks gathered.
'quando' ait 'Emathiis amissus cladibus orbis,
'since' he-says 'by-the-Emathian lost disasters the-world,
qua Romanus erat, superest, fidissime regum,
where Roman it-was, it-remains, most-faithful of-kings,
Eoam temptare fidem populosque bibentis
the-Eastern to-test loyalty and-the-peoples drinking
Euphraten et adhuc securum a Caesare Tigrim.
the-Euphrates and still untroubled by Caesar the-Tigris.
ne pigeat Magno quaerentem fata remotas
lest it-irk for-Magnus seeking fates the-remote
Medorum penetrare domos Scythicosque recessus
of-the-Medes to-penetrate homes and-the-Scythian recesses
et totum mutare diem, uocesque superbo
and the-whole to-change day, and-the-words to-proud
Arsacidae perferre meas: "si foedera nobis
to-Arsaces'-descendant to-carry my: "if the-treaties for-us
prisca manent mihi per Latium iurata Tonantem,
ancient remain to-me by Latium's sworn Thunderer,
per uestros astricta magos, inplete pharetras
by your bound magi, fill the-quivers
Armeniosque arcus Geticis intendite neruis,
and-the-Armenian bows with-Getic string sinews,
si uos, o Parthi, peterem cum Caspia claustra
if you, O Parthians, I-was-seeking when the-Caspian barriers
et sequerer duros aeterni Martis Alanos,
and was-pursuing hard of-eternal Mars Alans,
passus Achaemeniis late decurrere campis
having-allowed on-the-Achaemenian widely to-range plains

in tutam trepidos numquam Babylona coegi.
into safe trembling never Babylon I-drove.
arua super Cyri Chaldaeique ultima regni,
fields beyond of-Cyrus and-of-the-Chaldaean the-last realm,
qua rapidus Ganges et qua Nysaeus Hydaspes
where swift the-Ganges and where Nysaean Hydaspes
accedunt pelago, Phoebi surgentis ab igne
come to-the-sea, of-Phoebus rising from the-fire
iam propior quam Persis eram: tamen omnia uincens
already nearer than Persia I-was: yet all-things conquering
sustinui nostris uos tantum desse triumphis,
I-allowed for-our you alone to-be-wanting triumphs,
solusque e numero regum telluris Eoae
and-alone out-of the-number of-the-kings of-the-land Eastern
ex aequo me Parthus adit. nec munere Magni
on equal-terms me the-Parthian approaches. nor by-the-gift of-Magnus
stant semel Arsacidae; quis enim post uolnera cladis
stand once the-Arsacids; who for after the-wounds of-the-disaster
Assyriae iustas Latii conpescuit iras?
Assyrian the-just of-Latium restrained angers?
tot meritis obstricta meis nunc Parthia ruptis
by-so-many services bound my now Parthia with-broken
excedat claustris uetitam per saecula ripam
let-go-beyond barriers the-forbidden for ages bank
Zeugmaque Pellaeum. Pompeio uincite, Parthi,
and-Zeugma Pellaean. for-Pompey conquer, Parthians,
uinci Roma uolet."' regem parere iubenti
to-be-conquered Rome will-wish."' the-king to-obey the-one-bidding
ardua non piguit, positisque insignibus aulae
hard-things not irked, and-with-laid-aside insignia of-the-court

egreditur famulo raptos indutus amictus.
he-goes-out from-a-servant snatched clothed-in garments.
in dubiis tutum est inopem simulare tyranno;
in dangers safe it-is poor to-feign for-a-tyrant;
quanto igitur mundi dominis securius aeuum
how-much therefore than-the-world's masters more-untroubled life
uerus pauper agit! dimisso in litore rege
the-true poor-man leads! with-dismissed on the-shore the-king
ipse per Icariae scopulos, Ephesonque relinquens
himself past Icaria's crags, and-Ephesus leaving
et placidi Colophona maris, spumantia paruae
and of-calm Colophon sea, the-foaming of-small
radit saxa Sami; spirat de litore Coo
grazes rocks of-Samos; breathes from the-shore Coan
aura fluens; Cnidon inde fugit claramque relinquit
a-breeze flowing; Cnidos then he-flees and-bright leaves
sole Rhodon magnosque sinus Telmessidos undae
with-sun Rhodes and-the-great bays of-Telmessian water
conpensat medio pelagi. Pamphylia puppi
he-makes-up in-the-middle of-the-sea. Pamphylian to-the-ship
occurrit tellus, nec se committere muris
comes-to-meet land, nor himself to-entrust to-walls
ausus adhuc ullis te primum, parua Phaseli,
having-dared still any you first, small Phaselis,
Magnus adit; nam te metui uetat incola rarus
Magnus approaches; for you to-be-feared forbids the-inhabitant rare
exhaustaeque domus populis, maiorque carinae
and-exhausted houses of-peoples, and-greater of-the-ship

quam tua turba fuit. tendens hinc carbasa rursus
than your crowd was. stretching hence the-canvas again
iam Taurum Tauroque uidet Dipsunta cadentem.
now Taurus and-from-Taurus he-sees Dipsus falling.

VIII.4 · THE COUNCIL AT SYHEDRA

At Syhedra in Cilicia, with the senators around him, Pompey says he is not wholly defeated: a thousand ships and leaders remain. He rejects Egypt, whose king is too young, and Juba, who is proud and Carthaginian at heart, and proposes Parthia: a separate world, with deadly archers and poisoned arrows, whose peoples he can hurl against Caesar. If their faith fails, he will die there beyond Caesar's reach; and Rome gains if a Parthian army is used up in her civil war, since fortune must then avenge either him or the Crassi. The senators murmur against the plan, and Lentulus rises to answer.

crederet hoc Magnus, pacem cum praestitit undis,
would-have-believed this Magnus, peace when he-gave to-the-waves,
et sibi consultum? Cilicum per litora tutus
also for-himself provided? of-the-Cilicians along the-shores safe
parua puppe fugit. sequitur pars magna senatus
in-a-small ship he-flees. follows part great of-the-senate
ad profugum collecta ducem; paruisque Syhedris,
to the-fugitive gathered leader; and-at-small Syhedra,
quo portu mittitque rates recipitque Selinus,
by-which harbor and-sends ships and-receives Selinus,
in procerum coetu tandem maesta ora resoluit
in of-the-chiefs gathering at-last his-sad mouth opened
uocibus his Magnus: 'comites bellique fugaeque
with-words these Magnus: 'comrades and-of-war and-of-flight

atque instar patriae, quamuis in litore nudo,
and like the-fatherland, although on shore bare,
in Cilicum terra, nullis circumdatus armis
in of-the-Cilicians land, by-no surrounded arms
consultem rebusque nouis exordia quaeram,
I-consult and-for-affairs new beginnings seek,
ingentis praestate animos. non omnis in aruis
great show spirits. not wholly in fields
Emathiis cecidi, nec sic mea fata premuntur
Emathian I-have-fallen, nor so my fates are-pressed
ut nequeam releuare caput cladesque receptas
that I-cannot to-raise my-head and-disasters received
excutere. an Libycae Marium potuere ruinae
to-shake-off. or Libyan Marius could ruins
erigere in fasces et plenis reddere fastis,
to-raise into the-fasces and to-full to-restore calendars,
me pulsum leuiore manu fortuna tenebit?
me struck by-a-lighter hand fortune will-hold?
mille meae Graio uoluuntur in aequore puppes,
a-thousand my the-Greek roll on sea ships,
mille duces; sparsit potius Pharsalia nostras
a-thousand leaders; scattered rather Pharsalia our
quam subuertit opes. sed me uel sola tueri
than overturned resources. but me even alone to-protect
fama potest rerum toto quas gessimus orbe
the-fame can of-the-deeds in-whole which we-have-done world
et nomen quod mundus amat. uos pendite regna
and the-name which the-world loves. you weigh kingdoms
uiribus atque fide, Libyam Parthosque Pharonque,
by-strength and loyalty, Libya and-the-Parthians and-Pharos,

quemnam Romanis deceat succurrere rebus.
which-one to-Roman it-may-befit to-help affairs.
ast ego curarum uobis arcana mearum
but I of-the-cares to-you the-secrets my
expromam mentisque meae quo pondera uergant.
will-bring-out and-of-mind my whither the-weights incline.
aetas Niliaci nobis suspecta tyranni est,
the-age of-the-Nile's to-us suspect tyrant is,
ardua quippe fides robustos exigit annos.
hard indeed loyalty demands robust years.
hinc anceps dubii terret sollertia Mauri;
on-this-side doubtful of-the-wavering frightens the-cunning Moor;
namque memor generis Carthaginis inpia proles
for mindful of-his-race of-Carthage the-impious offspring
inminet Hesperiae, multusque in pectore uano est
threatens Hesperia, and-much in his-breast empty is
Hannibal, obliquo maculat qui sanguine regnum
Hannibal, with-slanting stains who blood his-kingdom
et Numidas contingit auos. iam supplice Varo
and the-Numidian touches ancestors. already with-suppliant Varus
intumuit uiditque loco Romana secundo.
he-has-swelled and-has-seen in-place Roman-things second.
quare agite Eoum, comites, properemus in orbem.
wherefore come the-Eastern, comrades, let-us-hasten into world.
diuidit Euphrates ingentem gurgite mundum
divides the-Euphrates a-huge with-its-flood world
Caspiaque inmensos seducunt claustra recessus,
and-the-Caspian immense separate barriers recesses,
et polus Assyrias alter noctesque diesque
and a-pole the-Assyrian other and-nights and-days

uertit, et abruptum est nostro mare discolor unda
turns, and severed is from-our the-sea differently-colored in-water
Oceanusque suus. regnandi sola uoluptas.
and-Ocean its-own. of-reigning the-only pleasure.
celsior in campo sonipes et fortior arcus,
loftier on the-plain the-steed and stronger the-bow,
nec puer aut senior letalis tendere neruos
nor boy or older-man deadly to-stretch the-sinews
segnis, et a nulla mors est incerta sagitta.
sluggish, and from no death is uncertain arrow.
primi Pellaeas arcu fregere sarisas
first the-Pellaean with-the-bow broke spears
Bactraque Medorum sedem murisque superbam
and-Bactra of-the-Medes the-seat and-in-walls proud
Assyrias Babylona domos. nec pila timentur
Assyrian Babylon homes. nor javelins are-feared
nostra nimis Parthis, audentque in bella uenire
our too-much by-the-Parthians, and-they-dare into wars to-come
experti Scythicas Crasso pereunte pharetras.
having-tried the-Scythian with-Crassus perishing quivers.
spicula nec solo spargunt fidentia ferro,
the-darts nor with-alone shoot trusting iron,
stridula sed multo saturantur tela ueneno;
shrill but with-much are-soaked weapons poison;
uolnera parua nocent fatumque in sanguine summo est.
wounds small harm and-death in blood the-surface is.
o utinam non tanta mihi fiducia saeuis
O would-that not so-much for-me confidence savage
esset in Arsacidis! fatis nimis aemula nostris
were in Arsacids! to-the-fates too emulous our

fata mouent Medos, multumque in gente deorum est.
fates move the-Medes, and-much in the-race of-gods is.
effundam populos alia tellure reuolsos
I-will-pour-out peoples from-another land torn-away
excitosque suis inmittam sedibus ortus.
and-roused from-their-own will-hurl seats the-east.
quod si nos Eoa fides et barbara fallent
but if us the-Eastern faith and barbarian shall-deceive
foedera, uolgati supra commercia mundi
treaties, of-the-known beyond the-dealings world
naufragium fortuna ferat: non regna precabor
my-shipwreck fortune may-bear: not the-kingdoms I-will-pray-for
quae feci. sat magna feram solacia mortis
which I-made. enough great I-shall-bear consolations of-death
orbe iacens alio, nihil haec in membra cruente,
in-a-world lying another, nothing these on limbs cruelly,
nil socerum fecisse pie. sed, cuncta reuoluens
nothing the-father-in-law to-have-done dutifully. but, all-things turning-over
uitae fata meae, semper uenerabilis illa
of-life the-fates my, always revered in-that
orbis parte fui, quantus Maeotida supra,
of-the-world part I-was, how-great Maeotis above,
quantus apud Tanain toto conspectus in ortu!
how-great by the-Tanais whole seen in the-east!
quas magis in terras nostrum felicibus actis
which more into lands our with-fortunate deeds
nomen abit, aut unde redi maiore triumpho?
name has-gone, or whence have-I-returned with-greater triumph?
Roma, faue coeptis; quid enim tibi laetius umquam
Rome, favor the-undertakings; what indeed to-you more-joyful ever

praestiterint superi, quam, si ciuilia Partho
will-have-granted the-gods-above, than, if civil with-the-Parthian
milite bella geras, tantam consumere gentem
soldier wars you-wage, so-great to-use-up a-nation
et nostris miscere malis? cum Caesaris arma
and with-our to-mingle evils? when of-Caesar the-arms
concurrent Medis, aut me fortuna necesse est
shall-clash with-the-Medes, either me fortune necessary it-is
uindicet aut Crassos.' sic fatus murmure sensit
avenge or the-Crassi.' so having-spoken by-the-murmur he-felt
consilium damnasse uiros; quos Lentulus omnis
the-plan to-have-condemned the-men; whom Lentulus all
uirtutis stimulis et nobilitate dolendi
of-valor by-the-goads and in-the-nobility of-grieving
praecessit dignasque tulit modo consule uoces.
surpassed and-worthy uttered only-just a-consul words.

VIII.5 · LENTULUS ANSWERS

Lentulus asks whether one day has broken Pompey's spirit and whether he will become the servant of Chaldaean fires and Parthian rites, ruled by a king he once made tremble. The Parthians fight only on the plain, fleeing with their arrows, and cannot climb hills, swim rivers, or storm walls; their valor lies in poison. It is shameful to seek help where Crassus lies unburied, and Cornelia would face the lusts of a barbarian court where the king takes mothers and sisters to bed.

'sicine Thessalicae mentem fregere ruinae?
'thus the-Thessalian your-mind have-broken ruins?
una dies mundi damnauit fata? secundum
one day of-the-world has-condemned the-fates? according-to

Emathiam lis tanta datur? iacet omne cruenti
Emathia a-suit so-great is-decided? lies all of-bloody
uolneris auxilium? solos tibi, Magne, reliquit
wound the-remedy? alone for-you, Magnus, has-left
Parthorum fortuna pedes? quid transfuga mundi,
of-the-Parthians the-fortune the-feet? why a-deserter of-the-world,
terrarum totos tractus caelumque perosus,
of-the-lands whole the-tracts and-sky hating,
auersosque polos alienaque sidera quaeris,
and-reversed poles and-foreign stars do-you-seek,
Chaldaeos culture focos et barbara sacra
Chaldaean going-to-worship hearths and barbarian rites
Parthorum famulus? quid causa obtenditur armis
of-the-Parthians a-servant? why as-cause is-held-out for-arms
libertatis amor? miserum quid decipis orbem,
of-liberty the-love? the-wretched why do-you-deceive world,
si seruire potes? te, quem Romana regentem
if to-be-a-slave you-can? you, whom Roman ruling
horruit auditu, quem captos ducere reges
shuddered-at at-the-hearing, whom captive to-lead kings
uidit ab Hyrcanis, Indoque a litore, siluis,
saw from the-Hyrcanian, and-the-Indian from shore, forests,
deiectum fatis, humilem fractumque uidebit
cast-down by-the-fates, humble and-broken will-see
rex tolletque animos Latium uaesanus in orbem
a-king and-will-raise his-spirits Latin mad against world
se simul et Romam Pompeio supplice mensus?
himself at-once and Rome with-Pompey suppliant having-measured?
nil animis fatisque tuis effabere dignum:
nothing to-the-spirit and-fates your you-will-utter worthy:

exiget ignorans Latiae commercia linguae
will-demand ignorant of-the-Latin the-dealings tongue
ut lacrimis se, Magne, roges. patimurne pudoris
that with-tears him, Magnus, you-ask. do-we-endure of-shame
hoc uolnus, clades ut Parthia uindicet ante
this wound, the-disasters that Parthia avenge before
Hesperias, quam Roma suas? ciuilibus armis
of-Hesperia, than Rome her-own? for-civil arms
elegit te nempe ducem: quid uolnera nostra
she-chose you surely as-leader: why the-wounds our
in Scythicos spargis populos cladesque latentis?
among the-Scythian do-you-scatter peoples and-the-disasters hidden?
quid Parthos transire doces? solacia tanti
why the-Parthians to-cross-over do-you-teach? the-consolations of-so-great
perdit Roma mali, nullos admittere reges
loses Rome evil, no to-admit kings
sed ciui seruire suo? iuuat ire per orbem
but to-a-citizen to-be-a-slave her-own? does-it-please to-go through the-world
ducentem saeuas Romana in moenia gentes
leading savage Roman against walls nations
signaque ab Euphrate cum Crassis capta sequentem?
and-the-standards from the-Euphrates with the-Crassi captured following?
qui solus regum fato celante fauorem
he-who alone of-kings with-fate hiding his-favor
defuit Emathiae, nunc tantas ille lacesset
was-absent from-Emathia, now so-great he will-provoke
auditi uictoris opes aut iungere fata
of-the-heard-of victor the-power or to-join his-fates
tecum, Magne, uolet? non haec fiducia genti est.
with-you, Magnus, will-wish? not this confidence for-the-race is.

omnis, in Arctois populus quicumque pruinis
every, in northern people whatever frosts
nascitur, indomitus bellis et mortis amator:
is-born, untamed in-wars and of-death a-lover:
quidquid ad Eoos tractus mundique teporem
whatever to the-Eastern tracts and-of-the-world the-warmth
ibitur, emollit gentes dementia caeli.
one-shall-go, softens the-nations the-mildness of-the-sky.
illic et laxas uestes et fluxa uirorum
there both loose garments and flowing of-men
uelamenta uides. Parthus per Medica rura,
coverings you-see. the-Parthian through Median fields,
Sarmaticos inter campos effusaque plano
the-Sarmatian among plains and-spread-out with-level
Tigridis arua solo, nulli superabilis hosti est
of-the-Tigris fields soil, by-no conquerable enemy is
libertate fugae; sed non, ubi terra tumebit,
by-the-freedom of-flight; but not, where the-land shall-swell,
aspera conscendet montis iuga, nec per opacas
the-rough he-will-climb of-the-mountain ridges, nor through dark
bella geret tenebras incerto debilis arcu,
wars he-will-wage darkness with-uncertain weak bow,
nec franget nando uiolenti uerticis amnem,
nor he-will-break by-swimming of-violent eddy a-river,
nec tota in pugna perfusus sanguine membra
nor whole in battle drenched with-blood in-limbs
exiget aestiuum calido sub puluere solem.
he-will-endure the-summer hot under dust sun.
non aries illis, non ulla est machina belli
not the-ram for-them, not any is engine of-war

aut fossas inplere ualent, Parthoque sequenti
or the-trenches to-fill they-are-able, and-for-the-Parthian pursuing
murus erit quodcumque potest opstare sagittae.
a-wall will-be whatever can to-stand-against arrow.
pugna leuis bellumque fugax turmaeque uagantes,
battle light and-war fleeing and-squadrons wandering,
et melior cessisse loco quam pellere miles;
and better to-have-yielded the-ground than to-drive soldier;
inlita tela dolis, nec Martem comminus usquam
smeared weapons with-tricks, nor Mars at-close-quarters anywhere
ausa pati uirtus, sed longe tendere neruos
has-dared to-suffer valor, but from-afar to-stretch the-sinews
et quo ferre uelint permittere uolnera uentis.
and where to-carry they-may-wish to-entrust the-wounds to-the-winds.
ensis habet uires, et gens quaecumque uirorum est
the-sword has strength, and nation whatever of-men is
bella gerit gladiis. nam Medos proelia prima
wars wages with-swords. for the-Medes battles first
exarmant uacuaque iubent remeare pharetra.
disarm and-with-empty bid to-return quiver.
nulla manus illis, fiducia tota ueneni est.
no hand for-them, confidence whole of-poison is.
credis, Magne, uiros, quos in discrimina belli
do-you-believe, Magnus, men, whom into the-crises of-war
cum ferro misisse parum est? temptare pudendum
with steel to-have-sent too-little is? to-test shameful
auxilium tanti est, toto diuisus ut orbe
help of-so-great is, in-whole separated that world
a terra moriare tua, tibi barbara tellus
from land you-may-die your-own, upon-you barbarian earth

incumbat, te parua tegant ac uilia busta,
may-lie, you small may-cover and cheap pyres,
inuidiosa tamen Crasso quaerente sepulchrum?
envied yet with-Crassus seeking a-tomb?
sed tua sors leuior, quoniam mors ultima poena est
but your lot lighter, since death last penalty is
nec metuenda uiris. at non Cornelia letum
nor to-be-feared for-men. but not Cornelia death
infando sub rege timet. num barbara nobis
the-unspeakable under king fears. surely-not barbarian to-us
est ignota Venus, quae ritu caeca ferarum
is unknown Venus, which in-the-manner blind of-beasts
polluit innumeris leges et foedera taedae
pollutes with-countless the-laws and the-compacts of-the-marriage-torch
coniugibus thalamique patent secreta nefandi
wives and-of-the-bridal-chamber lie-open the-secrets unspeakable
inter mille nurus epulis uaesana meroque
among a-thousand daughters-in-law with-feasts mad and-wine
regia non ullis exceptos legibus audet
the-court not by-any excepted laws dares
concubitus: tot femineis conplexibus unum
unions: with-so-many female embraces one
non lassat nox tota marem. iacuere sorores
not wearies night whole male. have-lain sisters
in regum thalamis sacrataque pignora matres.
in of-kings beds and-sacred pledges mothers.

Lentulus continues: Cornelia would be the Parthian king's thousandth wife, a trophy of Crassus' house, and it would be a crime to seek help from those against whom Crassus' death should be avenged; Caesar's legions should march on Babylon instead. He urges Egypt, guarded by its sea and its Nile, whose young king owes his scepter to Pompey. His speech prevails, and the fleet sails from Cilicia past Cyprus, Venus' island, to the Egyptian coast near Pelusium, where the king is camped on Mount Casius.

damnat apud gentes sceleris non sponte peracti
condemns among the-nations of-a-crime not willingly accomplished
Oedipodionias infelix fabula Thebas:
Oedipus' unlucky the-tale Thebes:
Parthorum dominus quotiens sic sanguine mixto
of-the-Parthians the-lord how-often so with-blood mingled
nascitur Arsacides! cui fas inplere parentem,
is-born an-Arsacid! for-whom right to-impregnate his-mother,
quid rear esse nefas? proles tam clara Metelli
what should-I-think to-be abomination? the-offspring so famous of-Metellus
stabit barbarico coniunx millesima lecto.
will-stand on-a-barbarian wife thousandth bed.
quamquam non ulli plus regia, Magne, uacabit
although not to-any more royal, Magnus, will-devote-itself
saeuitia stimulata Venus titulisque uirorum;
by-cruelty goaded lust and-by-the-titles of-her-husbands;
nam, quo plura iuuent Parthum portenta, fuisse
for, that more may-please the-Parthian monstrous-things, to-have-been
hanc sciet et Crassi: ceu pridem debita fatis
she he-will-know also Crassus': as-if long-since owed to-the-fates

Assyriis trahitur cladis captiua uetustae.
Assyrian she-is-dragged of-the-disaster a-captive ancient.
haereat Eoae uolnus miserabile sortis,
let-it-stick of-the-Eastern the-wound pitiable lot,
non solum auxilium funesto ab rege petisse
not only help a-deadly from king to-have-sought
sed gessisse prius bellum ciuile pudebit.
but to-have-waged earlier war civil it-will-shame.
nam quod apud populos crimen socerique tuumque
for what among the-peoples guilt and-of-the-father-in-law and-yours
maius erit, quam quod uobis miscentibus arma
greater will-be, than that with-you mingling arms
Crassorum uindicta perit? incurrere cuncti
of-the-Crassi the-vengeance perishes? to-run-against all
debuerant in Bactra duces et, nequa uacarent
ought into Bactra the-leaders and, lest-any be-idle
arma, uel Arctoum Dacis Rhenique cateruis
arms, even the-northern to-the-Dacians and-of-the-Rhine to-the-companies
imperii nudare latus, dum perfida Susa
of-the-empire to-bare the-flank, until perfidious Susa
in tumulos prolapsa ducum Babylonque iaceret.
into tombs fallen of-leaders and-Babylon should-lie.
Assyriae paci finem, Fortuna, precamur;
for-the-Assyrian peace an-end, Fortune, we-pray;
et, si Thessalia bellum ciuile peractum est,
and, if in-Thessaly the-war civil finished is,
ad Parthos qui uicit eat. gens unica mundi est
to the-Parthians he-who conquered let-him-go. the-nation only of-the-world is
de qua Caesareis possim gaudere triumphis.
over which in-Caesarian I-could to-rejoice triumphs.

non tibi, cum primum gelidum transibis Araxen,
not to-you, when first the-cold you-will-cross Araxes,
umbra senis maesti Scythicis confixa sagittis
the-shade of-the-old-man sad by-Scythian pierced arrows
ingeret has uoces? "tu, quem post funera nostra
will-hurl-on these words? "you, whom after the-funeral our
ultorem cinerum nudae sperauimus umbrae,
as-avenger of-the-ashes naked hoped shades,
ad foedus pacemque uenis?" tum plurima cladis
to a-treaty and-peace come?" then very-many of-the-disaster
occurrent monimenta tibi: quae moenia trunci
will-meet monuments you: which walls maimed
lustrarunt ceruice duces, ubi nomina tanta
went-round with-neck the-leaders, where names so-great
obruit Euphrates et nostra cadauera Tigris
overwhelmed the-Euphrates and our corpses the-Tigris
detulit in terras ac reddidit. ire per ista
carried-down to the-lands and gave-back. to-go through those
si potes, in media socerum quoque, Magne, sedentem
if you-can, in the-middle the-father-in-law too, Magnus, sitting
Thessalia placare potes. quin respicis orbem
of-Thessaly to-appease you-can. why-not look-back-at the-world
Romanum? si regna times proiecta sub Austro
Roman? if the-kingdoms you-fear thrown-out under the-South-Wind
infidumque Iubam, petimus Pharon aruaque Lagi.
and-faithless Juba, we-seek Pharos and-the-fields of-Lagus.
Syrtibus hinc Libycis tuta est Aegyptos, at inde
by-the-Syrtes on-this-side Libyan safe is Egypt, but on-that-side
gurgite septeno rapidus mare summouet amnis.
with-flood sevenfold swift the-sea keeps-off the-river.

terra suis contenta bonis, non indiga mercis
a-land with-its-own content goods, not needing merchandise
aut Iouis: in solo tanta est fiducia Nilo.
or Jupiter: in alone so-great is the-confidence Nile.
sceptra puer Ptolemaeus habet tibi debita, Magne,
the-scepter the-boy Ptolemy holds to-you owed, Magnus,
tutelae commissa tuae. quis nominis umbram
to-the-guardianship entrusted your. who of-a-name the-shadow
horreat? innocua est aetas. ne iura fidemque
would-dread? innocent is his-age. do-not rights and-loyalty
respectumque deum ueteri speraueris aula;
and-the-regard of-the-gods in-an-old you-hope court;
nil pudet adsuetos sceptris: mitissima sors est
nothing shames those-accustomed to-scepters: the-mildest lot is
regnorum sub rege nouo.' non plura locutus
of-kingdoms under a-king new.' no more having-spoken
inpulit huc animos. quantum, spes ultima rerum,
he-drove hither their-minds. how-much, hope last of-affairs,
libertatis habes! uicta est sententia Magni.
of-liberty you-have! conquered is the-opinion of-Magnus.
tum Cilicum liquere solum Cyproque citatas
then of-the-Cilicians they-left the-soil and-toward-Cyprus hastened
inmisere rates, nullas cui praetulit aras
sent ships, no to-which she-preferred altars
undae diua memor Paphiae, si numina nasci
of-the-wave the-goddess mindful Paphian, if divinities to-be-born
credimus aut quemquam fas est coepisse deorum.
we-believe or anyone right it-is to-have-begun of-the-gods.
haec ubi deseruit Pompeius litora, totos
these when abandoned Pompey shores, whole

emensus Cypri scopulos quibus exit in Austrum
having-traversed of-Cyprus the-crags with-which it-goes-out into the-South
inde maris uasti transuerso uertitur aestu;
thence of-the-sea vast by-the-transverse he-is-turned tide;
nec tenuit gratum nocturno lumine montem,
nor he-reached welcome with-nocturnal light the-mountain,
infimaque Aegypti pugnaci litora uelo
and-the-lowest of-Egypt with-struggling shores sail
uix tetigit, qua diuidui pars maxima Nili
scarcely he-touched, where of-the-divided part greatest Nile
in uada decurrit Pelusia septimus amnis.
into the-shallows runs-down Pelusian the-seventh stream.
tempus erat quo Libra pares examinat horas,
the-time was when the-Scales equal weigh hours,
non uno plus aequa die, noctique rependit
not one more just day, and-to-night repays
lux minor hibernae uerni solacia damni.
light lesser of-the-winter of-the-spring the-solace loss.
conperit ut regem Casio se monte tenere,
he-learned when the-king on-Casius himself mount to-be-keeping,
flectit iter; nec Phoebus adhuc nec carbasa languent.
he-turns his-course; neither Phoebus yet nor the-sails slacken.

A scout brings word to the frightened court, and its counselors gather. Acoreus, the old priest of Memphis, speaks for loyalty and Ptolemy's father's debts to Pompey, but Pothinus, better at urging evil, dares to argue for his death: right makes many guilty, loyalty should follow fortune, and kingdoms are kept by crime. Pompey, he says, has come to drag Egypt into his ruin and to make it suspect to the victor; the sword he prepared was not for Pompey but for the conquered. Egypt cannot prop up his fall, and no loyalty has ever chosen the wretched as friends.

iam rapido speculator eques per litora cursu
now with-swift a-scout horseman along the-shores course
hospitis aduentu pauidam conpleuerat aulam.
of-the-guest by-the-arrival the-fearful had-filled court.
consilii uix tempus erat; tamen omnia monstra
for-counsel scarcely time there-was; yet all the-monsters
Pellaeae coiere domus, quos inter Acoreus
of-the-Pellaean gathered house, whom among Acoreus
iam placidus senio fractisque modestior annis
now calm from-old-age and-with-broken more-moderate years
(hunc genuit custos Nili crescentis in arua
(him bore the-guardian of-the-Nile rising onto the-fields
Memphis uana sacris; illo cultore deorum
Memphis vain in-rites; with-him as-worshiper of-the-gods
lustra suae Phoebes non unus uixerat Apis)
the-lustres of-his-own Phoebe not one had-lived Apis)
consilii uox prima fuit, meritumque fidemque
of-the-council the-voice first was, and-the-service and-loyalty
sacraque defuncti iactauit pignora patris.
and-the-sacred of-the-dead boasted pledges father.

sed melior suadere malis et nosse tyrannos
but better at-persuading evils and to-know tyrants
ausus Pompeium leto damnare Pothinus
dared Pompey to-death to-condemn Pothinus
'ius et fas multos faciunt, Ptolemaee, nocentes;
'law and right many make, Ptolemy, guilty;
dat poenas laudata fides, cum sustinet' inquit
pays penalties praised loyalty, when it-sustains' he-says
'quos fortuna premit. fatis accede deisque,
'those-whom fortune presses. to-the-fates go-over and-to-the-gods,
et cole felices, miseros fuge. sidera terra
and court the-fortunate, the-wretched flee. the-stars from-the-earth
ut distant et flamma mari, sic utile recto.
as are-apart and flame from-the-sea, so the-useful from-the-right.
sceptrorum uis tota perit, si pendere iusta
of-scepters the-force whole perishes, if to-weigh just-things
incipit, euertitque arces respectus honesti.
it-begins, and-overturns citadels the-regard for-the-honorable.
libertas scelerum est quae regna inuisa tuetur
the-license of-crimes it-is which kingdoms hated protects
sublatusque modus gladiis. facere omnia saeue
and-removed limit for-swords. to-do all-things savagely
non inpune licet, nisi cum facis. exeat aula
not with-impunity is-allowed, except when you-do-them. let-him-leave the-court
qui uolt esse pius. uirtus et summa potestas
who wishes to-be dutiful. valor and supreme power
non coeunt; semper metuet quem saeua pudebunt.
not come-together; always will-fear he-whom savage-things shame.
non inpune tuos Magnus contempserit annos,
not with-impunity your Magnus shall-have-scorned years,

qui te nec uictos arcere a litore nostro
who you not-even the-conquered to-keep from shore our
posse putat. neu nos sceptris priuauerit hospes
to-be-able thinks. nor us of-the-scepter let-deprive a-guest
pignora sunt propiora tibi: Nilumque Pharonque,
pledges are nearer to-you: and-the-Nile and-Pharos,
si regnare piget, damnatae redde sorori.
if to-reign irks-you, to-your-condemned restore sister.
Aegypton certe Latiis tueamur ab armis.
Egypt at-least Latin let-us-protect from arms.
quidquid non fuerit Magni dum bella geruntur,
whatever not has-been of-Magnus while the-wars are-waged,
nec uictoris erit. toto iam pulsus ab orbe,
nor of-the-victor will-be. whole now driven from world,
postquam nulla manet rerum fiducia, quaerit
after no remains in-his-affairs confidence, he-seeks
cum qua gente cadat. rapitur ciuilibus umbris.
with what nation he-may-fall. he-is-swept by-the-civil shades.
nec soceri tantum arma fugit: fugit ora senatus,
nor of-the-father-in-law only the-arms he-flees: he-flees the-faces of-the-senate,
cuius Thessalicas saturat pars magna uolucres,
of-which the-Thessalian gluts part great birds,
et metuit gentes quas uno in sanguine mixtas
and he-fears the-nations which one in blood mingled
deseruit, regesque timet quorum omnia mersit,
he-deserted, and-the-kings he-fears whose all he-has-sunk,
Thessaliaeque reus nulla tellure receptus
and-of-Thessaly defendant by-no land received
sollicitat nostrum, quem nondum perdidit, orbem.
he-troubles our, which not-yet he-has-ruined, world.

iustior in Magnum nobis, Ptolemaee, querellae
juster against Magnus for-us, Ptolemy, of-complaint
causa data est. quid sepositam semperque quietam
a-cause given is. why the-set-apart and-always quiet
crimine bellorum maculas Pharon, aruaque nostra
with-the-guilt of-wars do-you-stain Pharos, and-fields our
515 uictori suspecta facis? cur sola cadenti
to-the-victor suspect make? why alone to-you-falling
haec placuit tellus, in quam Pharsalica fata
this has-pleased land, onto which the-Pharsalian fates
conferres poenasque tuas? iam crimen habemus
you-might-bring and-penalties your? already a-guilt we-have
purgandum gladio. quod nobis sceptra senatus
to-be-purged with-the-sword. that to-us the-scepter the-senate
te suadente dedit, uotis tua fouimus arma.
with-you urging gave, with-prayers your we-have-favored arms.
520 hoc ferrum, quod fata iubent proferre, paraui
this steel, which the-fates bid to-bring-forth, I-have-prepared
non tibi, sed uicto; feriam tua uiscera, Magne,
not for-you, but for-the-conquered; I-shall-strike your entrails, Magnus,
malueram soceri: rapimur quo cuncta feruntur.
I-had-preferred the-father-in-law's: we-are-swept where all-things are-borne.
tene mihi dubitas an sit uiolare necesse,
you for-me do-you-doubt whether it-be to-violate necessary,
cum liceat? quae te nostri fiducia regni
when it-is-allowed? what you in-our confidence kingdom
525 huc agit, infelix? populum non cernis inermem
hither drives, unlucky? the-people not do-you-see unarmed
aruaque uix refugo fodientem mollia Nilo?
and-fields scarcely with-retreating digging soft Nile?

metiri sua regna decet uiresque fateri.
to-measure its-own kingdom befits and-its-strength to-confess.
tu, Ptolemaee, potes Magni fulcire ruinam,
you, Ptolemy, can of-Magnus to-prop-up the-ruin,
sub qua Roma iacet? bustum cineresque mouere
under which Rome lies? the-pyre and-ashes to-stir
Thessalicos audes bellumque in regna uocare?
Thessalian do-you-dare and-war into the-kingdom to-call?
ante aciem Emathiam nullis accessimus armis:
before the-battle-line Emathian with-no we-came arms:
Pompei nunc castra placent, quae deserit orbis?
Pompey's now does-the-camp please, which deserts the-world?
nunc uictoris opes et cognita fata lacessis?
now the-victor's resources and known fates do-you-provoke?
aduersis non desse decet, sed laeta secutos:
in-adversities not to-fail befits, but the-happy having-followed:
nulla fides umquam miseros elegit amicos.'
no loyalty ever the-wretched has-chosen as-friends.'

VIII.8 · THE MURDER OF POMPEY

All agree, and Achillas readies a small boat; the poet reproaches Ptolemy for daring to kill a Roman greater than any king. Pompey leaves Cornelia and his son behind, Septimius greets him, and when the swords are drawn he covers his face and takes Achillas' blow without a groan, telling himself that later ages are watching.

adsensere omnes sceleri. laetatur honore
agreed all to-the-crime. rejoices in-the-honor
rex puer insueto, quod iam sibi tanta iubere
the-king a-boy unaccustomed, that already to-himself so-great to-order

permittant famuli. sceleri delectus Achillas,
allow his-servants. for-the-crime chosen Achillas,
perfida qua tellus Casiis excurrit harenis
perfidious where the-land on-the-Casian runs-out sands
et uada testantur iunctas Aegyptia Syrtes,
and the-shallows bear-witness joined Egyptian Syrtes,
exiguam sociis monstri gladiisque carinam
a-small with-allies of-the-monster and-with-swords boat
instruit. o superi, Nilusne et barbara Memphis
equips. O gods-above, the-Nile and barbarian Memphis
et Pelusiaci tam mollis turba Canopi
and of-Pelusian so effeminate the-throng Canopus
hos animos? sic fata premunt ciuilia mundum?
these spirits? so do-the-fates press civil the-world?
sic Romana iacent? ullusne in cladibus istis
so Roman-things lie? any in disasters these
est locus Aegypto Phariusque admittitur ensis?
is place for-Egypt and-the-Pharian is-admitted sword?
hanc certe seruate fidem, ciuilia bella:
this at-least keep loyalty, civil wars:
cognatas praestate manus externaque monstra
kindred supply hands and-foreign monsters
pellite, si meruit tam claro nomine Magnus
drive-off, if he-has-earned with-so famous a-name Magnus
Caesaris esse nefas. tanti, Ptolemaee, ruinam
of-Caesar to-be the-abomination. of-so-great, Ptolemy, the-ruin
nominis haut metuis, caeloque tonante profanas
name not do-you-fear, and-with-the-sky thundering profane
inseruisse manus, inpure ac semiuir, audes?
to-have-inserted hands, impure and half-man, do-you-dare?

non domitor mundi nec ter Capitolia curru
not tamer of-the-world nor thrice the-Capitol in-chariot
inuectus regumque potens uindexque senatus
having-ridden and-of-kings powerful and-avenger of-the-senate
uictorisque gener, Phario satis esse tyranno
and-of-the-victor son-in-law, for-the-Pharian enough to-be tyrant
quod poterat, Romanus erat: quid uiscera nostra
what he-could-be, a-Roman he-was: why the-entrails our
scrutaris gladio? nescis, puer inprobe, nescis
do-you-search with-the-sword? you-know-not, boy wicked, you-know-not
quo tua sit fortuna loco: iam iure sine ullo
in-what your may-be fortune place: now by-right without any
Nili sceptra tenes; cecidit ciuilibus armis
of-the-Nile the-scepter you-hold; has-fallen in-civil arms
qui tibi regna dedit. iam uento uela negarat
he-who to-you the-kingdom gave. already to-the-wind his-sails had-denied
Magnus et auxilio remorum infanda petebat
Magnus and with-the-help of-oars the-unspeakable was-seeking
litora; quem contra non longa uecta biremi
shores; whom against not in-long carried bireme
appulerat scelerata manus, Magnoque patere
had-put-in the-wicked band, and-to-Magnus to-lie-open
fingens regna Phari celsae de puppe carinae
feigning the-kingdom of-Pharos of-the-high from stern ship
in paruam iubet ire ratem, litusque malignum
into a-small bids-him to-go boat, and-the-shore ill-natured
incusat bimaremque uadis frangentibus aestum,
blames and-the-two-sea with-shoals breaking tide,
qui uetet externas terris adpellere classes.
which forbids foreign to-the-lands to-bring fleets.

quod nisi fatorum leges intentaque iussu
but if-not of-the-fates the-laws and-strained by-the-command
ordinis aeterni miserae uicinia mortis
of-the-order eternal of-wretched the-nearness death
damnatum leto traherent ad litora Magnum,
condemned to-death had-dragged to the-shores Magnus,
non ulli comitum sceleris praesagia derant:
not to-any of-his-comrades of-the-crime presentiments were-lacking:
quippe, fides si pura foret, si regia Magno
for, loyalty if pure were, if the-court to-Magnus
sceptrorum auctori uera pietate pateret,
of-the-scepter the-author with-true dutifulness lay-open,
uenturum tota Pharium cum classe tyrannum,
going-to-come whole the-Pharian with fleet tyrant,
sed cedit fatis classemque relinquere iussus
but he-yields to-the-fates and-the-fleet to-leave ordered
obsequitur, letumque iuuat praeferre timori.
obeys, and-death it-pleases to-prefer to-fear.
ibat in hostilem praeceps Cornelia puppem,
was-going onto the-hostile headlong Cornelia ship,
hoc magis inpatiens egresso desse marito
this more impatient from-the-departed to-be-absent husband
quod metuit clades. 'remane, temeraria coniunx,
that she-fears disasters. 'stay-behind, rash wife,
et tu, nate, precor, longeque a litore casus
and you, son, I-pray, and-far from the-shore chances
expectate meos et in hac ceruice tyranni
await my and on this neck of-the-tyrant
explorate fidem' dixit. sed surda uetanti
test the-loyalty' he-said. but deaf to-him-forbidding

tendebat geminas amens Cornelia palmas.
was-stretching twin frantic Cornelia palms.
'quo sine me crudelis abis? iterumne relinquor,
'whither without me cruel do-you-go? again am-I-left,
Thessalicis summota malis? numquam omine laeto
from-Thessalian removed evils? never with-omen glad
distrahimur miseri. poteras non flectere puppem,
we-are-parted wretched. you-could not to-turn your-ship,
cum fugeres alto, latebrisque relinquere Lesbi,
when you-were-fleeing on-the-deep, and-in-the-hiding-places to-leave of-Lesbos,
omnibus a terris si nos arcere parabas.
all from lands if us to-keep-away you-were-preparing.
an tantum in fluctus placeo comes?' haec ubi frustra
or only into the-waves do-I-please as-comrade?' these-things when in-vain
effudit, prima pendet tamen anxia puppe,
she-poured-out, from-the-foremost she-hangs yet anxious stern,
attonitoque metu nec quoquam auertere uisus
and-with-stunned fear neither anywhere to-turn-away her-gaze
nec Magnum spectare potest. stetit anxia classis
nor Magnus to-watch can. stood anxious the-fleet
ad ducis euentum, metuens non arma nefasque
for of-the-leader the-outcome, fearing not arms and-abomination
sed ne summissis precibus Pompeius adoret
but lest with-lowered prayers Pompey worship
sceptra sua donata manu. transire parantem
a-scepter by-his-own given hand. to-cross preparing
Romanus Pharia miles de puppe salutat
a-Roman the-Pharian soldier from stern greets-him
Septimius, qui, pro superum pudor, arma satelles
Septimius, who, O of-the-gods-above shame, the-arms a-henchman

regia gestabat posito deformia pilo,
royal was-carrying with-set-aside disfiguring javelin,
inmanis uiolentus atrox nullaque ferarum
savage violent fierce and-than-no beasts
mitior in caedes. quis non, Fortuna, putasset
milder for slaughters. who not, Fortune, would-have-thought
parcere te populis, quod bello haec dextra uacaret
to-spare you the-peoples, that from-war this right-hand was-free
Thessaliaque procul tam noxia tela fugasses?
and-from-Thessaly far so harmful weapons you-had-banished?
disponis gladios, nequo non fiat in orbe,
you-dispose swords, lest-anywhere not be-done in world,
heu, facinus ciuile tibi. uictoribus ipsis
alas, a-crime civil by-you. for-the-victors themselves
dedecus et numquam superum caritura pudore
a-disgrace and never of-the-gods-above going-to-lack the-shame
fabula, Romanus regi sic paruit ensis,
a-tale, a-Roman the-king so obeyed sword,
Pellaeusque puer gladio tibi colla recidit,
and-the-Pellaean boy with-the-sword from-you the-neck cut-off,
Magne, tuo. qua posteritas in saecula mittet
Magnus, your. with-what posterity into ages will-send
Septimium fama? scelus hoc quo nomine dicent
Septimius fame? the-crime this by-what name will-they-call
qui Bruti dixere nefas? iam uenerat horae
who of-Brutus called the-abomination? already had-come of-the-hour
terminus extremae, Phariamque ablatus in alnum
the-limit last, and-the-Pharian carried-off into boat
perdiderat iam iura sui. tum stringere ferrum
he-had-lost already the-rights of-himself. then to-draw steel

regia monstra parant. ut uidit comminus ensis,
the-royal monsters prepare. when he-saw at-close-quarters the-swords,
inuoluit uoltus atque, indignatus apertum
he-wrapped his-face and, disdaining uncovered
fortunae praebere, caput; tum lumina pressit
to-fortune to-offer, his-head; then his-eyes he-pressed
continuitque animam, nequas effundere uoces
and-held-back his-breath, lest-any to-pour-out words
uellet et aeternam fletu corrumpere famam.
he-should-wish and eternal with-weeping to-spoil fame.
sed, postquam mucrone latus funestus Achillas
but, after with-the-point his-side deadly Achillas
perfodit, nullo gemitu consensit ad ictum
dug-through, with-no groan he-consented to the-blow
respexitque nefas, seruatque inmobile corpus,
and-looked-back-at the-abomination, and-keeps unmoved his-body,
seque probat moriens atque haec in pectore uoluit:
and-himself proves dying and these-things in his-breast he-revolved:
'saecula Romanos numquam tacitura labores
'the-ages the-Roman never going-to-keep-silent toils
attendunt, aeuumque sequens speculatur ab omni
attend, and-the-age following watches from every
orbe ratem Phariamque fidem: nunc consule famae.
world the-boat and-the-Pharian loyalty: now consult for-your-fame.
fata tibi longae fluxerunt prospera uitae:
the-fates to-you of-long have-flowed prosperous life:
ignorant populi, si non in morte probaris,
know-not the-peoples, if not in death you-are-proved,
an scieris aduersa pati. ne cede pudori
whether you-knew adversities to-bear. do-not yield to-shame

auctoremque dole fati: quacumque feriris,
and-the-author resent of-your-fate: wherever you-are-struck,
crede manum soceri. spargant lacerentque licebit,
believe the-hand of-the-father-in-law. let-them-scatter and-mangle though-they-may,
sum tamen, o superi, felix, nullique potestas
I-am yet, O gods-above, happy, and-to-no the-power
hoc auferre deo. mutantur prospera uita,
this to-take-away god. are-changed prosperous-things by-life,
non fit morte miser. uidet hanc Cornelia caedem
not one-becomes by-death wretched. sees this Cornelia slaughter
Pompeiusque meus: tanto patientius, oro,
and-Pompey my: so-much more-patiently, I-beg,
claude, dolor, gemitus: gnatus coniunxque peremptum,
shut, grief, your-groans: my-son and-wife me-slain,
si mirantur, amant.' talis custodia Magno
if they-admire, love.' such the-guard for-Magnus
mentis erat, ius hoc animi morientis habebat.
of-mind was, right this of-his-spirit dying had.

Cornelia fills the sky with laments, blames herself, and begs the sailors to let her die, but is carried away as the ship flees. Pompey's face keeps its majesty in death; Septimius cuts off the head, and the Pharian henchman fixes it on a spit to be shown to Ptolemy, who has it embalmed as proof of the crime. The poet contrasts the tombs of the Ptolemies and Alexander with the headless trunk tossed on the shallows: Fortune, which kept Pompey so long untroubled, struck him once with all her delayed hand.

at non tam patiens Cornelia cernere saeuum,
but not so patient Cornelia to-see the-savage,
quam perferre, nefas miserandis aethera conplet
as to-endure, abomination with-pitiable the-ether fills
uocibus. 'o coniunx, ego te scelerata peremi:
cries. 'O husband, I you wicked have-slain:
letiferae tibi causa morae fuit auia Lesbos, 640
of-the-deadly for-you the-cause delay was out-of-the-way Lesbos,
et prior in Nili peruenit litora Caesar.
and earlier to the-Nile's arrived shores Caesar.
nam cui ius alii sceleris? sed, quisquis, in istud
for to-whom the-right other of-the-crime? but, whoever, against that
a superis inmisse caput, uel Caesaris irae
by the-gods-above sent head, either to-Caesar's anger
uel tibi prospiciens, nescis, crudelis, ubi ipsa
or for-yourself providing, you-know-not, cruel-one, where the-very
uiscera sint Magni: properas atque ingeris ictus 645
vitals may-be of-Magnus: you-hasten and heap blows
qua uotum est uicto. poenas non morte minores
where a-prayer it-is for-the-conquered. a-penalty not than-death less

pendat et ante meum uideat caput. haud ego culpa
let-him-pay and before my let-him-see head. not I from-guilt
libera bellorum, quae matrum sola per undas
free of-the-wars, who of-mothers alone over the-waves
et per castra comes nullis absterrita fatis
and through camps a-companion by-no deterred fates
uictum, quod reges etiam timuere, recepi.
the-conquered, which kings even feared, received.
hoc merui, coniunx, in tuta puppe relinqui?
this did-I-deserve, husband, on safe ship to-be-left?
perfide, parcebas? te fata extrema petente
faithless, were-you-sparing-me? with-you fates last seeking
uita digna fui? moriar, nec munere regis.
of-life worthy was-I? I-will-die, nor by-the-gift of-the-king.
aut mihi praecipitem, nautae, permittite saltum,
either to-me a-headlong, sailors, allow leap,
aut laqueum collo tortosque aptare rudentes,
or a-noose to-my-neck and-twisted to-fit ropes,
aut aliquis Magno dignus comes exigat ensem.
or some for-Magnus worthy comrade drive-home a-sword.
Pompeio praestare potest quod Caesaris armis
to-Pompey to-render he-can what to-Caesar's arms
inputet. o saeui, properantem in fata tenetis?
he-may-charge. O savage-men, me-hastening into fates do-you-hold?
uiuis adhuc, coniunx, et iam Cornelia non est
you-live still, husband, and already Cornelia not is
iuris, Magne, sui: prohibent accersere mortem;
of-right, Magnus, her-own: they-forbid to-summon death;
seruor uictori.' sic fata interque suorum
I-am-kept for-the-victor.' so having-spoken and-among of-her-own

lapsa manus rapitur trepida fugiente carina.
fallen the-hands she-is-swept with-trembling fleeing ship.

at, Magni cum terga sonent et pectora ferro,
but, of-Magnus though the-back sound and the-breast with-steel,

permansisse decus sacrae uenerabile formae
to-have-remained the-grace of-sacred revered form

iratamque deis faciem, nil ultima mortis
and-angry with-the-gods the-face, nothing the-last of-death

ex habitu uoltuque uiri mutasse fatentur
from the-bearing and-face of-the-man to-have-changed confess

qui lacerum uidere caput. nam saeuus in ipso
who mangled saw the-head. for savage in the-very

Septimius sceleris maius scelus inuenit actu,
Septimius of-the-crime a-greater crime found act,

ac retegit sacros scisso uelamine uoltus
and uncovers the-sacred with-torn veil face

semianimis Magni spirantiaque occupat ora
of-half-dead Magnus and-the-breathing seizes mouth

collaque in obliquo ponit languentia transtro.
and-the-neck on slanting places drooping thwart.

tunc neruos uenasque secat nodosaque frangit
then sinews and-veins he-cuts and-knotted breaks

ossa diu: nondum artis erat caput ense rotare.
bones long: not-yet of-art it-was the-head with-the-sword to-whirl.

at, postquam trunco ceruix abscisa recessit,
but, after from-the-trunk the-neck cut-off withdrew,

uindicat hoc Pharius, dextra gestare, satelles.
claims this the-Pharian, with-right-hand to-carry, henchman.

degener atque operae miles Romane secundae,
degenerate and of-work soldier Roman second,

Pompei diro sacrum caput ense recidis,
of-Pompey with-dire the-sacred head sword do-you-cut-off,
ut non ipse feras? o summi fata pudoris!
that not yourself you-carry? O of-the-highest fates shame!
inpius ut Magnum nosset puer, illa uerenda
impious that Magnus might-know the-boy, that to-be-revered
regibus hirta coma et generosa fronte decora
by-kings shaggy hair and on-the-noble brow handsome
caesaries conprensa manu est, Pharioque ueruto,
locks seized with-the-hand is, and-on-a-Pharian spit,
dum uiuunt uoltus atque os in murmura pulsant
while live the-features and the-mouth into murmurs beat
singultus animae, dum lumina nuda rigescunt,
the-sobs of-the-breath, while the-eyes bare stiffen,
suffixum caput est, quo numquam bella iubente
fixed the-head is, with-whom never wars commanding
pax fuit; hoc leges Campumque et rostra mouebat,
peace was; this the-laws and-the-Field and the-rostra moved,
hac facie, Fortuna, tibi, Romana, placebas.
with-this face, Fortune, to-yourself, Roman, you-were-pleasing.
nec satis infando fuit hoc uidisse tyranno:
nor enough for-the-unspeakable was this to-have-seen tyrant:
uolt sceleris superesse fidem. tunc arte nefanda
he-wishes of-the-crime to-survive proof. then with-art unspeakable
summota est capiti tabes, raptoque cerebro
removed is from-the-head the-decay, and-with-snatched-out brain
adsiccata cutis, putrisque effluxit ab alto
dried-up the-skin, and-rotting flowed-out from deep
umor, et infuso facies solidata ueneno est.
moisture, and with-infused the-face hardened poison is.

ultima Lageae stirpis perituraque proles,
last of-the-Lagean stock and-going-to-perish offspring,
degener incestae sceptris cessure sorori,
degenerate to-your-incestuous scepter going-to-yield sister,
cum tibi sacrato Macedon seruetur in antro
though for-you a-sacred the-Macedonian is-kept in cave
et regum cineres extructo monte quiescant,
and of-kings the-ashes in-a-built mountain rest,
cum Ptolemaeorum manes seriemque pudendam
though of-the-Ptolemies the-ghosts and-the-series shameful
pyramides claudant indignaque Mausolea,
pyramids enclose and-unworthy Mausolea,
litora Pompeium feriunt, truncusque uadosis
the-shores Pompey strike, and-the-trunk in-shallow
huc illuc iactatur aquis. adeone molesta
hither thither is-tossed waters. so troublesome
totum cura fuit socero seruare cadauer?
whole the-care was for-the-father-in-law to-preserve corpse?
hac Fortuna fide Magni tam prospera fata
with-this Fortune loyalty Magnus' so prosperous fates
pertulit, hac illum summo de culmine rerum
carried-through, with-this him the-highest from summit of-affairs
morte petit cladesque omnis exegit in uno
with-death seeks and-disasters all exacted in one
saeua die quibus inmunes tot praestitit annos,
savage day from-which exempt so-many she-had-kept years,
Pompeiusque fuit qui numquam mixta uideret
and-Pompey was one-who never mingled saw
laeta malis, felix nullo turbante deorum
joys with-evils, happy with-no troubling of-the-gods

et nullo parcente miser; semel inpulit illum
and with-no sparing wretched; once struck him
dilata Fortuna manu. pulsatur harenis,
with-delayed Fortune hand. he-is-beaten on-the-sands,
carpitur in scopulis hausto per uolnera fluctu,
he-is-plucked on the-crags with-drunk through wounds wave,
ludibrium pelagi, nullaque manente figura
the-mockery of-the-sea, and-with-no remaining shape
una nota est Magno capitis iactura reuolsi.
one mark is for-Magnus of-the-head the-loss torn-off.

VIII.10 · CORDUS BURNS THE BODY

Cordus, Pompey's quaestor, steals down to the shore by night, drags the trunk from the waves, and weeps over it, asking Fortune only for a cheap pyre and a poor man's coffin. He takes fire from a stranger's pyre, asking its shade's pardon, digs a shallow trench, sets in it scraps of a wrecked boat, and brings the fire beside the body rather than under it, praying the great leader to accept this small flame. He promises that if fortune allows, Cornelia will take the ashes to an urn in Hesperia, and proposes a small stone to mark the place; the body burns slowly, and at dawn he breaks off the rite and hides.

ante tamen Pharias uictor quam tangat harenas
before yet the-Pharian the-victor than he-touch sands
Pompeio raptim tumulum fortuna parauit,
for-Pompey hastily a-tomb fortune prepared,
ne iaceat nullo uel ne meliore sepulchro.
lest he-lie in-no or lest in-a-better tomb.
e latebris pauidus decurrit ad aequora Cordus.
from hiding-places fearful runs-down to the-sea Cordus.

quaestor ab Icario Cinyreae litore Cypri
quaestor from the-Icarian of-Cinyras shore Cyprus
infaustus Magni fuerat comes. ille per umbras
ill-starred of-Magnus had-been the-companion. he through the-shades
ausus ferre gradum uictum pietate timorem
having-dared to-bring his-step conquered by-dutifulness his-fear
conpulit ut mediis quaesitum corpus in undis
compelled that mid sought the-body in waves
duceret ad terram traheretque in litora Magnum.
he-should-lead to land and-should-drag onto the-shores Magnus.
lucis maesta parum per densas Cynthia nubes
of-light sad little through thick Cynthia clouds
praebebat, cano sed discolor aequore truncus
was-supplying, on-the-white but discolored sea the-trunk
conspicitur. tenet ille ducem conplexibus artis
is-seen. holds he the-leader in-embraces tight
eripiente mari; tunc uictus pondere tanto
with-snatching the-sea; then conquered by-the-weight so-great
expectat fluctus pelagoque iuuante cadauer
he-awaits the-waves and-with-the-sea helping the-corpse
inpellit. postquam sicco iam litore sedit,
pushes. after on-the-dry now shore it-settled,
incubuit Magno lacrimasque effudit in omne
he-lay-upon Magnus and-tears poured into every
uolnus, et ad superos obscuraque sidera fatur
wound, and to the-gods-above and-dim stars he-speaks
'non pretiosa petit cumulato ture sepulchra
'not costly seeks with-heaped incense tombs
Pompeius, Fortuna, tuus, non pinguis ad astra
Pompey, Fortune, your, not rich to the-stars

ut ferat e membris Eoos fumus odores,
that may-carry from his-limbs Eastern smoke scents,
ut Romana suum gestent pia colla parentem,
that Roman their may-carry dutiful shoulders father,
praeferat ut ueteres feralis pompa triumphos,
may-display that ancient the-funeral procession triumphs,
ut resonent tristi cantu fora, totus ut ignes
that may-resound with-sad song the-forums, whole that the-fires
proiectis maerens exercitus ambiat armis.
with-thrown-down mourning the-army may-circle arms.
da uilem Magno plebei funeris arcam
give a-cheap to-Magnus of-a-plebeian funeral coffin
quae lacerum corpus siccos effundat in ignes;
which the-mangled body dry may-pour onto fires;
robora non desint misero nec sordidus ustor.
wood not let-be-lacking for-the-wretched nor a-base burner.
sit satis, o superi, quod non Cornelia fuso
let-it-be enough, O gods-above, that not Cornelia with-loosened
crine iacet subicique facem conplexa maritum
hair lies and-to-be-put-under the-torch embracing her-husband
imperat, extremo sed abest a munere busti
orders, the-last but is-absent from duty of-the-pyre
infelix coniunx nec adhuc a litore longe est.'
unlucky wife nor still from the-shore far is.'
sic fatus paruos iuuenis procul aspicit ignes
so having-spoken small the-young-man far-off sees fires
corpus uile suis nullo custode cremantis.
a-body cheap by-its-own with-no guard burning.
inde rapit flammas semustaque robora membris
thence he-snatches flames and-half-burnt wood from-the-limbs

subducit. ‘quaecumque es,’ ait ‘neclecta nec ulli
draws-away. ‘whoever you-are,’ he-says ‘neglected nor to-any
cara tuo sed Pompeio felicior umbra,
dear your-own but than-Pompey more-fortunate shade,
quod iam conpositum uiolat manus hospita bustum,
that already composed violates a-hand foreign the-pyre,
da ueniam: siquid sensus post fata relictumst,
grant pardon: if-any feeling after fate is-left,
cedis et ipsa rogo paterisque haec damna sepulchri,
you-yield also yourself from-the-pyre and-allow these losses of-the-tomb,
teque pudet sparsis Pompei manibus uri.’
and-you it-shames with-scattered of-Pompey ghosts to-be-burned.’
sic fatus plenusque sinus ardente fauilla
so having-spoken and-full his-lap with-burning embers
peruolat ad truncum, qui fluctu paene relatus
he-flies to the-trunk, which by-the-wave almost carried-back
litore pendebat. summas dimouit harenas
on-the-shore was-hanging. the-top he-moved-aside sands
et collecta procul lacerae fragmenta carinae
and gathered far-off of-the-broken the-fragments boat
exigua trepidus posuit scrobe. nobile corpus
in-a-small trembling placed trench. the-noble body
robora nulla premunt, nulla strue membra recumbunt:
wood no presses, on-no pile the-limbs lie-back:
admotus Magnum, non subditus, accipit ignis.
moved-near Magnus, not put-under, receives the-fire.
ille sedens iuxta flammas ‘o maxime’ dixit
he sitting beside the-flames ‘O greatest’ said
‘ductor et Hesperii maiestas nominis una,
‘leader and of-the-Hesperian majesty name only,

si tibi iactatu pelagi, si funere nullo
if to-you than-the-tossing of-the-sea, if than-funeral no
tristior iste rogus, manes animamque potentem
sadder that pyre, your-ghost and-spirit mighty
officiis auerte meis: iniuria fati
from-the-services turn-away my: the-injustice of-fate
hoc fas esse iubet; ne ponti belua quicquam,
this right to-be bids; lest of-the-sea the-beast anything,
765 ne fera, ne uolucres, ne saeui Caesaris ira
lest beast, lest birds, lest of-savage Caesar the-anger
audeat, exiguam, quantum potes, accipe flammam
dare, small, as-much-as you-can, receive flame
Romana succense manu. fortuna recursus
by-a-Roman lit hand. fortune a-return
si det in Hesperiam, non hac in sede quiescent
if it-give to Hesperia, not this in seat will-rest
tam sacri cineres, sed te Cornelia, Magne,
so sacred ashes, but you Cornelia, Magnus,
770 accipiet nostraque manu transfundet in urnam.
will-receive and-from-our hand pour-over into an-urn.
interea paruo signemus litora saxo,
meanwhile with-a-small let-us-mark the-shores stone,
ut nota sit busti; siquis placare peremptum
that a-mark may-be of-the-pyre; if-anyone to-appease the-slain
forte uolet plenos et reddere mortis honores,
by-chance shall-wish full and to-render of-death honors,
inueniat trunci cineres et norit harenas
let-him-find of-the-trunk the-ashes and let-him-know the-sands
775 ad quas, Magne, tuum referat caput.' haec ubi fatus,
to which, Magnus, your may-bring-back head.' this when having-spoken,

excitat inualidas admoto fomite flammas.
he-rouses feeble with-brought-near tinder flames.
carpitur et lentum Magnus destillat in ignem
is-consumed and slow Magnus drips into the-fire
tabe fouens bustum. sed iam percusserat astra
with-decay feeding the-pyre. but now had-struck the-stars
aurorae praemissa dies: ille ordine rupto
of-dawn sent-before the-day: he with-order broken
funeris attonitus latebras in litore quaerit.
of-the-funeral astounded hiding-places on the-shore seeks.

VIII.11 · THE TOMB OF MAGNUS

Cordus buries the half-burnt bones, sets a stone on the sand, and writes on a charred stake: here lies Magnus. The poet protests that the whole Roman world is his tomb and that a stone should carry his deeds; instead his name lies in the lowest sand, where no stranger would read it and no Roman would notice it unless shown. He curses Egypt, reproaches Rome for not bringing home his ashes, and foretells that pilgrims will honor the stone more than the victor's altars; one day it will vanish, and Egypt will be as false about Magnus' tomb as Crete about the Thunderer's.

quam metuis, demens, isto pro crimine poenam
what do-you-fear, madman, that for crime punishment
quo te fama loquax omnis accepit in annos?
for-which you fame talkative all has-received into years?
condita laudabit Magni socer inpius ossa:
buried will-praise of-Magnus the-father-in-law impious the-bones:
i modo securus ueniae fassusque sepulchrum
go only sure of-pardon and-having-confessed the-burial
posce caput. cogit pietas inponere finem
demand the-head. compels dutifulness to-set an-end

officio. semusta rapit resolutaque nondum
to-the-duty. half-burnt he-snatches and-loosened not-yet
ossa satis neruis et inustis plena medullis
bones enough from-sinews and with-burnt-in full marrows
aequorea restinguit aqua congestaque in unum
with-sea's he-quenches water and-heaped into one
parua clausit humo. tunc, ne leuis aura retectos
small shut in-earth. then, lest a-light breeze uncovered
auferret cineres, saxo conpressit harenam,
should-carry-off the-ashes, with-a-stone he-pressed-down the-sand,
nautaque ne bustum religato fune moueret
and-the-sailor lest the-pyre with-tied rope should-move
inscripsit sacrum semusto stipite nomen:
he-inscribed the-sacred on-a-half-burnt stake name:
'hic situs est Magnus'. placet hoc, Fortuna, sepulchrum
'here laid is Magnus'. pleases this, Fortune, a-tomb
dicere Pompei, quo condi maluit illum
to-call of-Pompey, in-which to-be-buried preferred him
quam terra caruisse socer? temeraria dextra,
than of-earth to-have-lacked the-father-in-law? rash right-hand,
cur obicis Magno tumulum manesque uagantis
why do-you-set-against Magnus a-tomb and-the-ghost wandering
includis? situs est qua terra extrema refuso
shut-in? laid he-is where the-earth farthest the-poured-back
pendet in Oceano; Romanum nomen et omne
hangs on Ocean; the-Roman name and all
imperium Magno tumuli est modus: obrue saxa
the-empire for-Magnus of-the-tomb is the-measure: overwhelm the-stones
crimine plena deum, si tota est Herculis Oete
with-guilt full of-the-gods, if whole is of-Hercules Oeta

et iuga tota uacant Bromio Nyseia, quare
and the-ridges whole are-free for-Bromius Nysaean, why
unus in Aegypto Magni lapis? omnia Lagi
one in Egypt of-Magnus stone? all of-Lagus
arua tenere potest, si nullo caespite nomen
the-fields to-hold he-can, if to-no turf the-name
haeserit. erremus populi cinerumque tuorum,
shall-have-clung. let-us-wander peoples and-of-ashes your,
Magne, metu nullas Nili calcemus harenas.
Magnus, from-fear no of-the-Nile let-us-tread sands.
quod si tam sacro dignaris nomine saxum
but if so with-sacred you-deem-worthy name a-stone
adde actus tantos monimentaque maxuma rerum,
add deeds so-great and-the-records greatest of-affairs,
adde trucis Lepidi motus Alpinaque bella
add of-fierce Lepidus the-uprising and-the-Alpine wars
armaque Sertori reuocato consule uicta
and-the-arms of-Sertorius with-the-recalled consul conquered
et currus quos egit eques, commercia tuta
and the-chariots which he-drove as-a-knight, the-trade safe
gentibus et pauidos Cilicas maris, adde subactam
for-the-nations and the-frightened Cilicians of-the-sea, add subdued
barbariem gentesque uagas et quidquid in Euro
barbarism and-nations wandering and whatever in the-East
regnorum Boreaque iacet. dic semper ab armis
of-kingdoms and-the-North lies. say always from arms
ciuilem repetisse togam, ter curribus actis
the-civil to-have-sought-again toga, thrice with-chariots driven
contentum multos patriae donasse triumphos.
content many to-the-fatherland to-have-given triumphs.

quis capit haec tumulus? surgit miserabile bustum
what holds these-things tomb? rises a-pitiable pyre
non ullis plenum titulis, non ordine tanto
not with-any full titles, not with-the-order so-great
fastorum; solitumque legi super alta deorum
of-the-annals; and-wont to-be-read on the-high of-the-gods
culmina et extructos spoliis hostilibus arcus
roofs and built from-spoils hostile arches
haud procul est ima Pompei nomen harena
not far-off is in-the-lowest of-Pompey the-name sand
depressum tumulo, quod non legat aduena rectus,
pressed-down in-a-tomb, which not would-read the-stranger upright,
quod nisi monstratum Romanus transeat hospes.
which unless shown the-Roman would-pass-by guest.
noxia ciuili tellus Aegyptia fato,
harmful to-civil land Egyptian fate,
haud equidem inmerito Cumanae carmine uatis
not indeed undeservedly of-the-Cumaean in-song prophetess
cautum, ne Nili Pelusia tangeret ora
it-was-warned, lest of-the-Nile the-Pelusian should-touch mouths
Hesperius miles ripasque aestate tumentis.
the-Hesperian soldier and-the-banks in-summer swelling.
quid tibi, saeua, precer pro tanto crimine, tellus?
what for-you, savage, should-I-pray for so-great a-crime, land?
uertat aquas Nilus quo nascitur orbe retentus,
may-turn-back its-waters the-Nile in-what it-is-born world held-back,
et steriles egeant hibernis imbribus agri,
and barren may-lack winter rains fields,
totaque in Aethiopum putres soluaris harenas.
and-whole into of-the-Ethiopians crumbling you-be-dissolved sands.

nos in templa tuam Romana accepimus Isim
we into temples your Roman have-received Isis
semideosque canes et sistra iubentia luctus
and-half-divine dogs and rattles commanding mourning
et quem tu plangens hominem testaris Osirim;
and whom you lamenting a-man you-attest Osiris;
tu nostros, Aegypte, tenes in puluere manes.
you our, Egypt, hold in dust ghosts.
tu quoque, cum saeuo dederis iam templa tyranno,
you too, though to-a-savage you-have-given already temples tyrant,
nondum Pompei cineres, o Roma, petisti;
not-yet of-Pompey the-ashes, O Rome, have-sought;
exul adhuc iacet umbra ducis. si saecula prima
an-exile still lies the-shade of-the-leader. if the-ages first
uictoris timuere minas, nunc excipe saltem
of-the-victor feared the-threats, now take-up at-least
ossa tui Magni, si nondum subruta fluctu
the-bones of-your Magnus, if not-yet undermined by-the-wave
inuisa tellure sedent. quis busta timebit?
in-the-hated land they-sit. who the-pyre will-fear?
quis sacris dignam mouisse uerebitur umbram?
who for-sacred-rites worthy to-have-moved will-be-afraid shade?
imperet hoc nobis utinam scelus et uelit uti
may-command this us would-that crime and may-wish to-use
nostro Roma sinu: satis o nimiumque beatus,
our Rome bosom: enough O and-too-much blessed,
si mihi contingat manes transferre reuolsos
if to-me it-befall the-ghost to-transfer torn-up
Ausoniam, si tale ducis uiolare sepulchrum.
to-Ausonia, if such of-the-leader to-violate tomb.

forsitan, aut sulco sterili cum poscere finem
perhaps, either for-the-furrow barren when to-ask an-end
a superis aut Roma uolet feralibus Austris
from the-gods-above or Rome shall-wish for-deathly South-Winds
ignibus aut nimiis aut terrae tecta mouenti,
for-fires or too-great or for-the-earth roofs moving,
consilio iussuque deum transibis in urbem,
by-the-counsel and-command of-the-gods you-will-pass into the-city,
Magne, tuam, summusque feret tua busta sacerdos.
Magnus, your, and-the-highest will-carry your pyre priest.
nam quis ad exustam Cancro torrente Syenen
for who to scorched by-the-Crab burning Syene
ibit et imbrifera siccas sub Pliade Thebas
will-go and rainy dry under Pleiad Thebes
spectator Nili, quis rubri stagna profundi
a-viewer of-the-Nile, who of-the-red the-pools deep
aut Arabum portus mercis mutator Eoae,
or of-the-Arabs the-harbors of-merchandise a-trader Eastern,
Magne, petet, quem non tumuli uenerabile saxum
Magnus, will-seek, whom not of-the-tomb the-venerable stone
et cinis in summis forsan turbatus harenis
and the-ash on the-topmost perhaps disturbed sands
auertet manesque tuos placare iubebit
will-turn-aside and-the-ghost your to-appease will-bid
et Casio praeferre Ioui? nil ista nocebunt
and to-Casian to-prefer Jupiter? nothing those will-harm
famae busta tuae: templis auroque sepultus
fame pyres your: in-temples and-in-gold buried
uilior umbra fores. nunc est pro numine summo
more-worthless a-shade you-would-be. now is for divinity supreme

hoc tumulo Fortuna iacens; augustius aris
in-this tomb Fortune lying; more-august than-the-altars
uictoris Libyco pulsatur in aequore saxum.
of-the-victor Libyan is-beaten on sea the-stone.
Tarpeis qui saepe deis sua tura negarunt
to-the-Tarpeian who often gods their incense denied
inclusum Tusco uenerantur caespite fulmen.
enclosed by-Tuscan worship turf the-thunderbolt.
proderit hoc olim, quod non mansura futuris
it-will-profit this one-day, that not going-to-remain for-the-future
ardua marmoreo surrexit pondere moles.
lofty with-marble rose weight a-pile.
pulueris exigui sparget non longa uetustas
of-dust small will-scatter not long antiquity
congeriem, bustumque cadet, mortisque peribunt
the-heap, and-the-pyre will-fall, and-of-death will-perish
argumenta tuae. ueniet felicior aetas
the-proofs your. will-come a-happier age
qua sit nulla fides saxum monstrantibus illud;
in-which may-be no trust for-those-showing stone that;
atque erit Aegyptus populis fortasse nepotum
and will-be Egypt to-the-peoples perhaps of-descendants
tam mendax Magni tumulo quam Creta Tonantis.
as lying of-Magnus in-the-tomb as Crete of-the-Thunderer.

BOOK IX

IX.1 · POMPEY'S SHADE AND CATO

Pompey's shade rises from the pyre to the region below the moon where the half-divine souls of the virtuous dwell, sees how dark our day is, and laughs at the mockery of his trunk; then, flitting over Emathia and Caesar's standards, it settles in the holy breast of Brutus and in the mind of Cato. Cato, who once hated Pompey, now leads his party for liberty alone, gathers the fleet at Corcyra, and sails by Malea, Taenarus, and Crete to the shores of Libya, where ships appear on the horizon, carrying grief.

At non in Pharia manes iacuere fauilla
But not in Pharian the-ghost lay ember
nec cinis exiguus tantam conpescuit umbram;
nor ash small so-great confined shade;
prosiluit busto semustaque membra relinquens
it-leapt-forth from-the-pyre and-half-burnt limbs leaving
degeneremque rogum sequitur conuexa Tonantis.
and-degenerate pyre seeks the-vaults of-the-Thunderer.
qua niger astriferis conectitur axibus aer
where black with-star-bearing is-joined axes the-air
quodque patet terras inter lunaeque meatus,
and-what lies-open lands between and-of-the-moon the-courses,
semidei manes habitant, quos ignea uirtus
half-divine ghosts dwell, whom fiery valor
innocuos uita patientes aetheris imi
blameless in-life enduring of-the-ether lowest
fecit et aeternos animam collegit in orbes;
made and eternal their-soul gathered into orbs;
non illuc auro positi nec ture sepulti
not thither with-gold laid nor with-incense buried

perueniunt. illic postquam se lumine uero
arrive. there after himself with-light true
inpleuit, stellasque uagas miratus et astra
he-filled, and-the-stars wandering having-wondered-at and the-constellations
fixa polis, uidit quanta sub nocte iaceret
fixed to-the-poles, he-saw how-great under night lay
nostra dies risitque sui ludibria trunci.
our day and-he-laughed-at of-his-own the-mockery trunk.
hinc super Emathiae campos et signa cruenti
hence over of-Emathia the-plains and the-standards of-bloody
Caesaris ac sparsas uolitauit in aequore classes,
Caesar and the-scattered he-flitted on the-sea fleets,
et scelerum uindex in sancto pectore Bruti
and of-crimes avenger in the-holy breast of-Brutus
sedit et inuicti posuit se mente Catonis.
sat and of-unconquered placed himself in-the-mind Cato.
ille, ubi pendebant casus dubiumque manebat
he, when were-hanging the-chances and-doubtful it-remained
quem dominum mundi facerent ciuilia bella,
whom lord of-the-world would-make civil wars,
oderat et Magnum, quamuis comes isset in arma
hated even Magnus, although as-comrade he-had-gone to arms
auspiciis raptus patriae ductuque senatus;
by-the-auspices swept of-the-fatherland and-by-the-leadership of-the-senate;
at post Thessalicas clades iam pectore toto
but after the-Thessalian disasters now with-heart whole
Pompeianus erat. patriam tutore carentem
a-Pompeian he-was. the-fatherland of-a-guardian lacking
excepit, populi trepidantia membra refouit,
he-took-up, of-the-people the-trembling limbs revived,

ignauis manibus proiectos reddidit enses,
to-cowardly hands thrown-away returned swords,
nec regnum cupiens gessit ciuilia bella
nor kingship desiring waged civil wars
nec seruire timens. nil causa fecit in armis
nor to-be-a-slave fearing. nothing for-the-cause did in arms
ille sua: totae post Magni funera partes
he his-own: whole after Magnus' funeral the-party
libertatis erant. quas ne per litora fusas
of-liberty was. which lest along the-shores scattered
colligeret rapido uictoria Caesaris actu,
should-gather with-swift the-victory of-Caesar action,
Corcyrae secreta petit ac mille carinis
of-Corcyra the-seclusion he-seeks and with-a-thousand ships
abstulit Emathiae secum fragmenta ruinae.
carried-off of-Emathian with-himself the-fragments ruin.
quis ratibus tantis fugientia crederet ire
who in-ships so-many fleeing would-believe to-go
agmina, quis pelagus uictas artasse carinas?
columns, who the-sea conquered to-have-crowded ships?
Dorida tum Malean et apertam Taenaron umbris,
Dorian then Malea and open Taenarus to-the-shades,
inde Cythera petit, Boreaque urguente carinas
thence Cythera he-seeks, and-with-Boreas pressing the-ships
Graia fugit, Dictaea legit cedentibus undis
the-Greek he-flees, the-Dictaean he-skirts with-yielding waves
litora. tunc ausum classi praecludere portus
shores. then having-dared to-the-fleet to-shut its-harbors
inpulit ac saeuas meritum Phycunta rapinas
he-struck and savage deserving Phycus plunderings

sparsit, et hinc placidis alto delabitur auris
scattered, and hence with-gentle from-the-deep he-glides breezes
in litus, Palinure, tuum (neque enim aequore tantum
to the-shore, Palinurus, your (nor indeed on-sea only
Ausonio monimenta tenes, portusque quietos
Ausonian memorials you-hold, and-harbors quiet
testatur Libye Phrygio placuisse magistro),
bears-witness Libya to-the-Phrygian to-have-pleased helmsman),
cum procul ex alto tendentes uela carinae
when far-off from the-deep stretching sails ships
ancipites tenuere animos, sociosne malorum
in-doubt held their-minds, whether-comrades of-evils
an ueherent hostes: praeceps facit omne timendum
or would-carry enemies: headlong makes everything to-be-feared
uictor, et in nulla non creditur esse carina.
the-victor, and in no not is-believed to-be ship.
ast illae puppes luctus planctusque ferebant
but those ships grief and-lamentation were-carrying
et mala uel duri lacrimas motura Catonis.
and evils even of-hard tears going-to-move Cato.

Cornelia, having begged the sailors in vain to delay, sees the distant flame of Pompey's pyre and laments that she could not burn his body, wash his wounds, and gather his ashes; at least she carries him whole in her breast. She delivers his last charge to his sons: to take up the civil war, never to let the Caesars reign, and to obey Cato if he fights for liberty. Having done her duty, she resolves to die by grief alone, veils her head, and lies in the dark hold of the ship, welcoming the storms.

nam, postquam frustra precibus Cornelia nautas
for, after in-vain with-prayers Cornelia the-sailors
priuignique fugam tenuit, ne forte repulsus
and-of-her-stepson the-flight held-back, lest perhaps driven-back
litoribus Phariis remearet in aequora truncus,
from-the-shores Pharian should-return into the-seas the-trunk,
ostenditque rogum non iusti flamma sepulchri,
and-showed the-pyre not of-a-proper the-flame tomb,
'ergo indigna fui,' dixit 'Fortuna, marito
'so unworthy I-was,' she-said 'Fortune, for-my-husband
accendisse rogum gelidosque effusa per artus
to-have-kindled the-pyre and-the-cold poured over limbs
incubuisse uiro, laceros exurere crines
to-have-lain-upon the-man, torn to-burn hair
membraque dispersi pelago conponere Magni,
and-the-limbs of-scattered on-the-sea to-compose Magnus,
uolneribus cunctis largos infundere fletus,
on-wounds all abundant to-pour weeping,
ossibus et tepida uestes inplere fauilla,
with-bones and warm the-garments to-fill embers,
quidquid ab exstincto licuisset tollere busto
whatever from the-quenched it-had-been-allowed to-take pyre

in templis sparsura deum. sine funeris ullo
in the-temples going-to-scatter of-the-gods. without of-funeral any
ardet honore rogus; manus hoc Aegyptia forsan
burns honor the-pyre; a-hand this Egyptian perhaps
obtulit officium graue manibus. o bene nudi
has-offered service grievous to-the-ghost. O well bare
Crassorum cineres: Pompeio contigit ignis
of-the-Crassi ashes: to-Pompey has-befallen fire
inuidia maiore deum. similisne malorum
by-the-spite greater of-the-gods. like of-evils
sors mihi semper erit? numquam dare iusta licebit
lot to-me always will-be? never to-pay due-rites will-it-be-allowed
coniugibus? numquam plenas plangemus ad urnas?
to-husbands? never full shall-we-lament at urns?
quid porro tumulis opus est aut ulla requiris
what moreover of-tombs need is or any do-you-require
instrumenta, dolor? non toto in pectore portas,
implements, grief? not whole in breast do-you-carry,
inpia, Pompeium? non imis haeret imago
impious-woman, Pompey? not in-the-inmost clings the-image
uisceribus? quaerat cineres uictura superstes.
entrails? let-her-seek ashes who-is-going-to-live surviving.
nunc tamen, hinc longe qui fulget luce maligna,
now yet, hence far-off which shines with-light grudging,
ignis adhuc aliquid Phario de litore surgens
the-fire still something the-Pharian from shore rising
ostendit mihi, Magne, tui. iam flamma resedit,
shows to-me, Magnus, of-you. now the-flame has-sunk,
Pompeiumque ferens uanescit solis ad ortus
and-Pompey bearing vanishes of-the-sun toward the-rising

fumus, et inuisi tendunt mihi carbasa uenti.
the-smoke, and hated stretch for-me the-canvas winds.
linquere, siqua fides, Pelusia litora nolo.
to-leave, if-any belief, the-Pelusian shores I-do-not-wish.
non mihi nunc tellus Pompeio siqua triumphos
not to-me now a-land to-Pompey if-any triumphs
uicta dedit, non alta terens Capitolia currus
conquered gave, not the-high treading Capitol chariot
gratior; elapsus felix de pectore Magnus:
more-welcome; slipped-away the-happy from my-breast Magnus:
hunc uolumus quem Nilus habet, terraeque nocenti
him we-want whom the-Nile holds, and-to-the-land guilty
non haerere queror; crimen commendat harenas.
not to-cling I-complain; the-crime commends the-sands.
tu pete bellorum casus et signa per orbem,
you seek of-wars the-chances and the-standards through the-world,
Sexte, paterna moue; namque haec mandata reliquit
Sextus, your-father's move; for these instructions left
Pompeius uobis in nostra condita cura:
Pompey to-you in our stored care:
"me cum fatalis leto damnauerit hora,
"me when the-fatal to-death shall-have-condemned hour,
excipite, o nati, bellum ciuile, nec umquam,
take-up, O sons, the-war civil, nor ever,
dum terris aliquis nostra de stirpe manebit,
while on-earth anyone our of stock shall-remain,
Caesaribus regnare uacet. uel sceptra uel urbes
for-Caesars to-reign let-there-be-room. either scepters or cities
libertate sua ualidas inpellite fama
in-liberty their-own strong drive by-the-fame

nominis: has uobis partes, haec arma relinquo.
of-the-name: this to-you party, these arms I-leave.
inueniet classes quisquis Pompeius in undas
will-find fleets whoever a-Pompey onto the-waves
uenerit, et noster nullis non gentibus heres
shall-have-come, and our to-no not nations heir
bella dabit: tantum indomitos memoresque paterni
wars will-give: only untamed and-mindful of-your-father's
iuris habete animos. uni parere decebit,
right have spirits. one to-obey will-befit,
si faciet partes pro libertate, Catoni."
if he-shall-make the-party for liberty, Cato."
exsolui tibi, Magne, fidem, mandata peregi;
I-have-discharged to-you, Magnus, my-trust, the-instructions I-have-carried-out;
insidiae ualuere tuae, deceptaque uixi
the-stratagems have-prevailed your, and-deceived I-have-lived
ne mihi commissas auferrem perfida uoces.
lest to-me the-entrusted I-should-carry-off faithless words.
iam nunc te per inane chaos, per Tartara, coniunx,
now at-once you through the-empty chaos, through Tartarus, husband,
si sunt ulla, sequar, quam longo tradita leto
if they-are any, I-will-follow, with-how long handed-over to-death
incertum est: poenas animae uiuacis ab ipsa
uncertain it-is: the-penalty of-my-soul long-lived from itself
ante feram. potuit cernens tua funera, Magne,
first I-shall-exact. it-could seeing your funeral, Magnus,
non fugere in mortem: planctu contusa peribit,
not flee into death: by-lamentation bruised it-will-perish,
effluet in lacrimas: numquam ueniemus ad enses
it-will-flow-away into tears: never we-shall-come to swords

aut laqueos aut praecipites per inania iactus:
or nooses or headlong through the-empty leaps:
turpe mori post te solo non posse dolore.'
shameful to-die after you by-alone not to-be-able grief.'
sic ubi fata, caput ferali obduxit amictu
so when having-spoken, her-head with-deathly she-veiled garment
decreuitque pati tenebras puppisque cauernis
and-resolved to-endure the-darkness and-of-the-ship in-the-hollows
delituit, saeuumque arte conplexa dolorem
hid, and-the-savage with-art embracing grief
perfruitur lacrimis et amat pro coniuge luctum.
enjoys her-tears and loves for her-husband mourning.
illam non fluctus stridensque rudentibus Eurus
her not the-waves and-whistling in-the-ropes the-East-Wind
mouit et exurgens ad summa pericula clamor,
moved and rising at the-highest dangers the-shout,
uotaque sollicitis faciens contraria nautis
and-prayers to-the-anxious making contrary sailors
conposita in mortem iacuit fauitque procellis.
composed for death she-lay and-favored the-storms.

The ship touches Cyprus and then reaches Cato's camp in Libya, where Gnaeus Pompey meets his brother and asks whether their father lives. Sextus tells how Pompey, trusting a king he had made, was murdered on the Nile's shore, and how he saw his father's head carried on a spear through the city. Gnaeus, raging, orders the fleet to Egypt: he will drag Alexander's body from its shrine, tear Amasis and the other kings from the pyramids, scatter the gods of Egypt, and leave his father its only lord. Cato calms the young man's anger.

prima ratem Cypros spumantibus accipit undis;
first the-ship Cyprus with-foaming receives waves;
inde tenens pelagus, sed iam moderatior, Eurus
thence holding the-sea, but now more-moderate, the-East-Wind
in Libycas egit sedes et castra Catonis.
to the-Libyan drove seats and the-camp of-Cato.
tristis, ut in multo mens est praesaga timore,
sad, as in much the-mind is foreboding fear,
aspexit patrios comites a litore Magnus
saw his-father's comrades from the-shore Magnus
et fratrem; medias praeceps tunc fertur in undas.
and his-brother; mid headlong then he-is-borne into waves.
'dic ubi sit, germane, parens; stat summa caputque
'tell where may-be, brother, our-father; stands the-summit and-head
orbis, an occidimus Romanaque Magnus ad umbras
of-the-world, or have-we-fallen and-Roman-things Magnus to the-shades
abstulit?' haec fatur; quem contra talia frater:
carried-off?' these-things he-speaks; whom in-reply such-things his-brother:
'o felix, quem sors alias dispersit in oras
'O happy, whom chance other has-scattered to shores

quique nefas audis: oculos, germane, nocentis
and-who the-abomination hear: my-eyes, brother, guilty
spectato genitore fero. non Caesaris armis
by-the-watched father I-bear. not by-Caesar's arms
occubuit dignoque perit auctore ruinae:
he-fell and-by-a-worthy perishes author of-ruin:
rege sub inpuro Nilotica rura tenente,
a-king under impure the-Nile's fields holding,
hospitii fretus superis et munere tanto
of-hospitality relying on-the-gods-above and on-the-gift so-great
in proauos, cecidit donati uictima regni.
to his-forefathers, he-fell of-the-given victim kingdom.
uidi ego magnanimi lacerantes pectora patris,
saw I of-great-souled tearing the-breast father,
nec credens Pharium tantum potuisse tyrannum
nor believing the-Pharian so-much to-have-been-able tyrant
litore Niliaco socerum iam stare putaui.
on-the-shore Nile's the-father-in-law already to-stand I-thought.
sed me nec sanguis nec tantum uolnera nostri
but me neither the-blood nor so-much the-wounds of-our
adfecere senis, quantum gestata per urbem
moved old-man, as-much-as carried through the-city
ora ducis, quae transfixo sublimia pilo
the-face of-the-leader, which on-a-pierced aloft javelin
uidimus: haec fama est oculis uictoris iniqui
we-saw: this the-report is for-the-eyes of-the-victor unjust
seruari, scelerisque fidem quaesisse tyrannum.
to-be-kept, and-of-the-crime proof to-have-sought the-tyrant.
nam corpus Phariaene canes auidaeque uolucres
for the-body whether-Pharian dogs and-greedy birds

distulerint, an furtiuus, quem uidimus, ignis
have-scattered, or a-stealthy, which we-saw, fire
soluerit, ignoro. quaecumque iniuria fati
has-dissolved, I-know-not. whatever injury of-fate
abstulit hos artus, superis haec crimina dono:
has-taken-away these limbs, to-the-gods-above these crimes I-forgive:
seruata de parte queror.' cum talia Magnus
the-kept about the-part I-complain.' when such-things Magnus
audisset, non in gemitus lacrimasque dolorem
had-heard, not into groans and-tears his-grief
effudit, iustaque furens pietate profatur
he-poured, and-with-just raging dutifulness speaks-out
'praecipitate rates e sicco litore, nautae;
'launch the-ships from the-dry shore, sailors;
classis in aduersos erumpat remige uentos.
the-fleet against opposing let-break-out with-the-rower winds.
ite, duces, mecum (nusquam ciuilibus armis
go, leaders, with-me (nowhere for-civil arms
tanta fuit merces) inhumatos condere manes,
so-great was reward) unburied to-bury ghosts,
sanguine semiuiri Magnum satiare tyranni.
with-the-blood of-the-half-man Magnus to-glut tyrant.
non ego Pellaeas arces adytisque retectum
not I the-Pellaean citadel and-from-the-shrine uncovered
corpus Alexandri pigra Mareotide mergam?
body of-Alexander in-sluggish Mareotis shall-sink?
non mihi pyramidum tumulis euolsus Amasis
not for-me from-the-pyramids' tombs torn-out Amasis
atque alii reges Nilo torrente natabunt?
and other kings on-the-Nile rushing will-swim?

omnia dent poenas nudo tibi, Magne, sepulchra.
all let-pay penalties to-bare you, Magnus, tombs.
euoluam busto iam numen gentibus Isim
I-will-roll-out from-the-pyre now a-divinity for-the-nations Isis
et tectum lino spargam per uolgus Osirim
and covered with-linen will-scatter through the-crowd Osiris
suppositisque deis uram caput. has mihi poenas
and-with-placed-under gods will-burn the-head. these to-me penalties
terra dabit: linquam uacuos cultoribus agros,
the-land will-give: I-will-leave empty of-cultivators the-fields,
nec, Nilus cui crescat, erit; solusque tenebis
nor, the-Nile for-whom may-rise, there-will-be; and-alone you-will-hold
Aegypton, genitor, populis superisque fugatis.'
Egypt, father, with-peoples and-with-gods-above put-to-flight.'
dixerat, et classem saeuus rapiebat in undas;
he-had-spoken, and the-fleet savage was-snatching into the-waves;
sed Cato laudatam iuuenis conpescuit iram.
but Cato the-praised of-the-youth restrained anger.

IX.4 · CATO'S EULOGY AND THE MUTINY

Cornelia burns Pompey's robes and insignia as his ashes. Cato praises the dead man: unequal to their ancestors in knowing the limits of right, but useful in his age, a lover of peace though armed, whose death has taken even the pretense of freedom. Then Tarcondimotus flees with his ships, and a soldier tells Cato that the cause is lost and they will go home to Caesar.

interea totis audito funere Magni
meanwhile on-all with-heard-of funeral of-Magnus
litoribus sonuit percussus planctibus aether,
shores resounded struck with-lamentations the-ether,

exemploque carens et nulli cognitus aeuo
and-of-precedent lacking and to-no known age
luctus erat, mortem populos deflere potentis.
the-mourning was, the-death the-peoples to-weep of-a-powerful-man.
sed magis, ut uisa est lacrimis exhausta, solutas
but more, when seen she-was with-tears exhausted, loosened
in uoltus effusa comas, Cornelia puppe
over her-face spreading her-hair, Cornelia from-the-ship
egrediens, rursus geminato uerbere plangunt.
going-out, again with-doubled blow they-beat-their-breasts.
ut primum in sociae peruenit litora terrae,
as soon-as to of-an-allied she-arrived the-shores land,
collegit uestes miserique insignia Magni
she-gathered the-garments and-of-wretched the-insignia Magnus
armaque et inpressas auro, quas gesserat olim,
and-arms and stamped with-gold, which he-had-worn once,
exuuias pictasque togas, uelamina summo
spoils and-embroidered togas, robes by-highest
ter conspecta Ioui, funestoque intulit igni.
thrice seen Jupiter, and-onto-a-funereal brought fire.
ille fuit miserae Magni cinis. accipit omnis
that was for-the-wretched-woman of-Magnus the-ash. receives every
exemplum pietas, et toto litore busta
the-example dutifulness, and on-whole shore pyres
surgunt Thessalicis reddentia manibus ignem.
rise to-the-Thessalian rendering ghosts fire.
sic, ubi depastis summittere gramina campis
so, when on-grazed-down to-send-up grass plains
et renouare parans hibernas Apulus herbas
and to-renew preparing the-wintry the-Apulian herbage

igne fouet terras, simul et Garganus et arua
with-fire warms the-lands, at-once both Garganus and the-fields
Volturis et calidi lucent buceta Matini.
of-Vultur and of-warm shine the-pastures Matinus.
non tamen ad Magni peruenit gratius umbras
not yet to of-Magnus came more-welcome the-shade
omne quod in superos audet conuicia uolgus
all that against the-gods-above dares reproaches the-crowd
Pompeiumque deis obicit, quam pauca Catonis
and-Pompey to-the-gods casts-up, than few of-Cato
uerba sed a pleno uenientia pectore ueri.
words but from full coming breast of-truth.
'ciuis obit' inquit 'multum maioribus inpar
'a-citizen has-died' he-says 'much than-our-ancestors unequal
nosse modum iuris, sed in hoc tamen utilis aeuo,
to-know the-limit of-right, but in this yet useful age,
cui non ulla fuit iusti reuerentia; salua
to-which not any was of-justice reverence; with-safe
libertate potens, et solus plebe parata
liberty powerful, and alone with-the-commons ready
priuatus seruire sibi, rectorque senatus,
a-private-man to-be-a-slave to-himself, and-the-ruler of-the-senate,
sed regnantis, erat. nil belli iure poposcit,
but of-a-reigning-one, he-was. nothing by-war's right he-demanded,
quaeque dari uoluit uoluit sibi posse negari.
and-what to-be-given he-wished he-wished to-himself to-be-able to-be-denied.
inmodicas possedit opes, sed plura retentis
immoderate he-possessed wealth, but more than-he-kept
intulit. inuasit ferrum, sed ponere norat.
he-brought-in. he-seized the-steel, but to-lay-it-down he-knew.

praetulit arma togae, sed pacem armatus amauit.
he-preferred arms to-the-toga, but peace armed he-loved.
iuuit sumpta ducem, iuuit dimissa potestas.
it-pleased taken-up the-leader, it-pleased laid-down power.
casta domus luxuque carens corruptaque numquam
chaste his-house and-of-luxury free and-corrupted never
fortuna domini. clarum et uenerabile nomen
by-the-fortune of-its-master. a-famous and venerable name
gentibus et multum nostrae quod proderat urbi.
to-the-nations and much to-our which profited city.
olim uera fides Sulla Marioque receptis
long-ago true the-faith with-Sulla and-Marius admitted
libertatis obit: Pompeio rebus adempto
of-liberty died: with-Pompey from-affairs removed
nunc et ficta perit. non iam regnare pudebit,
now even the-feigned perishes. not now to-reign it-will-shame,
nec color imperii nec frons erit ulla senatus.
nor the-color of-empire nor the-face will-be any of-the-senate.
o felix, cui summa dies fuit obuia uicto
O happy, to-whom the-last day was ready-to-meet the-conquered
et cui quaerendos Pharium scelus obtulit enses.
and to-whom to-be-sought the-Pharian crime offered swords.
forsitan in soceri potuisses uiuere regno.
perhaps under of-the-father-in-law you-might-have-been-able to-live kingship.
scire mori sors prima uiris, set proxima cogi.
to-know to-die the-lot first for-men, but the-next to-be-compelled.
et mihi, si fatis aliena in iura uenimus,
and for-me, if by-the-fates another's into rule we-come,
fac talem, Fortuna, Iubam; non deprecor hosti
make such, Fortune, Juba; not I-pray-against for-the-enemy

seruari, dum me seruet ceruice recisa.'
to-be-kept, provided me he-keep with-neck cut-off.'
uocibus his maior, quam si Romana sonarent
by-words these greater, than if the-Roman were-sounding
rostra ducis laudes, generosam uenit ad umbram
rostra the-leader's praises, the-noble came to shade
mortis honos. fremit interea discordia uolgi,
of-death the-honor. roars meanwhile the-discord of-the-crowd,
castrorum bellique piget post funera Magni;
of-the-camp and-of-war it-irks after the-funeral of-Magnus;
cum Tarcondimotus linquendi signa Catonis
when Tarcondimotus of-abandoning the-signals Cato
sustulit. hunc rapta fugientem classe secutus
raised. him with-snatched fleeing fleet having-followed
litus in extremum tali Cato uoce notauit:
the-shore to farthest with-such Cato voice branded:
'o numquam pacate Cilix, iterumne rapinas
'O never pacified Cilician, again plunderings
uadis in aequoreas? Magnum fortuna remouit,
do-you-go to sea? Magnus fortune has-removed,
iam pelago pirata redis.' tum respicit omnis
now to-the-sea a-pirate you-return.' then he-looks-back-at all
in coetu motuque uiros; quorum unus aperta
in assembly and-commotion the-men; of-whom one with-open
mente fugae tali conpellat uoce regentem:
mind for-flight with-such addresses voice the-commander:
'nos, Cato, da ueniam, Pompei duxit in arma,
'us, Cato, grant pardon, of-Pompey led to arms,
non belli ciuilis amor, partesque fauore
not of-war civil the-love, and-the-party out-of-favor

fecimus. ille iacet quem paci praetulit orbis,
we-made. he lies whom to-peace preferred the-world,
causaque nostra perit: patrios permitte penates
and-the-cause our perishes: our-father's allow household-gods
desertamque domum dulcesque reuisere natos.
and-the-deserted house and-the-sweet to-revisit children.
nam quis erit finis si nec Pharsalia pugnae
for what will-be the-end if neither Pharsalia of-battle
nec Pompeius erit? perierunt tempora uitae,
nor Pompey will-be? have-perished the-times of-life,
mors eat in tutum; iustas sibi nostra senectus
let-death go into safety; just for-itself our old-age
prospiciat flammas: bellum ciuile sepulchra
let-provide flames: war civil tombs
uix ducibus praestare potest. non barbara uictos
scarcely for-leaders to-supply can. not barbarian the-conquered
regna manent, non Armenium mihi saeua minatur
kingdoms await, not the-Armenian to-me savage threatens
aut Scythicum fortuna iugum: sub iura togati
or the-Scythian fortune yoke: under the-rule of-a-togaed
ciuis eo. quisquis Magno uiuente secundus,
citizen I-go. whoever with-Magnus living second,
hic mihi primus erit. sacris praestabitur umbris
this-one to-me first will-be. to-the-sacred will-be-paid shade
summus honor; dominum, quam clades cogit, habebo,
the-highest honor; a-master, whom the-disaster compels, I-shall-have,
nullum, Magne, ducem: te solum in bella secutus
no, Magnus, leader: you alone into wars having-followed
post te fata sequar; nec enim sperare secunda
after you the-fates I-will-follow; nor indeed to-hope-for success

fas mihi nec liceat. fortuna cuncta tenentur
right for-me nor may-it-be-allowed. by-the-fortune all-things are-held
Caesaris, Emathium sparsit uictoria ferrum;
of-Caesar, the-Emathian has-scattered victory steel;
clausa fides miseris, et toto solus in orbe est
shut-off is-refuge to-the-wretched, and whole alone in world he-is
qui uelit ac possit uictis praestare salutem.
who may-wish and can to-the-conquered to-grant safety.
Pompeio scelus est bellum ciuile peremptо,
with-Pompey a-crime is war civil slain,
quo fuerat uiuente fides. si publica iura,
which had-been with-him-living loyalty. if public rights,
si semper sequeris patriam, Cato, signa petamus
if always you-follow the-fatherland, Cato, the-standards let-us-seek
Romanus quae consul habet.' sic ille profatus
Roman which the-consul holds.' so he having-spoken
insiluit puppi iuuenum comitante tumultu.
leapt onto-the-ship with-the-young-men's accompanying uproar.

IX.5 · CATO RECALLS THE DESERTERS

Cato rebukes them: they fought for a master, not for Rome; let them go to Caesar and outdo Ptolemy's gift with Cornelia, the Pompeys, and Cato's own head. His words bring them back like bees called by bronze. He sets them to toil, takes Cyrene, and resolves to march to Juba's kingdom through the Syrtes, which the poet describes as a place left between sea and land.

actum Romanis fuerat de rebus, et omnis
done for-the-Romans it-had-been with affairs, and all
indiga seruitii feruebat litore plebes:
in-want of-slavery was-seething on-the-shore the-commons:

erupere ducis sacro de pectore uoces.
burst-out the-leader's sacred from breast words.
'ergo pari uoto gessisti bella, iuuentus,
'so with-equal prayer you-waged wars, youth,
tu quoque pro dominis, et Pompeiana fuisti
you too for masters, and Pompeian you-were
non Romana manus? quod non in regna laboras,
not Roman a-band? because not for kingship you-toil,
quod tibi, non ducibus, uiuis morerisque, quod orbem
because for-yourself, not for-leaders, you-live and-die, because the-world
adquiris nulli, quod iam tibi uincere tutum est,
you-acquire for-no-one, because now for-you to-conquer safe it-is,
bella fugis quaerisque iugum ceruice uacanti
wars you-flee and-seek a-yoke with-neck free
et nescis sine rege pati. nunc causa pericli
and know-not without a-king to-endure. now a-cause of-danger
digna uiris. potuit uestro Pompeius abuti
worthy of-men. could your Pompey to-misuse
sanguine: nunc patriae iugulos ensesque negatis,
blood: now to-the-fatherland your-throats and-swords do-you-deny,
cum prope libertas? unum fortuna reliquit
when near is-liberty? one fortune has-left
iam tribus e dominis. pudeat: plus regia Nili
now three from masters. let-it-shame-you: more the-court of-the-Nile
contulit in leges et Parthi militis arcus.
has-contributed toward the-laws and of-the-Parthian soldier the-bow.
ite, o degeneres, Ptolemaei munus et arma
go, O degenerate, of-Ptolemy the-gift and arms
spernite. quis uestras ulla putet esse nocentes
spurn. who your by-any would-think to-be guilty

caede manus? credet faciles sibi terga dedisse,
slaughter hands? he-will-believe easy to-himself the-backs to-have-given,
credet ab Emathiis primos fugisse Philippis.
he-will-believe from Emathian first to-have-fled Philippi.
uadite securi; meruistis indice uitam
go untroubled; you-have-earned with-judge your-life
Caesare non armis, non obsidione subacti.
Caesar not by-arms, not by-siege subdued.
o famuli turpes, domini post fata prioris
O servants base, of-the-master after the-fates former
itis ad heredem. cur non maiora mereri
you-go to the-heir. why not greater-things to-earn
quam uitam ueniamque libet? rapiatur in undas
than life and-pardon pleases-you? let-be-snatched into the-waves
infelix coniunx Magni prolesque Metelli,
the-unlucky wife of-Magnus and-the-offspring of-Metellus,
ducite Pompeios, Ptolemaei uincite munus.
lead the-Pompeys, Ptolemy's outdo gift.
nostra quoque inuiso quisquis feret ora tyranno
my too to-the-hated whoever shall-carry head tyrant
non parua mercede dabit: sciat ista iuuentus
not with-small reward will-give: let-know that youth
ceruicis pretio bene se mea signa secutam.
of-the-neck at-the-price well itself my standards to-have-followed.
quin agite et magna meritum cum caede parate:
nay come and great a-deserving with slaughter prepare:
ignauum scelus est tantum fuga.' dixit, et omnes
a-cowardly crime is only flight.' he-spoke, and all
haud aliter medio reuocauit ab aequore puppes
not otherwise the-middle he-recalled from sea ships

quam, simul effetas linquunt examina ceras
than, at-once-when exhausted leave the-swarms combs
atque oblita faui non miscent nexibus alas
and forgetful of-the-honeycomb not join in-clusters wings
sed sibi quaeque uolat nec iam degustat amarum
but for-itself each flies nor now tastes bitter
desidiosa thymum, Phrygii sonus increpat aeris,
idle thyme, of-Phrygian the-sound rebukes bronze,
attonitae posuere fugam studiumque laboris
astounded they-have-set-aside their-flight and-the-zeal of-the-toil
floriferi repetunt et sparsi mellis amorem:
flowery seek-again and of-scattered honey the-love:
gaudet in Hyblaeo securus gramine pastor
rejoices on Hyblaean untroubled grass the-shepherd
diuitias seruasse casae. sic uoce Catonis
the-riches to-have-kept of-his-hut. so by-the-voice of-Cato
inculcata uiris iusti patientia Martis.
was-impressed on-the-men of-just endurance Mars.
iamque actu belli non doctas ferre quietem
and-now by-the-action of-war not taught to-bear rest
constituit mentes serieque agitare laborum.
he-resolves minds and-with-a-series to-keep-busy of-toils.
primum litoreis miles lassatur harenis.
first on-the-shore the-soldier is-wearied sands.
proximus in muros et moenia Cyrenarum
next against the-walls and ramparts of-Cyrene
est labor: exclusus nulla se uindicat ira,
is the-toil: shut-out by-no himself he-avenges anger,
poenaque de uictis sola est uicisse Catoni.
and-the-penalty from the-conquered only is to-have-conquered for-Cato.

inde peti placuit Libyci contermina Mauris
thence to-be-sought it-pleased of-the-Libyan bordering the-Moors
regna Iubae, sed iter mediis natura uetabat
kingdom Juba, but the-way in-the-middle nature forbade
Syrtibus: hanc audax sperat sibi cedere uirtus.
Syrtes: this bold hopes to-itself to-yield valor.
Syrtes uel, primam mundo natura figuram
the-Syrtes either, her-first to-the-world nature shape
cum daret, in dubio pelagi terraeque reliquit
when she-was-giving, in doubt of-sea and-land left
(nam neque subsedit penitus, quo stagna profundi
(for neither sank-down deeply, so-that the-pools of-the-deep
acciperet, nec se defendit ab aequore tellus,
it-might-receive, nor itself defended from the-sea the-land,
ambigua sed lege loci iacet inuia sedes,
by-ambiguous but law of-the-place lies a-trackless seat,
aequora fracta uadis abruptaque terra profundo,
seas broken by-shoals and-broken land by-the-deep,
et post multa sonant proiecti litora fluctus:
and after many sound thrown-forward shores waves:
sic male deseruit nullosque exegit in usus
so ill has-abandoned and-no exacted for uses
hanc partem natura sui); uel plenior alto
this part nature of-herself); or fuller with-the-deep
olim Syrtis erat pelago penitusque natabat,
once the-Syrtis was sea and-deeply swam,
sed rapidus Titan ponto sua lumina pascens
but the-swift Titan on-the-sea his lights feeding
aequora subduxit zonae uicina perustae;
the-waters drew-off of-the-zone near scorched;

et nunc pontus adhuc Phoebo siccante repugnat,
and now the-sea still with-Phoebus drying resists,
mox, ubi damnosum radios admouerit aeuum,
soon, when ruinous rays shall-have-brought-to time,
tellus Syrtis erit; nam iam breuis unda superne
land the-Syrtis will-be; for already shallow water on-top
innatat et late periturum deficit aequor.
swims and widely going-to-perish fails sea.

IX.6 · THE SYRTES AND THE MARCH

As the fleet sails, a South Wind storm drives it onto the shoals; some ships run aground and hang half in the water, sailors stand on mounds of dry sand out at sea, and the rest reach the marsh of Triton, beloved of Pallas, near the river Lethon and the stripped garden of the Hesperides. The fleet holds the coast under Gnaeus, while Cato, impatient of delay, dares to lead the army by land around the Syrtes in winter.

ut primum remis actum mare propulit omne
as soon-as with-oars driven the-sea pushed-forward whole
classis onus, densis fremuit niger imbribus Auster.
of-the-fleet the-burden, with-thick roared black rains the-South-Wind.
in sua regna furens temptatum classibus aequor
into its-own realm raging the-attempted by-fleets sea
turbine defendit longeque a Syrtibus undas
with-a-whirlwind it-defended and-far from the-Syrtes the-waves
egit et inlato confregit litore pontum.
drove and with-the-brought-against shattered shore the-sea.
tum, quarum recto deprendit carbasa malo,
then, of-which on-upright it-caught the-canvas mast,

eripuit nautis, frustraque rudentibus ausis
it-snatched from-the-sailors, and-in-vain with-the-ropes having-dared
uela negare Noto spatium uicere carinae,
the-sails to-deny to-the-South-Wind the-space conquered the-ships,
atque ultra proram tumuit sinus. omnia siquis
and beyond the-prow swelled the-sail. all if-anyone
prouidus antemnae suffixit lintea summae,
foreseeing to-the-yard fastened the-linens top,
uincitur et nudis auertitur armamentis.
he-is-conquered and with-bare is-turned-aside rigging.
sors melior classi quae fluctibus incidit altis
the-lot better for-the-fleet which onto-the-waves fell deep
et certo iactata mari. quaecumque leuatae
and on-sure tossed sea. whichever lightened
arboribus caesis flatum effudere prementem,
with-masts cut-down the-blast poured-out pressing,
abstulit has liber uentis contraria uoluens
carried-off these free to-the-winds opposite rolling
aestus et obnixum uictor detrusit in Austrum.
the-tide and the-resisting victorious thrust-down into the-South.
has uada destituunt, atque interrupta profundo
these the-shoals strand, and interrupted by-the-deep
terra ferit puppes, dubioque obnoxia fato
land strikes the-ships, and-to-doubtful exposed fate
pars sedet una ratis, pars altera pendet in undis.
part sits one of-the-ship, part other hangs in the-waves.
tum magis inpactis breuius mare terraque saepe
then more for-the-struck shallower the-sea and-land often
obuia consurgens: quamuis elisus ab Austro,
in-the-way rising: although forced-out by the-South-Wind,

saepe tamen cumulos fluctus non uincit harenae.
often yet the-heaps the-wave not overcomes of-sand.
eminet in tergo pelagi procul omnibus aruis
stands-out on the-back of-the-sea far from-all fields
inuiolatus aqua sicci iam pulueris agger;
unviolated by-water of-dry already dust a-mound;
stant miseri nautae, terraeque haerente carina
stand wretched sailors, and-to-the-land with-clinging keel
litora nulla uident. sic partem intercipit aequor,
shores no they-see. so a-part intercepts the-sea,
pars ratium maior regimen clauumque secuta est
the-part of-the-ships greater the-helm and-the-tiller followed has
tuta fuga, nautasque loci sortita peritos
in-safe flight, and-sailors of-the-place having-gotten skilled
torpentem Tritonos adit inlaesa paludem.
the-sluggish of-Triton approaches unharmed marsh.
hanc, ut fama, deus quem toto litore pontus
this, as the-report, the-god whom on-whole shore the-sea
audit uentosa perflantem marmora concha,
hears the-windy blowing-through waters with-conch,
hanc et Pallas amat, patrio quae uertice nata
this also Pallas loves, from-her-father's who head born
terrarum primam Libyen (nam proxima caelo est,
of-the-lands first Libya (for nearest to-the-sky it-is,
ut probat ipse calor) tetigit, stagnique quieta
as proves itself the-heat) touched, and-of-the-pool in-calm
uoltus uidit aqua posuitque in margine plantas
her-face saw water and-placed on the-edge her-soles
et se dilecta Tritonida dixit ab unda.
and herself beloved Tritonis called from water.

quam iuxta Lethon tacitus praelabitur amnis,
which near Lethon silent glides-past stream,
infernis, ut fama, trahens obliuia uenis,
from-infernal, as the-report, drawing forgetfulness veins,
atque, insopiti quondam tutela draconis,
and, of-sleepless once the-guard of-a-dragon,
Hesperidum pauper spoliatis frondibus hortus.
of-the-Hesperides poor with-stripped leaves garden.
inuidus, annoso qui famam derogat aeuo,
envious-he, from-aged who fame takes-away antiquity,
qui uates ad uera uocat. fuit aurea silua
who poets to truth calls. there-was a-golden wood
diuitiisque graues et fuluo germine rami
and-with-riches heavy and with-tawny buds branches
uirgineusque chorus, nitidi custodia luci,
and-a-maiden chorus, of-the-shining guardians grove,
et numquam somno damnatus lumina serpens
and never by-sleep condemned in-its-eyes the-serpent
robora conplexus rutilo curuata metallo.
trunks embracing with-ruddy bent metal.
abstulit arboribus pretium nemorique laborem
took-away from-the-trees the-prize and-from-the-grove the-toil
Alcides, passusque inopes sine pondere ramos
Alcides, and-allowing poor without weight the-branches
rettulit Argolico fulgentia poma tyranno.
brought-back to-the-Argive gleaming apples tyrant.
his igitur depulsa locis eiectaque classis
from-these therefore driven-off places and-thrown-out the-fleet
Syrtibus haut ultra Garamantidas attigit undas,
from-the-Syrtes not further Garamantian touched waves,

sed duce Pompeio Libyae melioris in oris
but with-leader Pompey of-Libya better on shores
mansit. at inpatiens uirtus haerere Catonis
remained. but impatient the-valor to-stay of-Cato
audet in ignotas agmen committere gentes
dares to unknown its-column to-entrust nations
armorum fidens et terra cingere Syrtim.
in-arms trusting and by-land to-go-round Syrtis.
hoc eadem suadebat hiemps quae clauserat aequor;
this the-same advised winter which had-closed the-sea;
et spes imber erat nimios metuentibus ignes,
and hope rain was excessive for-those-fearing fires,
ut neque sole uiam nec duro frigore saeuam
that neither with-sun the-way nor with-hard cold savage
inde polo Libyes, hinc bruma temperet annus.
on-that-side the-pole of-Libya, on-this the-winter might-temper the-year.

IX.7 · INTO THE DESERT

Cato tells his men that the road leads through barren sands and serpents to liberty; let those come who need no promise of safety, for he will go first and suffer first. They march into Libya, whose geography the poet describes: a third of the world or part of Europe, fertile only in the west, rich in citron wood, and around the Syrtes a dead land where only the Nasamonians live by plundering wrecks. A South Wind storm sweeps the sands, tearing down the Garamantes' huts and lifting dust as high as smoke.

atque ingressurus steriles sic fatur harenas:
and going-to-enter the-barren so he-speaks sands:
'o quibus una salus placuit mea castra secutis
'O to-whom one safety has-pleased my camp having-followed

indomita ceruice mori, conponite mentes
with-untamed neck to-die, compose your-minds
ad magnum uirtutis opus summosque labores.
for a-great of-valor work and-the-highest toils.
uadimus in campos steriles exustaque mundi,
we-go into plains barren and-the-scorched-parts of-the-world,
qua nimius Titan et rarae in fontibus undae,
where too-great the-Titan and rare in the-springs waters,
siccaque letiferis squalent serpentibus arua.
and-dry with-deadly are-foul serpents fields.
durum iter ad leges patriaeque ruentis amorem.
hard the-way to the-laws and-of-the-fatherland falling the-love.
per mediam Libyen ueniant atque inuia temptent,
through the-middle of-Libya let-them-come and the-pathless let-them-try,
siquibus in nullo positum est euadere uoto,
if-to-any in no placed is to-escape prayer,
siquibus ire sat est. neque enim mihi fallere quemquam
if-to-any to-go enough is. nor indeed for-me to-deceive anyone
est animus tectoque metu perducere uolgus.
is the-intent and-with-covered fear to-lead-through the-crowd.
hi mihi sint comites, quos ipsa pericula ducent,
these to-me let-be comrades, whom the-very dangers will-lead,
qui me teste pati uel quae tristissima pulchrum
who with-me as-witness to-suffer even what-things are-saddest noble
Romanumque putant. at, qui sponsore salutis
and-Roman think. but, who of-a-guarantor of-safety
miles eget capiturque animae dulcedine, uadat
as-a-soldier needs and-is-taken of-life by-the-sweetness, let-him-go
ad dominum meliore uia. dum primus harenas
to a-master by-a-better road. while first the-sands

ingrediar primusque gradus in puluere ponam,
I-shall-enter and-first my-steps in the-dust shall-place,
me calor aetherius feriat, mihi plena ueneno
me let-the-heat ethereal strike, to-me full with-poison
occurrat serpens, fatoque pericula uestra
let-meet the-serpent, and-by-fate the-dangers your
praetemptate meo. sitiat quicumque bibentem
test-beforehand my. let-him-thirst whoever me-drinking
uiderit, aut umbras nemorum quicumque petentem
shall-have-seen, or the-shades of-the-groves whoever me-seeking
aestuet, aut equitem peditum praecedere turmas
let-him-swelter, or a-horseman of-the-infantry going-ahead-of the-squadrons
deficiat: siquo fuerit discrimine notum
let-him-fail: if-by-any shall-have-been distinction known
dux an miles eam. serpens, sitis, ardor harenae
leader or soldier I-go. serpent, thirst, the-heat of-the-sand
dulcia uirtuti; gaudet patientia duris;
sweet-things to-valor; rejoices endurance in-hardships;
laetius est, quotiens magno sibi constat, honestum.
more-joyful it-is, as-often-as at-great to-itself it-costs, the-honorable.
sola potest Libye turba praestare malorum
alone can Libya a-throng to-show of-evils
ut deceat fugisse uiros.' sic ille pauentis
that may-befit to-have-fled men.' so he of-the-fearing
incendit uirtute animos et amore laborum,
kindles with-valor the-spirits and with-love of-toils,
inreducemque uiam deserto limite carpit;
and-of-no-return the-road on-a-deserted track he-takes;
et sacrum paruo nomen clausura sepulchro
and the-sacred in-a-small name going-to-enclose tomb

inuasit Libye securi fata Catonis.
seized Libya of-the-untroubled the-fates Cato.

tertia pars rerum Libye, si credere famae
third part of-the-world Libya, if to-trust to-fame

cuncta uelis; at, si uentos caelumque sequaris,
all-things you-wish; but, if the-winds and-sky you-follow,

pars erit Europae. nec enim plus litora Nili
part it-will-be of-Europe. nor indeed more the-shores of-the-Nile

quam Scythicus Tanais primis a Gadibus absunt,
than the-Scythian Tanais the-first from Gades are-distant,

unde Europa fugit Libyen et litora flexu
whence Europe flees Libya and the-shores by-their-bend

Oceano fecere locum; sed maior in unam
to-Ocean have-made room; but greater into one

orbis abit Asiam. nam, cum communiter istae
of-the-world goes Asia. for, while in-common these

effundant Zephyrum, Boreae latus illa sinistrum
pour-out Zephyr, of-Boreas the-side it the-left

contingens dextrumque Noti discedit in ortus
touching and-the-right of-Notus departs into the-risings

Eurum sola tenens. Libycae quod fertile terraest
Eurus alone holding. of-the-Libyan what fertile land-is

uergit in occasus; sed et haec non fontibus ullis
inclines toward the-settings; but even this not by-springs any

soluitur: Arctoos raris Aquilonibus imbres
is-loosened: northern by-rare North-Winds rains

accipit et nostris reficit sua rura serenis.
it-receives and with-our refreshes its-own fields clear-skies.

in nullas uitiatur opes; non aere nec auro
for no it-is-corrupted wealth; not for-bronze nor for-gold

excoquitur, nullo glaebarum crimine pura
it-is-smelted, by-no of-clods guilt pure
et penitus terra est. tantum Maurusia genti
and deeply earth it-is. only Mauretanian for-the-nation
robora diuitiae, quarum non nouerat usum,
the-timbers were-riches, of-which not it-had-known the-use,
sed citri contenta comis uiuebat et umbra.
but of-the-citron content with-the-foliage it-lived and shade.
in nemus ignotum nostrae uenere secures,
into the-grove unknown our have-come axes,
extremoque epulas mensasque petimus ab orbe.
and-the-farthest feasts and-tables we-seek from world.
at, quaecumque uagam Syrtim conplectitur ora
but, whatever wandering Syrtis embraces the-coast
sub nimio proiecta die, uicina perusti
under too-much thrown-forward day, neighboring of-scorched
aetheris, exurit messes et puluere Bacchum
ether, it-burns the-crops and with-dust Bacchus
enecat et nulla putris radice tenetur.
kills and by-no crumbling root is-held.
temperies uitalis abest, et nulla sub illa
temperateness life-giving is-absent, and no under that
cura Iouis terra est; natura deside torpet
care of-Jupiter land is; nature with-idle is-numb
orbis et inmotis annum non sentit harenis.
of-the-world and with-unmoved the-year not feels sands.
hoc tam segne solum raras tamen exerit herbas,
this so sluggish soil rare yet puts-forth herbs,
quas Nasamon, gens dura, legit, qui proxima ponto
which the-Nasamonian, a-race hard, gathers, who nearest to-the-sea

nudus rura tenet; quem mundi barbara damnis
naked fields holds; whom of-the-world barbarian with-the-losses
Syrtis alit. nam litoreis populator harenis
Syrtis feeds. for on-the-shore a-plunderer sands
inminet et nulla portus tangente carina
he-looms and with-no the-harbor touching ship
nouit opes: sic cum toto commercia mundo
knows wealth: so with whole commerce world
naufragiis Nasamones habent. hac ire Catonem
by-shipwrecks the-Nasamonians have. this-way to-go Cato
dura iubet uirtus. illic secura iuuentus
hard bids valor. there untroubled youth
uentorum nullasque timens tellure procellas
of-winds and-no fearing on-land storms
aequoreos est passa metus. nam litore sicco,
sea's has suffered fears. for on-shore dry,
quam pelago, Syrtis uiolentius excipit Austrum,
than on-sea, Syrtis more-violently receives the-South-Wind,
et terrae magis ille nocens. non montibus ortum
and to-the-land more it harmful. not by-mountains arisen
aduersis frangit Libye scopulisque repulsum
opposing breaks Libya and-by-crags repelled
dissipat et liquidas e turbine soluit in auras,
scatters and clear from the-whirlwind dissolves into breezes,
nec ruit in siluas annosaque robora torquens
nor rushes into forests and-aged oaks twisting
lassatur: patet omne solum, liberque meatu
is-wearied: lies-open all the-soil, and-free in-its-course
Aeoliam rabiem totis exercet harenis,
Aeolian madness on-whole exercises sands,

et non imbriferam contorto puluere nubem
and not rain-bearing with-twisted dust a-cloud
in flexum uiolentus agit: pars plurima terrae
into a-spiral violent drives: part greatest of-the-land
tollitur et numquam resoluto uertice pendet.
is-raised and never with-loosened whirl hangs.
regna uidet pauper Nasamon errantia uento
kingdoms sees the-poor Nasamonian wandering on-the-wind
discussasque domos, uolitantque a culmine raptae
and-shattered houses, and-fly from the-roof snatched
detecto Garamante casae. non altius ignis
with-uncovered Garamantian huts. not higher fire
rapta uehit; quantumque licet consurgere fumo
snatched-things carries; and-as-much-as it-is-allowed to-rise for-smoke
et uiolare diem, tantus tenet aera puluis.
and to-violate the-day, so-much holds the-air dust.

IX.8 · AMMON

The storm strikes the column, buries the men, and carries their shields into the sky. Then thirst: a soldier brings Cato water in his helmet, and Cato dashes it to the ground rather than drink alone. They reach the poor temple of Jupiter Hammon, set in the only grove of Libya, where the midsummer sun stands overhead and leaves almost no shadow; the poet describes how the stars look from there.

tum quoque Romanum solito uiolentior agmen
then too the-Roman than-usual more-violent column
adgreditur, nullisque potest consistere miles
it-attacks, and-on-no can to-stand the-soldier
instabilis, raptis etiam quas calcat, harenis.
unsteady, with-snatched even which he-treads, sands.

concuteret terras orbemque a sede moueret,
it-would-shake the-lands and-the-world from its-seat would-move,
si solida Libye conpage et pondere duro
if with-solid Libya structure and weight hard
clauderet exesis Austrum scopulosa cauernis;
were-shutting-in with-hollowed the-South-Wind rocky caverns;
sed, quia mobilibus facilis turbatur harenis,
but, because with-mobile easily it-is-stirred sands,
nusquam luctando stabilis manet, imaque tellus
nowhere by-struggling stable it-remains, and-the-lowest earth
stat, quia summa fugit. galeas et scuta uirorum
stands, because the-top flees. helmets and shields of-the-men
pilaque contorsit uiolento spiritus actu
and-javelins whirled with-violent the-blast drive
intentusque tulit magni per inania caeli.
and-intent carried of-the-great through the-voids sky.
illud in extrema forsan longeque remota
that in a-farthest perhaps and-far remote
prodigium tellure fuit, delapsaque caelo
a-portent land was, and-fallen from-the-sky
arma timent gentes hominumque erepta lacertis
arms fear nations and-from-men snatched arms
a superis demissa putant. sic illa profecto
from the-gods-above sent-down they-think. so those surely
sacrifico cecidere Numae, quae lecta iuuentus
to-sacrificing fell Numa, which chosen youth
patricia ceruice mouet: spoliauerat Auster
on-patrician neck moves: had-robbed the-South-Wind
aut Boreas populos ancilia nostra ferentes.
or Boreas peoples the-shields our carrying.

sic orbem torquente Noto Romana iuuentus
so with-the-world twisting South-Wind the-Roman youth
procubuit timuitque rapi; constrinxit amictus
lay-down and-feared to-be-snatched; they-tightened their-garments
inseruitque manus terrae nec pondere solo
and-thrust-in their-hands into-the-earth nor by-weight alone
sed nisu iacuit, uix sic inmobilis Austro;
but by-effort lay, scarcely so unmoved by-the-South-Wind;
qui super ingentis cumulos inuoluit harenae
which over-them huge heaps rolled of-sand
atque operit tellure uiros. uix tollere miles
and covers with-earth the-men. scarcely to-raise the-soldier
membra ualet multo congestu pulueris haerens.
his-limbs is-able by-much heap of-dust clinging.
alligat et stantis adfusae magnus harenae
binds also those-standing of-poured-on a-great sand
agger, et inmoti terra surgente tenentur.
mound, and unmoved with-the-earth rising they-are-held.
saxa tulit penitus discussis proruta muris
stones it-carried deeply from-shattered torn-down walls
effuditque procul miranda sorte malorum:
and-poured-them-out far-off by-wondrous lot of-evils:
qui nullas uidere domos uidere ruinas.
those-who no saw houses saw ruins.
iamque iter omne latet nec sunt discrimina terrae:
and-now the-route whole lies-hidden nor are there-marks of-land:
sideribus nouere uiam; nec sidera tota
by-the-stars they-knew the-way; nor the-stars whole
ostendit Libycae finitor circulus orae,
shows of-the-Libyan the-horizon circle shore,

multaque deuexo terrarum margine celat.
and-many by-the-sloping of-the-lands edge it-hides.
utque calor soluit quem torserat aera uentus,
and-when the-heat loosened which had-twisted the-air the-wind,
incensusque dies, manant sudoribus artus,
and-kindled was-the-day, drip with-sweat the-limbs,
arent ora siti. conspecta est parua maligna
are-parched the-mouths with-thirst. seen was small with-grudging
unda procul uena, quam uix e puluere miles
water far-off vein, which scarcely from the-dust a-soldier
corripiens patulum galeae confudit in orbem
snatching the-wide of-his-helmet poured into orb
porrexitque duci. squalebant puluere fauces
and-held-out to-the-leader. were-foul with-dust the-throats
cunctorum, minimumque tenens dux ipse liquoris
of-all, and-the-least holding the-leader himself of-liquid
inuidiosus erat. 'mene' inquit 'degener unum
envied was. 'me' he-says 'degenerate one
miles in hac turba uacuum uirtute putasti?
soldier in this throng empty of-valor have-you-thought?
usque adeo mollis primisque caloribus inpar
so far soft and-to-the-first heats unequal
sum uisus? quanto poena tu dignior ista es,
have-I seemed? by-how-much of-penalty you more-worthy that are,
qui populo sitiente bibas!' sic concitus ira
who with-the-people thirsting should-drink!" so roused by-anger
excussit galeam, suffecitque omnibus unda.
he-dashed-out the-helmet, and-sufficed for-all the-water.
uentum erat ad templum Libycis quod gentibus unum
come it-was to the-temple for-the-Libyan which nations one

inculti Garamantes habent. stat sortiger illic
the-uncouth Garamantes have. stands oracle-giving there
Iuppiter, ut memorant, sed non aut fulmina uibrans
Jupiter, as they-relate, but not either thunderbolts brandishing
aut similis nostro, sed tortis cornibus Hammon.
or like ours, but with-twisted horns Hammon.
non illic Libycae posuerunt ditia gentes
not there Libyan have-set rich the-nations
templa, nec Eois splendent donaria gemmis:
temples, nor with-Eastern shine offerings gems:
quamuis Aethiopum populis Arabumque beatis
although for-the-Ethiopians' peoples and-of-the-Arabs blessed
gentibus atque Indis unus sit Iuppiter Hammon,
nations and the-Indians one is Jupiter Hammon,
pauper adhuc deus est, nullis uiolata per aeuum
poor still a-god he-is, by-no violated through the-age
diuitiis delubra tenens, morumque priorum
riches shrines holding, and-of-ways former
numen Romano templum defendit ab auro.
a-divinity Roman the-temple he-defends from gold.
esse locis superos testatur silua per omnem
to-be in-the-places the-gods-above bears-witness a-grove through whole
sola uirens Libyen. nam quidquid puluere sicco
alone green Libya. for whatever with-dust dry
separat ardentem tepida Berenicida Lepti
separates the-burning from-warm Berenicis Leptis
ignorat frondes: solus nemus abstulit Hammon.
knows-not leaves: alone a-grove has-carried-off Hammon.
siluarum fons causa loco, qui putria terrae
of-the-woods a-spring the-cause for-the-place, which the-crumbling of-the-earth

alligat et domitas unda conectit harenas.
binds and the-tamed with-water joins sands.
hic quoque nil obstat Phoebo, cum cardine summo
here too nothing obstructs of-Phoebus, when at-the-pivot highest
stat librata dies; truncum uix protegit arbor,
stands balanced the-day; the-trunk scarcely protects the-tree,
tam breuis in medium radiis conpellitur umbra.
so short into the-middle by-the-rays is-driven the-shadow.
deprensum est hunc esse locum qua circulus alti
detected it-has-been this to-be the-place where the-circle of-the-high
solstitii medium signorum percutit orbem.
solstice the-middle of-the-signs strikes orb.
at tibi, quaecumque es Libyco gens igne dirempta,
but for-you, whatever you-are by-the-Libyan nation fire cut-off,
in Noton umbra cadit, quae nobis exit in Arcton.
toward the-South the-shadow falls, which for-us goes toward the-North.
te segnis Cynosura subit, tu sicca profundo
you the-sluggish Cynosura goes-under, you dry into-the-deep
mergi Plaustra putas, nullumque in uertice semper
to-be-sunk the-Wain think, and-no on the-height always
sidus habes inmune mari; procul axis uterque est,
star you-have exempt from-the-sea; far each axis is,
et fuga signorum medio rapit omnia caelo.
and the-flight of-the-signs in-the-middle sweeps all-things sky.
non obliqua meant, nec Tauro Scorpios exit
not slanting move, nor than-the-Bull the-Scorpion goes-out
rectior aut Aries donat sua tempora Librae
straighter or the-Ram gives his times to-the-Scales
aut Astraea iubet lentos descendere Pisces.
or Astraea bids slow to-descend the-Fishes.

par Geminis Chiron, et idem, quod Carcinos ardens,
equal to-the-Twins Chiron, and the-same, as Cancer burning,
umidus Aegoceros nec plus Leo tollitur Urna.
moist Capricorn nor more Leo is-raised than-Aquarius.

IX.9 · CATO REFUSES THE ORACLE

The peoples of the East wait before the temple, and Labienus urges Cato to ask the god about Caesar and Rome's fate. Cato answers that he needs no oracle: a virtuous man knows that death is certain, that valor is enough, and that god dwells in earth, sea, sky, and virtue; Jupiter is whatever you see. He leaves the oracle unasked and leads the march on foot, drinking last; the poet calls him the true father of his country. At a spring guarded by asps, Cato tells the men that a serpent's poison harms only in the bite, and drinks first.

stabant ante fores populi quos miserat Eos
were-standing before the-doors peoples whom had-sent the-East
cornigerique Iouis monitu noua fata petebant;
and-of-horned Jupiter by-the-warning new fates were-seeking;
sed Latio cessere duci, comitesque Catonem
but to-the-Latin they-yielded leader, and-the-comrades Cato
orant exploret Libycum memorata per orbem
beg that-he-explore Libyan renowned through world
numina, de fama tam longi iudicet aeui.
the-divinity, about the-fame of-so long let-him-judge age.
maximus hortator scrutandi uoce deorum
greatest urger of-searching-out by-the-voice of-the-gods
euentus Labienus erat. 'sors obtulit' inquit
the-outcome Labienus was. 'chance has-offered' he-says
'et fortuna uiae tam magni numinis ora
'and the-fortune of-the-road of-so great a-divinity the-mouth

consiliumque dei: tanto duce possumus uti
and-counsel of-the-god: so-great as-guide we-can to-use
per Syrtes, bellisque datos cognoscere casus.
through the-Syrtes, and-to-the-wars given to-learn chances.
nam cui crediderim superos arcana daturos
for to-whom would-I-believe the-gods-above secrets going-to-give
dicturosque magis, quam sancto, uera, Catoni?
and-going-to-speak more, than to-holy, true-things, Cato?
certe uita tibi semper derecta supernas
surely life for-you always directed to-the-upper
ad leges, sequerisque deum. datur, ecce, loquendi
toward laws, and-you-follow god. is-given, look, of-speaking
cum Ioue libertas: inquire in fata nefandi
with Jupiter freedom: inquire into the-fates of-unspeakable
Caesaris et patriae uenturos excute mores.
Caesar and of-the-fatherland coming shake-out the-ways.
iure suo populis uti legumque licebit,
by-right their-own the-peoples to-use and-of-the-laws will-it-be-allowed,
an bellum ciuile perit? tua pectora sacra
or war civil perishes? your breast with-sacred
uoce reple; durae saltem uirtutis amator
voice fill; of-hard at-least valor lover
quaere quid est uirtus et posce exemplar honesti.'
ask what is valor and demand a-pattern of-the-honorable.'
ille deo plenus tacita quem mente gerebat
he with-the-god full whom in-silent mind he-was-carrying
effudit dignas adytis e pectore uoces.
poured-out worthy of-the-sbrine from his-breast words.
'quid quaeri, Labiene, iubes? an liber in armis
'what to-be-asked, Labienus, do-you-bid? whether free in arms

occubuisse uelim potius quam regna uidere?
to-have-fallen I-would-wish rather than kingship to-see?
an sit uita nihil sed longa an differat aetas?
whether be life nothing but long whether it-makes-a-difference age?
an noceat uis nulla bono fortunaque perdat
whether can-harm force any the-good and-fortune lose
opposita uirtute minas, laudandaque uelle
with-opposed valor her-threats, and-praiseworthy-things to-wish
sit satis et numquam successu crescat honestum?
be enough and never by-success grows the-honorable?
scimus, et hoc nobis non altius inseret Hammon.
we-know, and this in-us not deeper will-plant Hammon.
haeremus cuncti superis, temploque tacente
we-cling all to-the-gods-above, and-with-the-temple silent
nil facimus non sponte dei; nec uocibus ullis
nothing we-do not by-the-will of-god; nor of-words any
numen eget, dixitque semel nascentibus auctor
divinity needs, and-said once to-those-being-born the-author
quidquid scire licet. sterilesne elegit harenas
whatever to-know is-allowed. barren did-he-choose sands
ut caneret paucis, mersitque hoc puluere uerum,
that he-might-sing to-a-few, and-sank in-this dust the-truth,
estque dei sedes nisi terra et pontus et aer
and-is of-god a-seat except earth and sea and air
et caelum et uirtus? superos quid quaerimus ultra?
and sky and valor? the-gods-above why do-we-seek further?
Iuppiter est quodcumque uides, quodcumque moueris.
Jupiter is whatever you-see, whatever you-move.
sortilegis egeant dubii semperque futuris
fortune-tellers let-them-need the-doubtful and-always for-future

casibus ancipites: me non oracula certum
chances wavering: me not oracles sure
sed mors certa facit. pauido fortique cadendum est:
but death certain makes. by-the-fearful and-brave to-be-fallen it-is:
hoc satis est dixisse Iouem.' sic ille profatus
this enough it-is to-have-said Jupiter.' so he having-spoken
seruataque fide templi discedit ab aris
and-with-kept faith of-the-temple departs from the-altars
non exploratum populis Hammona relinquens.
not explored by-the-peoples Hammon leaving.
ipse manu sua pila gerit, praecedit anheli
himself in-hand his-own javelins he-carries, goes-before panting
militis ora pedes, monstrat tolerare labores,
of-the-soldier the-face on-foot, shows to-endure toils,
non iubet, et nulla uehitur ceruice supinus
not commands, and on-no is-carried neck lying-back
carpentoque sedens; somni parcissimus ipse est;
and-in-a-carriage sitting; of-sleep most-sparing himself is;
ultimus haustor aquae quam, tandem fonte reperto,
the-last drinker of-water which, at-last with-spring found,
indiga cogatur laticis spectare iuuentus,
needy is-compelled of-liquid to-look-at the-youth,
stat dum lixa bibat. si ueris magna paratur
he-stands until the-camp-follower drink. if by-true great is-gained
fama bonis et si successu nuda remoto
fame good-deeds and if with-success bare removed
inspicitur uirtus, quidquid laudamus in ullo
is-inspected valor, whatever we-praise in any
maiorum, fortuna fuit. quis Marte secundo,
of-our-ancestors, fortune it-was. who by-Mars favorable,

quis tantum meruit populorum sanguine nomen?
who so-much has-earned with-the-peoples' blood a-name?
hunc ego per Syrtes Libyaeque extrema triumphum
this I through the-Syrtes and-of-Libya the-farthest-parts triumph
ducere maluerim, quam ter Capitolia curru
to-lead would-prefer, than thrice the-Capitol in-chariot
scandere Pompei, quam frangere colla Iugurthae.
to-climb of-Pompey, than to-break the-neck of-Jugurtha.
ecce parens uerus patriae, dignissimus aris,
look the-father true of-the-fatherland, most-worthy of-altars,
Roma, tuis, per quem numquam iurare pudebit
Rome, your, by whom never to-swear it-will-shame
et quem, si steteris umquam ceruice soluta,
and whom, if you-shall-stand ever with-neck loosed,
nunc, olim, factura deum es. iam spissior ignis,
now, one-day, going-to-make a-god you-are. now thicker the-fire,
et plaga, quam nullam superi mortalibus ultra
and a-region, than-which no the-gods-above for-mortals further
a medio fecere die, calcatur, et unda
from the-middle made day, is-trodden, and the-water
rarior. inuentus mediis fons unus harenis
rarer. was-found in-the-middle a-spring one sands
largus aquae, sed quem serpentum turba tenebat
abundant of-water, but which of-serpents a-throng held
uix capiente loco; stabant in margine siccae
scarcely with-holding the-place; stood on the-edge dry
aspides, in mediis sitiebant dipsades undis.
asps, in the-middle thirsted dipsas-snakes waters.
ductor, ut aspexit perituros fonte relicto,
the-leader, when he-saw them-going-to-perish with-the-spring abandoned,

adloquitur. ‘uana specie conterrite leti,
addresses. ‘by-empty show terrified of-death,
ne dubita, miles, tutos haurire liquores.
do-not hesitate, soldier, safe to-drain liquids.
noxia serpentum est admixto sanguine pestis;
harmful of-serpents is with-mixed-in blood the-plague;
morsu uirus habent et fatum dente minantur,
in-the-bite poison they-have and death with-the-tooth threaten,
pocula morte carent.’ dixit, dubiumque uenenum
the-cups of-death are-free.’ he-spoke, and-the-doubtful poison
hausit; et in tota Libyae fons unus harena
drained; and in whole of-Libya spring one sand
ille fuit de quo primus sibi posceret undam.
that was from which first for-himself he-asked water.

IX.10 · MEDUSA

The poet tells why Libya swarms with serpents. In the far west Medusa, whose hair was snakes and whose face turned to stone whatever saw it, lived in a stony land. Perseus, born of Danae’s golden shower and carried on Mercury’s wings, came with Mercury’s sickle and Pallas’ bronze shield; while Medusa half slept, Pallas guided his averted hand, and he cut off her head. As he flew east over Libya the blood dripped onto the barren sand and bred the serpents.

cur Libycus tantis exundet pestibus aer
why the-Libyan with-so-great overflows plagues air
fertilis in mortes, aut quid secreta nocenti
fertile in deaths, or what secret to-harmful
miscuerit natura solo, non cura laborque
has-mixed nature soil, not care and-toil

noster scire ualet, nisi quod uolgata per orbem
our to-know avails, except that spread through the-world
fabula pro uera decepit saecula causa.
a-tale for the-true has-deceived the-ages cause.
finibus extremis Libyes, ubi feruida tellus
on-the-borders farthest of-Libya, where the-burning earth
accipit Oceanum demisso sole calentem,
receives the-Ocean with-sent-down sun hot,
squalebant late Phorcynidos arua Medusae,
lay-foul widely of-the-daughter-of-Phorcys the-fields Medusa,
non nemorum protecta coma, non mollia sulco,
not of-groves protected by-the-foliage, not soft to-the-furrow,
sed dominae uoltu conspectis aspera saxis.
but by-their-mistress's face seen rough with-stones.
hoc primum natura nocens in corpore saeuas
this first nature harmful in body savage
eduxit pestes; illis e faucibus angues
brought-forth plagues; those from jaws snakes
stridula fuderunt uibratis sibila linguis.
shrill poured with-quivering hisses tongues.
ipsa flagellabant gaudentis colla Medusae,
themselves lashed of-rejoicing the-neck Medusa,
femineae cui more comae per terga solutae
of-a-woman for-whom in-the-manner hair over her-back loosened
surgunt aduersa subrectae fronte colubrae
rise on-the-facing raised brow snakes
uipereumque fluit depexo crine uenenum.
and-viperine flows with-combed-down hair poison.
hoc habet infelix, cunctis inpune, Medusa,
this has unlucky, for-all with-impunity, Medusa,

quod spectare licet. nam rictus oraque monstri
that to-look-at is-allowed. for the-gape and-face of-the-monster
quis timuit? quem, qui recto se lumine uidit,
who has-feared? whom, who with-straight himself eye saw,
passa Medusa mori est? rapuit dubitantia fata
allowed Medusa to-die has? she-snatched the-hesitating fates
praeuenitque metus; anima periere retenta
and-forestalled fear; with-the-breath they-perished retained
membra, nec emissae riguere sub ossibus umbrae.
the-limbs, nor sent-out grew-stiff under the-bones the-shades.
Eumenidum crines solos mouere furores,
of-the-Eumenides the-hair only moved frenzies,
Cerberos Orpheo leniuit sibila cantu,
Cerberus with-Orphean soothed his-hisses song,
Amphitryoniades uidit, cum uinceret, hydram:
the-son-of-Amphitryon saw, while he-was-conquering, the-hydra:
hoc monstrum timuit genitor numenque secundum
this monster feared the-father and-divinity second
Phorcys aquis Cetoque parens ipsaeque sorores
Phorcys in-the-waters and-Ceto the-mother and-the-very sisters
Gorgones; hoc potuit caelo pelagoque minari
Gorgons; this could to-sky and-sea to-threaten
torporem insolitum mundoque obducere terram.
numbness unaccustomed and-on-the-world to-draw earth.
e caelo uolucres subito cum pondere lapsae,
from the-sky birds suddenly with weight fell,
in scopulis haesere ferae, uicina colentes
on the-crags stuck beasts, the-neighborhood inhabiting
Aethiopum totae riguerunt marmore gentes.
of-the-Ethiopians whole stiffened into-marble nations.

nullum animal uisus patiens, ipsique retrorsum
no animal of-the-sight enduring, and-themselves backward
effusi faciem uitabant Gorgonos angues.
poured the-face avoided of-the-Gorgon the-snakes.
illa sub Hesperiis stantem Titana columnis
she under the-Hesperian standing the-Titan columns
in cautes Atlanta dedit; caeloque timente
into crags Atlas turned; and-with-the-sky fearing
olim Phlegraeo stantis serpente gigantas
once on-Phlegraean standing serpent giants
erexit montes, bellumque inmane deorum
she-made-stand mountains, and-the-war huge of-the-gods
Pallados e medio confecit pectore Gorgon.
of-Pallas from the-middle finished breast the-Gorgon.
quo postquam partu Danaes et diuite nimbo
to-which after by-the-birth of-Danae and by-rich shower
ortum Parrhasiae uexerunt Persea pinnae
risen the-Parrhasian carried Perseus wings
Arcados auctoris citharae liquidaeque palaestrae,
of-the-Arcadian inventor of-the-lyre and-of-the-oiled wrestling-ground,
et subitus praepes Cyllenida sustulit harpen,
and sudden swift the-Cyllenian raised sickle,
harpen alterius monstri iam caede rubentem
the-sickle of-another monster already with-slaughter reddening
a Ioue dilectae fuso custode iuuencae,
by Jupiter of-the-beloved with-laid-low guardian heifer,
auxilium uolucri Pallas tulit innuba fratri
help to-the-winged Pallas brought unmarried brother
pacta caput monstri, terraeque in fine Libyssae
having-bargained-for the-head of-the-monster, and-of-the-land at end Libyan

Persea Phoebeos conuerti iussit ad ortus
Perseus the-Phoebean to-be-turned ordered toward risings
Gorgonos auerso sulcantem regna uolatu,
of-the-Gorgon with-reversed furrowing the-realm flight,
et clipeum laeuae fuluo dedit aere nitentem
and a-shield for-his-left with-tawny gave bronze shining
in quo saxificam iussit spectare Medusam.
in which the-petrifying she-bade to-look-at Medusa.
quam sopor aeternam tracturus morte quietem
whom sleep eternal going-to-draw-on in-death rest
obruit haud totam: uigilat pars magna comarum
overwhelmed not wholly: watches part great of-the-hair
defenduntque caput protenti crinibus hydri,
and-defend the-head stretched-out from-the-locks hydras,
pars iacet in medios uoltus oculisque tenebras
part lies over the-middle the-face and-on-the-eyes darkness
offundit clausis et somni duplicat umbras.
pours-over on-the-closed and of-sleep doubles the-shadows.
ipsa regit trepidum Pallas, dextraque trementem
herself guides the-trembling Pallas, and-with-right-hand quivering
Perseos auersi Cyllenida derigit harpen
of-Perseus turned-away the-Cyllenian directs sickle
lata colubriferi rumpens confinia colli.
the-broad of-the-snake-bearing breaking boundaries neck.
quos habuit uoltus hamati uolnere ferri
what had face of-the-hooked by-the-wound iron
caesa caput Gorgon! quanto spirare ueneno
cut in-the-head the-Gorgon! with-how-much to-breathe poison
ora rear quantumque oculos effundere mortis!
the-mouth may-I-think and-how-much the-eyes to-pour-out of-death!

nec Pallas spectare potest, uoltusque gelassent
nor Pallas to-look can, and-the-face would-have-frozen
Perseos auersi, si non Tritonia densos
of-Perseus turned-away, if not Tritonia thick
sparsisset crines texissetque ora colubris.
had-scattered the-locks and-had-covered the-face with-snakes.
aliger in caelum sic rapta Gorgone fugit.
the-winged-one into the-sky so with-snatched Gorgon fled.
ille quidem pensabat iter propiusque secabat
he indeed was-shortening the-journey and-nearer was-cutting
aera, si medias Europae scinderet urbes:
the-air, if the-middle of-Europe he-were-to-cleave cities:
Pallas frugiferas iussit non laedere terras
Pallas fruitful ordered not to-harm lands
et parci populis. quis enim non praepete tanto
and to-be-spared the-peoples. who for not with-a-flier so-great
aethera respiceret? Zephyro conuertitur ales
the-ether would-look-back-at? by-Zephyr is-turned the-winged-one
itque super Libyen, quae nullo consita cultu
and-goes over Libya, which by-no planted cultivation
sideribus Phoeboque uacat: premit orbita solis
for-the-stars and-Phoebus is-free: presses the-orbit of-the-sun
exuritque solum; nec terra celsior ulla
and-burns the-soil; nor than-land higher any
nox cadit in caelum lunaeque meatibus obstat,
night falls into the-sky and-of-the-moon the-courses obstructs,
si flexus oblita uagi per recta cucurrit
if of-her-bending forgetful wandering through straight she-has-run
signa nec in Borean aut in Noton effugit umbram.
signs nor toward the-North or toward the-South has-escaped the-shadow.

illa tamen sterilis tellus fecundaque nulli
that yet barren land and-fruitful for-no
arua bono uirus stillantis tabe Medusae
fields good the-poison of-dripping from-the-gore Medusa
concipiunt dirosque fero de sanguine rores,
conceive and-dire the-savage from blood dews,
quos calor adiuuit putrique incoxit harenae.
which the-heat assisted and-into-the-crumbling baked sand.

IX.11 · THE SERPENTS

The poet catalogs the serpents born of Medusa's blood: the asp, the haemorrhois, the chersydros, the chelydrus, the cenchris, the ammodytes, the horned cerastes, the scytale, the dipsas, the amphisbaena, the natrix, the darting iaculus, the parias, the prester, the seps, and the basilisk, whose hiss drives off every other creature, and the dragons that kill without poison. Cato marches among them; a dipsas bites the standard-bearer Aulus, and he is consumed by thirst until he opens his veins to drink his own blood.

hic quae prima caput mouit de puluere tabes
here which first its-head moved from the-dust the-gore
aspida somniferam tumida ceruice leuauit.
the-asp sleep-bringing with-swollen neck raised.
plenior huc sanguis et crassi gutta ueneni
fuller hither blood and of-thick a-drop poison
decidit; in nulla plus est serpente coactum.
fell; in no more is serpent concentrated.
ipsa caloris egens gelidum non transit in orbem
itself of-heat lacking the-cold not passes into world
sponte sua, Niloque tenus metitur harenas;
by-will its-own, and-to-the-Nile as-far-as it-measures the-sands;

sed (quis erit nobis lucri pudor?) inde petuntur
but (what will-be for-us of-profit shame?) thence are-sought
huc Libycae mortes et fecimus aspida mercem.
hither Libyan deaths and we-have-made the-asp merchandise.
at non stare suum miseris passura cruorem
but not to-stand their-own for-the-wretched going-to-allow blood
squamiferos ingens haemorrhois explicat orbes,
scaly the-huge haemorrhois unfolds coils,
natus et ambiguae coleret qui Syrtidos arua
born also of-the-ambiguous would-inhabit who Syrtis the-fields
chersydros, tractique uia fumante chelydri,
the-chersydros, and-dragged on-the-path smoking chelydri,
et semper recto lapsurus limite cenchris:
and always in-a-straight going-to-glide track the-cenchris:
pluribus ille notis uariatam tinguitur aluum
with-more it marks varied is-dyed its-belly
quam paruis pictus maculis Thebanus ophites.
than with-small painted spots the-Theban ophites.
concolor exustis atque indiscretus harenis
of-the-same-color as-the-scorched and indistinguishable sands
hammodytes, spinaque uagi torquente cerastae,
the-hammodytes, and-with-the-spine the-wandering twisting horned-snakes,
et scytale sparsis etiamnunc sola pruinis
and the-scytale with-scattered even-now alone frosts
exuuias positura suas, et torrida dipsas,
its-sloughed-skin going-to-lay-aside its-own, and the-parching dipsas,
et grauis in geminum uergens caput amphisbaena,
and heavy toward twin inclining head the-amphisbaena,
et natrix uiolator aquae, iaculique uolucres,
and the-natrix violator of-water, and-the-iaculi flying,

et contentus iter cauda sulcare parias,
and content its-way with-the-tail to-furrow the-parias,
oraque distendens auidus fumantia prester,
and-its-mouth stretching greedy smoking the-prester,
ossaque dissoluens cum corpore tabificus seps;
and-the-bones dissolving with the-body putrefying the-seps;
sibilaque effundens cunctas terrentia pestes,
and-hisses pouring-out all frightening plagues,
ante uenena nocens, late sibi summouet omne
before poison harmful, widely from-himself removes all
uolgus et in uacua regnat basiliscus harena.
the-crowd and in the-empty reigns the-basilisk sand.
uos quoque, qui cunctis innoxia numina terris
you too, who to-all harmless divinities lands
serpitis, aurato nitidi fulgore dracones,
crawl, with-gilded shining brightness dragons,
letiferos ardens facit Africa: ducitis altum
deadly burning makes Africa: you-draw the-high
aera cum pinnis, armentaque tota secuti
air with wings, and-herds whole having-followed
rumpitis ingentes amplexi uerbere tauros;
you-burst huge having-embraced with-a-lash bulls;
nec tutus spatio est elephans: datis omnia leto,
nor safe in-his-size is the-elephant: you-give all-things to-death,
nec uobis opus est ad noxia fata ueneno.
nor for-you need is for harmful fates of-poison.
has inter pestes duro Cato milite siccum
these among plagues with-hardy Cato soldiery dry
emetitur iter, tot tristia fata suorum
measures-out the-route, so-many grim the-fates of-his-own

insolitasque uidens paruo cum uolnere mortes.
and-unaccustomed seeing small with wound deaths.
signiferum iuuenem Tyrrheni sanguinis Aulum
the-standard-bearing young-man of-Tyrrhenian blood Aulus
torta caput retro dipsas calcata momordit.
twisted with-head back a-dipsas trodden-on bit.
uix dolor aut sensus dentis fuit, ipsaque leti
scarcely pain or feeling of-the-tooth there-was, and-the-very of-death
frons caret inuidia nec quicquam plaga minatur.
face lacks ill-will nor anything the-wound threatens.
ecce, subit uirus tacitum, carpitque medullas
look, steals-in the-poison silent, and-consumes the-marrows
ignis edax calidaque incendit uiscera tabe.
the-fire devouring and-with-hot kindles the-entrails decay.
ebibit umorem circum uitalia fusum
it-drank-up the-moisture around the-vitals spread
pestis et in sicco linguam torrere palato
the-plague and on dry the-tongue to-parch palate
coepit; defessos iret qui sudor in artus
began; weary might-go which sweat into limbs
non fuit, atque oculos lacrimarum uena refugit.
not there-was, and the-eyes of-tears the-vein fled.
non decus imperii, non maesti iura Catonis
not the-honor of-command, not of-sad the-authority Cato
ardentem tenuere uirum, ne spargere signa
the-burning held-back man, lest to-scatter the-standards
auderet totisque furens exquireret aruis
he-should-dare and-in-whole raging should-search fields
quas poscebat aquas sitiens in corde uenenum.
which demanded waters thirsting in heart the-poison.

ille uel in Tanain missus Rhodanumque Padumque
he even into the-Tanais sent and-the-Rhone and-the-Po
arderet Nilumque bibens per rura uagantem.
would-burn and-the-Nile drinking through the-fields wandering.
accessit morti Libye, fatique minorem
added to-death Libya, and-of-fate lesser
famam dipsas habet terris adiuta perustis.
the-fame the-dipsas has by-lands helped scorched.
scrutatur uenas penitus squalentis harenae,
he-searches the-veins deep of-the-foul sand,
nunc redit ad Syrtes et fluctus accipit ore,
now returns to the-Syrtes and the-waves takes in-his-mouth,
aequoreusque placet, sed non et sufficit, umor.
and-of-the-sea pleases, but not also suffices, the-moisture.
nec sentit fatique genus mortemque ueneni,
nor he-feels and-the-fate's kind and-the-death of-poison,
sed putat esse sitim; ferroque aperire tumentis
but thinks it-to-be thirst; and-with-the-sword to-open swelling
sustinuit uenas atque os inplere cruore.
he-endured his-veins and his-mouth to-fill with-gore.

Cato hurries the march, but worse deaths follow. A tiny seps bites Sabellus, and his flesh and bones melt away; a prester makes Nasidius swell into a shapeless globe that bursts his armor; a haemorrhois makes Tullus bleed from every pore, eyes, mouth, and sweat; an asp sends Laevus to sleep; an iaculus flies from a tree and pierces Paulus' head before any poison can work.

iussit signa rapi propere Cato: discere nulli
ordered the-standards to-be-snatched-up hastily Cato: to-learn to-no-one
permissum est hoc posse sitim. sed tristior illo
permitted it-was this to-be-able thirst. but sadder than-that
mors erat ante oculos, miserique in crure Sabelli
a-death was before their-eyes, and-of-wretched on the-leg Sabellus
seps stetit exiguus; quem flexo dente tenacem
a-seps stood small; which with-bent tooth clinging
765 auolsitque manu piloque adfixit harenis.
he-both-tore-off with-his-hand and-with-a-javelin fixed to-the-sands.
parua modo serpens, sed qua non ulla cruentae
small only the-serpent, but than-which not any of-bloody
tantum mortis habet. nam plagae proxima circum
so-much death has. for of-the-wound nearest around
fugit rupta cutis pallentiaque ossa retexit;
flees broken the-skin and-pale bones uncovered;
iamque sinu laxo nudum sine corpore uolnus.
and-now with-the-cavity loosened a-bare without body wound.
770 membra natant sanie, surae fluxere, sine ullo
the-limbs swim with-gore, the-calves have-flowed-away, without any
tegmine poples erat, femorum quoque musculus omnis
covering the-knee was, of-the-thighs also muscle every

liquitur, et nigra destillant inguina tabe.
melts, and with-black drip the-groins decay.
dissiluit stringens uterum membrana, fluuntque
burst the-binding belly membrane, and-flow
uiscera; nec, quantus toto de corpore debet,
the-entrails; nor, as-much-as whole from body it-ought,
effluit in terras, saeuum sed membra uenenum
it-flows-out onto the-lands, the-savage but limbs poison
decoquit, in minimum mors contrahit omnia uirus.
boils-down, into the-least death contracts all-things poison.
quidquid homo est, aperit pestis natura profana:
whatever a-man is, opens the-plague with-nature profane:
uincula neruorum et laterum textura cauumque
the-bonds of-the-sinews and of-the-sides the-texture and-the-hollow
pectus et abstrusum fibris uitalibus omne
breast and hidden by-fibers vital all
morte patet. manant umeri fortesque lacerti,
by-death lies-open. drip the-shoulders and-strong upper-arms,
colla caputque fluunt: calido non ocius Austro
the-neck and-head flow: with-hot not faster South-Wind
nix resoluta cadit nec solem cera sequetur.
snow loosened falls nor the-sun wax will-follow.
parua loquor, corpus sanie stillasse perustum:
small-things I-speak, the-body with-gore to-have-dripped scorched:
hoc et flamma potest; sed quis rogus abstulit ossa?
this also flame can; but what pyre has-taken-away bones?
haec quoque discedunt, putrisque secuta medullas
these too depart, and-decayed having-followed the-marrows
nulla manere sinunt rapidi uestigia fati.
no to-remain allow of-swift traces fate.

Cinyphias inter pestes tibi palma nocendi est;
Cinyphian among plagues to-you the-palm of-harming is;
eripiunt omnes animam, tu sola cadauer.
snatch all the-breath, you alone the-corpse.
ecce, subit facies leto diuersa fluenti.
look, comes-on a-shape from-death different flowing.
Nasidium Marsi cultorem torridus agri
Nasidius of-Marsian the-cultivator scorching field
percussit prester. illi rubor igneus ora
struck the-prester. his redness fiery face
succendit, tenditque cutem pereunte figura
kindled, and-stretches the-skin with-perishing shape
miscens cuncta tumor; toto iam corpore maior
mingling all-things the-swelling; than-whole already body greater
humanumque egressa modum super omnia membra
and-human having-gone-beyond the-measure over all limbs
efflatur sanies late pollente ueneno;
is-blown-out the-gore widely with-prevailing poison;
ipse latet penitus congesto corpore mersus,
himself lies-hidden deep in-the-heaped body sunk,
nec lorica tenet distenti pectoris auctum.
nor the-cuirass holds of-the-swollen breast the-growth.
spumeus accenso non sic exundat aeno
foaming with-kindled not so overflows cauldron
undarum cumulus, nec tantos carbasa Coro
of-waters the-heap, nor so-great sails by-Caurus
curuauere sinus. tumidos iam non capit artus
have-bent swellings. the-swollen now not holds limbs
informis globus et confuso pondere truncus.
the-shapeless globe and with-confused weight trunk.

intactum uolucrum rostris epulasque daturum
untouched by-the-birds' beaks and-feasts going-to-give
haud inpune feris non ausi tradere busto
not with-impunity to-the-beasts not having-dared to-hand-over to-the-pyre
nondum stante modo crescens fugere cadauer.
not-yet with-standing-still the-size growing they-fled the-corpse.
sed maiora parant Libycae spectacula pestes.
but greater prepare Libyan spectacles plagues.
inpressit dentes haemorrhois aspera Tullo,
pressed-in its-teeth the-haemorrhois rough on-Tullus,
magnanimo iuueni miratorique Catonis.
on-the-great-souled youth and-admirer of-Cato.
utque solet pariter totis se fundere signis
and-as is-wont equally from-all itself to-pour statues
Corycii pressura croci, sic omnia membra
of-the-Corycian the-pressing saffron, so all limbs
emisere simul rutilum pro sanguine uirus.
sent-out together red for blood poison.
sanguis erant lacrimae; quaecumque foramina nouit
blood were the-tears; whatever openings knows
umor, ab his largus manat cruor; ora redundant
moisture, from these abundant flows gore; the-mouth overflows
et patulae nares; sudor rubet; omnia plenis
and the-wide nostrils; the-sweat reddens; all with-full
membra fluunt uenis; totum est pro uolnere corpus.
limbs flow veins; whole is for wound the-body.
at tibi, Laeue miser, fixus praecordia pressit
but for-you, Laevus wretched, fixed the-heart pressed
Niliaca serpente cruor, nulloque dolore
by-the-Nilotic serpent the-blood, and-with-no pain

testatus morsus subita caligine mortem
attested the-bite in-sudden darkness death
accipis et socias somno descendis ad umbras.
you-receive and allied in-sleep descend to shades.
non tam ueloci corrumpunt pocula leto
not so with-swift corrupt cups death
stipite quae diro uirgas mentita Sabaeas
on-the-stalk which dire branches imitating Sabaean
toxica fatilegi carpunt matura Saitae.
poisons the-fate-gathering pluck ripe Saites.
ecce, procul saeuos sterili se robore trunci
look, from-afar savage from-barren itself wood of-a-tree
torsit et inmisit (iaculum uocat Africa) serpens
whirled and hurled (iaculus calls-it Africa) a-serpent
perque caput Pauli transactaque tempora fugit.
and-through the-head of-Paulus and-pierced temples fled.
nil ibi uirus agit: rapuit cum uolnere fatum.
nothing there poison does: it-snatched with the-wound fate.
deprensum est, quae funda rotat quam lenta uolarent,
detected it-was, which the-sling whirls how slow they-might-fly,
quam segnis Scythicae strideret harundinis aer.
how sluggish of-the-Scythian would-whistle arrow the-air.

A basilisk's poison runs up Murrus' spear into his hand, and he strikes off the whole arm at the shoulder to save himself. The men cannot rest by day or night and lie on the bare ground among serpents drawn by their warmth. They complain that the gods should give them back Thessaly and a soldier's death; they have reached the end of the world and turned their backs to the south wind. Cato, keeping watch on the bare sand, is present at every death, gives his own strength, and shames groaning by his presence.

quid prodest miseri basiliscus cuspide Murri
what profits of-wretched the-basilisk on-the-spear Murrus
transactus? uelox currit per tela uenenum
pierced? swift runs through the-weapon the-poison
inuaditque manum; quam protinus ille retecto
and-invades the-hand; which at-once he with-bared
ense ferit totoque semel demittit ab armo,
sword strikes and-whole at-one-stroke sends-down from shoulder,
exemplarque sui spectans miserabile leti
and-the-pattern of-his-own looking-at pitiable death
stat tutus pereunte manu. quis fata putarit
stands safe with-perishing hand. who the-fates would-have-thought
scorpion aut uires maturae mortis habere?
the-scorpion or the-strength of-swift death to-have?
ille minax nodis et recto uerbere saeuos
he threatening with-knots and with-straight lash the-savage
teste tulit caelo uicti decus Orionis.
as-witness bore the-sky of-conquered the-glory Orion.
quis calcare tuas metuat, salpuga, latebras?
who to-tread-on your would-fear, salpuga, lurking-places?

et tibi dant Stygiae ius in sua fila sorores.
even to-you give the-Stygian right over their-own threads sisters.
sic nec clara dies nec nox dabat atra quietem
so neither bright day nor night gave black rest
suspecta miseris in qua tellure iacebant.
suspect to-the-wretched on which land they-lay.
nam neque congestae struxere cubilia frondes
for neither heaped built beds leaves
nec culmis creuere tori, sed corpora fatis
nor of-straw grew couches, but their-bodies to-the-fates
expositi uoluuntur humo, calidoque uapore
exposed they-roll on-the-ground, and-with-warm vapor
adliciunt gelidas nocturno frigore pestes,
they-attract cold in-the-nocturnal chill plagues,
innocuosque diu rictus torpente ueneno
and-harmless long the-jaws with-numb poison
inter membra fouent. nec, quae mensura uiarum
among their-limbs they-warm. nor, what the-measure of-the-roads
quisue modus, norunt caelo duce: saepe querentes
or-what the-manner, they-know with-the-sky as-guide: often complaining
'reddite, di,' clamant 'miseris quae fugimus arma,
'give-back, gods,' they-shout 'to-the-wretched which we-flee arms,
reddite Thessaliam. patimur cur segnia fata
give-back Thessaly. do-we-suffer why sluggish fates
in gladios iurata manus? pro Caesare pugnant
for swords sworn band? for Caesar fight
dipsades et peragunt ciuilia bella cerastae.
the-dipsas-snakes and accomplish civil wars horned-snakes.
ire libet qua zona rubens atque axis inustus
to-go it-pleases where the-zone reddening and the-axis burned-in

solis equis; iuuat aetheriis ascribere causis
by-the-sun's horses; it-delights to-ethereal to-ascribe causes
quod peream, caeloque mori. nil, Africa, de te
that I-perish, and-by-the-sky to-die. nothing, Africa, about you
nec de te, natura, queror: tot monstra ferentem
nor about you, nature, I-complain: so-many monsters bearing
gentibus ablatum dederas serpentibus orbem,
from-the-nations taken-away you-had-given to-serpents the-world,
inpatiensque solum Cereris cultore negato
and-impatient soil of-Ceres with-cultivator denied
damnasti atque homines uoluisti desse uenenis.
you-condemned and men you-wished to-be-absent from-poisons.
in loca serpentum nos uenimus: accipe poenas
into the-places of-serpents we have-come: receive penalties
tu, quisquis superum commercia nostra perosus
you, whoever of-the-gods-above the-dealings our hating
hinc torrente plaga, dubiis hinc Syrtibus orbem
here with-a-scorching zone, here with-doubtful Syrtes the-world
abrumpens medio posuisti limite mortes.
breaking-off in-the-middle placed boundary deaths.
per secreta tui bellum ciuile recessus
through the-secrets of-your war civil recess
uadit, et arcani miles tibi conscius orbis
goes, and of-a-hidden the-soldier to-you conscious world
claustra ferit mundi. forsan maiora supersunt
the-barriers strikes of-the-world. perhaps greater-things remain
ingressis: coeunt ignes stridentibus undis
for-those-entering: come-together fires with-hissing waves
et premitur natura poli; set longius istac
and is-pressed-down the-nature of-the-pole; but farther that-way

nulla iacet tellus, quam fama cognita nobis
no lies land, than by-report known to-us
tristia regna Iubae. quaeremus forsitan istas
the-grim kingdom of-Juba. we-shall-seek perhaps those
serpentum terras; habet hoc solacia caelum:
of-serpents lands; has this consolation the-sky:
uiuit adhuc aliquid. patriae non arua requiro
lives still something. of-the-fatherland not the-fields I-ask-for
Europamque alios soles Asiamque uidentem:
and-Europe other suns and-Asia seeing:
qua te parte poli, qua te tellure reliqui,
in-what you part of-the-pole, in-what you land did-I-leave,
Africa? Cyrenis etiamnunc bruma rigebat:
Africa? at-Cyrene even-now winter was-stiffening:
exiguane uia legem conuertimus anni?
by-a-small road the-law have-we-reversed of-the-year?
imus in aduersos axes, euoluimur orbe,
we-go toward opposite poles, we-are-rolled-out from-the-world,
terga damus ferienda Noto; nunc forsitan ipsa est
our-backs we-give to-be-struck by-the-South-Wind; now perhaps itself is
sub pedibus iam Roma meis. solacia fati
under feet already Rome my. the-consolations of-fate
haec petimus: ueniant hostes, Caesarque sequatur
these we-seek: let-come the-enemy, and-Caesar let-follow
qua fugimus.' sic dura suos patientia questus
where we-flee.' so hard their-own endurance complaints
exonerat. cogit tantos tolerare labores
unburdens. compels so-great to-endure toils
summa ducis uirtus, qui nuda fusus harena
the-supreme of-the-leader valor, who on-bare stretched sand

excubat atque omni fortunam prouocat hora.
keeps-watch and at-every fortune challenges hour.
omnibus unus adest fatis; quocumque uocatus
at-all alone he-is-present fates; wherever called
aduolat atque ingens meritum maiusque salute
he-flies-to and huge a-service and-greater than-safety
contulit, in letum uires; puduitque gementem
he-brought, to death strength; and-it-shamed groaning
illo teste mori. quod ius habuisset in ipsum
with-him witness to-die. what right would-have-had over himself
ulla lues? casus alieno in pectore uincit
any plague? chance another's in breast he-conquers
spectatorque docet magnos nil posse dolores.
and-a-spectator teaches great nothing to-be-able pains.

IX.14 · THE PSYLLI; CAESAR AT TROY

At last Fortune sends help: the Psylli, a Libyan people immune to serpents, who suck the poison from wounds. After two months the army reaches Leptis. Meanwhile Caesar, sated with Pharsalus, pursues his son-in-law by sea through the Hellespont and visits Troy: its ruins are lost in thickets, he steps unknowing over the Xanthus, and a native forbids him to tread on Hector's ghost.

uix miseris serum tanto lassata periclo
scarcely to-the-wretched late by-so-great wearied danger
auxilium Fortuna dedit. gens unica terras
help Fortune gave. a-nation only the-lands
incolit a saeuo serpentum innoxia morsu,
inhabits from the-savage of-serpents harmless bite,
Marmaridae Psylli. par lingua potentibus herbis,
the-Marmaridae Psylli. equal their-tongue to-potent herbs,

ipse cruor tutus nullumque admittere uirus
itself the-blood safe and-no to-admit poison
uel cantu cessante potens. natura locorum
even with-chant ceasing able. the-nature of-the-places
iussit ut inmunes mixtis serpentibus essent.
ordered that immune with-mingled serpents they-should-be.
profuit in mediis sedem posuisse uenenis.
it-profited in the-midst a-seat to-have-placed poisons.
pax illis cum morte data est. fiducia tanta est
peace to-them with death given is. the-confidence so-great is
sanguinis, in terras paruus cum decidit infans,
of-blood, onto the-earth small when falls an-infant,
nequa sit externae Veneris mixtura timentes
lest-any be of-foreign Venus mixture fearing
letifica dubios explorant aspide partus.
with-the-deadly the-doubtful they-test asp offspring.
utque Iouis uolucer, calido cum protulit ouo
and-as of-Jupiter the-winged-one, from-the-warm when she-has-brought-forth egg
inplumis natos, solis conuertit ad ortus:
featherless young, of-the-sun turns-them toward the-rising:
qui potuere pati radios et lumine recto
those-who could to-endure the-rays and with-eye straight
sustinuere diem, caeli seruantur in usus,
endured the-day, of-the-sky are-kept for uses,
qui Phoebo cessere, iacent: sic pignora gentis
those-who to-Phoebus yielded, lie: so the-pledges of-the-race
Psyllus habet, siquis tactos non horruit angues,
the-Psyllus holds, if-any touched not shuddered-at snakes,
siquis donatis lusit serpentibus infans.
if-any with-given played serpents infant.

nec solum gens illa sua contenta salute
nor only the-nation that with-its-own content safety
excubat hospitibus, contraque nocentia monstra
keeps-watch for-guests, and-against harmful monsters
Psyllus adest populis. qui tum Romana secutus
the-Psyllus is-present for-the-peoples. who then the-Roman having-followed
signa, simul iussit statui tentoria ductor,
standards, as-soon-as ordered to-be-set-up the-tents the-leader,
primum, quas ualli spatium conprendit, harenas
first, which of-the-rampart the-space has-enclosed, the-sands
expurgat cantu uerbisque fugantibus angues.
purges with-chant and-with-words putting-to-flight snakes.
ultima castrorum medicatus circumit ignis.
the-outermost-parts of-the-camp medicated circles fire.
hic ebulum stridet peregrinaque galbana sudant,
here the-dwarf-elder crackles and-foreign galbanum sweats,
et tamarix non laeta comas Eoaque costos
and tamarisk not luxuriant in-foliage and-Eastern costus
et panacea potens et Thessala centaurea
and panacea potent and Thessalian centaury
peucedanonque sonant flammis Erycinaque thapsos,
and-hog's-fennel sound in-the-flames and-Erycine thapsos,
et larices fumoque grauem serpentibus urunt
and larches and-with-smoke heavy for-serpents they-burn
habrotonum et longe nascentis cornua cerui.
southernwood and from-afar of-the-born the-horns stag.
sic nox tuta uiris. at, siquis peste diurna
so the-night safe for-the-men. but, if-anyone by-plague of-day
fata trahit, tunc sunt magicae miracula gentis
his-fate draws, then are of-the-magic the-wonders race

Psyllorumque ingens et rapti pugna ueneni.
and-of-the-Psylli huge and of-snatched the-fight poison.
nam primum tacta designat membra saliua,
for first with-touched he-marks the-limbs spittle,
quae cohibet uirus retinetque in uolnere pestem;
which confines the-poison and-holds-back in the-wound the-plague;
plurima tunc uoluit spumanti carmina lingua
very-many then he-rolls with-foaming spells tongue
murmure continuo, nec dat suspiria cursus
with-murmur continuous, nor gives breath the-course
uolneris aut minimum patiuntur fata tacere.
of-the-wound or the-least allow the-fates to-be-silent.
saepe quidem pestis nigris inserta medullis
often indeed the-plague into-black inserted marrows
excantata fugit; sed, siquod tardius audit
enchanted flees; but, if-any more-slowly hears
uirus et elicitum iussumque exire repugnat,
poison and called-out and-bidden to-go-out resists,
tum super incumbens pallentia uolnera lambit
then on-it lying-upon the-pale wounds he-licks
ore uenena trahens et siccat dentibus artus,
with-mouth poisons drawing and dries with-his-teeth the-limbs,
extractamque potens gelido de corpore mortem
and-extracted mighty the-cold from body the-death
expuit; et cuius morsus superauerit anguis
spits-out; and of-what the-bite has-overcome snake
iam promptum Psyllis uel gustu nosse ueneni.
now ready for-the-Psylli even by-the-taste to-know of-the-poison.
hoc igitur tandem leuior Romana iuuentus
by-this therefore at-last relieved the-Roman youth

auxilio late squalentibus errat in aruis.
by-help widely foul wanders in fields.
bis positis Phoebe flammis, bis luce recepta
twice with-laid-down Phoebe flames, twice with-light recovered
uidit hareniuagum surgens fugiensque Catonem.
saw sand-wandering rising and-fleeing Cato.
iamque illi magis atque magis durescere puluis
and-now for-him more and more to-harden the-dust
coepit et in terram Libye spissata redire,
began and into land Libya thickened to-return,
iamque procul rarae nemorum se tollere frondes,
and-now far-off rare of-groves themselves to-raise the-leaves,
surgere congesto non culta mapalia culmo.
to-rise with-heaped not tilled huts straw.
quanta dedit miseris melioris gaudia terrae
how-great gave to-the-wretched of-a-better joys land
cum primum saeuos contra uidere leones!
when first savage facing they-saw lions!
proxima Leptis erat, cuius statione quieta
nearest Leptis was, whose in-station quiet
exegere hiemem nimbis flammisque carentem.
they-spent the-winter of-rainstorms and-flames free.
Caesar, ut Emathia satiatus clade recessit,
Caesar, when with-Emathian sated slaughter he-withdrew,
cetera curarum proiecit pondera soli
the-other of-cares threw-off weights on-the-only
intentus genero; cuius uestigia frustra
intent son-in-law; whose tracks in-vain
terris sparsa legens fama duce tendit in undas,
on-lands scattered gathering with-fame as-guide he-makes for the-waves,

Threiciasque legit fauces et amore notatum
and-the-Thracian skirts jaws and for-love marked
aequor et Heroas lacrimoso litore turres,
the-sea and Hero's on-the-tearful shore towers,
qua pelago nomen Nepheleias abstulit Helle.
where from-the-sea the-name Nephele's took-away Helle.
non Asiam breuioris aquae disterminat usquam
not Asia of-shorter water separates anywhere
fluctus ab Europa, quamuis Byzantion arto
a-flood from Europe, although Byzantium by-narrow
Pontus et ostriferam dirimat Calchedona cursu,
Pontus and oyster-bearing divide Calchedon course,
Euxinumque ferens paruo ruat ore Propontis.
and-the-Euxine bearing by-a-small rush mouth Propontis.
Sigeasque petit famae mirator harenas
and-the-Sigean he-seeks of-fame an-admirer sands
et Simoentis aquas et Graio nobile busto
and of-Simois the-waters and for-the-Greek noble tomb
Rhoetion et multum debentis uatibus umbras.
Rhoeteum and much owing to-poets shades.
circumit exustae nomen memorabile Troiae
he-goes-round of-burned-out the-name memorable Troy
magnaque Phoebei quaerit uestigia muri.
and-the-great of-Phoebus' seeks traces wall.
iam siluae steriles et putres robore trunci
now woods barren and rotten in-their-timber trunks
Assaraci pressere domos et templa deorum
of-Assaracus have-pressed the-houses and the-temples of-the-gods
iam lassa radice tenent, ac tota teguntur
now with-weary root hold, and whole are-covered

Pergama dumetis: etiam periere ruinae.
Pergama with-thickets: even have-perished the-ruins.
aspicit Hesiones scopulos siluaque latentis
he-sees of-Hesione the-crags and-in-the-wood of-hidden
Anchisae thalamos; quo iudex sederit antro,
Anchises the-bridal-chambers; in-what the-judge sat cave,
unde puer raptus caelo, quo uertice Nais
whence the-boy snatched to-the-sky, on-what summit the-Naiad
luxerit Oenone: nullum est sine nomine saxum.
mourned Oenone: no is without a-name rock.
inscius in sicco serpentem puluere riuum
unaware in dry creeping dust a-brook
transierat, qui Xanthus erat. securus in alto
he-had-crossed, which the-Xanthus was. untroubled in tall
gramine ponebat gressus: Phryx incola manes
grass he-was-placing his-steps: the-Phrygian inhabitant the-ghost
Hectoreos calcare uetat. discussa iacebant
Hector's to-tread-on forbids. scattered lay
saxa nec ullius faciem seruantia sacri:
stones nor of-any the-appearance keeping sacred:
'Herceas' monstrator ait 'non respicis aras?'
'the-Herceian' the-guide says 'not do-you-regard altars?'

The poet promises that his poem and Caesar's name will be read together for as long as Homer's. Caesar builds altars at Troy and prays to his ancestral gods to bless his course; he will rebuild Troy. He sails to Egypt, and a henchman of Ptolemy brings him Pompey's head as a gift that ends the civil war. Caesar neither rejects the gift at first sight nor turns away, but stares until he believes; then, seeing that he can safely be a good father-in-law, weeps false tears; the poet scorns him and asks why he weeps for the man he hunted.

o sacer et magnus uatum labor! omnia fato
O sacred and great of-poets the-labor! all-things from-fate
eripis et populis donas mortalibus aeuum.
you-snatch and to-peoples you-give mortal eternity.
inuidia sacrae, Caesar, ne tangere famae;
by-envy of-sacred, Caesar, do-not be-touched fame;
nam, siquid Latiis fas est promittere Musis,
for, if-anything to-Latin right it-is to-promise Muses,
quantum Zmyrnaei durabunt uatis honores,
as-long-as of-the-Smyrnaean shall-last the-poet the-honors,
uenturi me teque legent; Pharsalia nostra
those-to-come me and-you will-read; Pharsalia our
uiuet, et a nullo tenebris damnabimur aeuo.
will-live, and by no to-darkness we-shall-be-condemned age.
ut ducis inpleuit uisus ueneranda uetustas,
when of-the-leader filled the-sight venerable antiquity,
erexit subitas congestu caespitis aras
he-raised sudden with-a-heap of-turf altars
uotaque turicremos non inrita fudit in ignes.
and-vows incense-burning not vain poured into fires.

‘di cinerum, Phrygias colitis quicumque ruinas,
‘gods of-the-ashes, the-Phrygian you-inhabit whoever ruins,
Aeneaeque mei, quos nunc Lauinia sedes
and-of-Aeneas my, whom now the-Lavinian seat
seruat et Alba, lares, et quorum lucet in aris
keeps and Alba, household-gods, and of-whom shines on altars
ignis adhuc Phrygius, nullique aspecta uirorum
the-fire still Phrygian, and-by-no seen of-men
Pallas, in abstruso pignus memorabile templo,
Pallas, in a-hidden pledge memorable temple,
gentis Iuleae uestris clarissimus aris
of-the-race Julian at-your most-famous altars
dat pia tura nepos et uos in sede priore
gives dutiful incense a-descendant and you in seat former
rite uocat. date felices in cetera cursus,
duly calls. grant happy in the-rest courses,
restituam populos; grata uice moenia reddent
I-will-restore the-peoples; in-grateful return walls will-give-back
Ausonidae Phrygibus, Romanaque Pergama surgent.’
the-Ausonians to-the-Phrygians, and-Roman Pergama will-rise.’
sic fatus repetit classes et tota secundis
so having-spoken he-seeks-again the-fleet and all to-favorable
uela dedit Coris, auidusque urguente procella
sails gave to-the-Cauri, and-greedy with-the-pressing storm
Iliacas pensare moras Asiamque potentem
the-Ilian to-make-up-for delays and-Asia mighty
praeuehitur pelagoque Rhodon spumante relinquit.
sails-past and-from-the-sea Rhodes foaming leaves.
septima nox Zephyro numquam laxante rudentes
the-seventh night with-Zephyr never slackening the-ropes

ostendit Phariis Aegyptia litora flammis.
showed with-the-Pharian the-Egyptian shores flames.
sed prius orta dies nocturnam lampada texit
but earlier risen the-day the-nocturnal lamp covered
quam tutas intraret aquas. ibi plena tumultu
than safe he-entered the-waters. there full of-uproar
litora et incerto turbatas murmure uoces
the-shores and with-uncertain troubled murmur voices
accipit, ac dubiis ueritus se credere regnis
he-hears, and to-doubtful fearing himself to-entrust kingdoms
abstinuit tellure rates. sed dira satelles
he-kept-off from-the-land his-ships. but a-dire henchman
regis dona ferens medium prouectus in aequor
of-the-king gifts bearing the-middle advanced into sea
colla gerit Magni Phario uelamine tecta
the-neck carries of-Magnus with-a-Pharian covering covered
ac prius infanda commendat crimina uoce.
and first with-unspeakable commends his-crimes voice.
'terrarum domitor, Romanae maxime gentis,
'of-the-lands tamer, of-the-Roman greatest race,
et, quod adhuc nescis, genero secure perempto,
and, what still you-know-not, with-the-son-in-law untroubled slain,
rex tibi Pellaeus belli pelagique labores
the-king to-you Pellaean of-war and-of-sea the-toils
donat et Emathiis quod solum defuit armis
grants and to-the-Emathian what alone was-lacking arms
exhibet. absenti bellum ciuile peractum est:
exhibits. for-you-absent the-war civil finished is:
Thessalicas quaerens Magnus reparare ruinas
the-Thessalian seeking Magnus to-repair ruins

ense iacet nostro. tanto te pignore, Caesar,
by-sword lies our. with-so-great you a-pledge, Caesar,
emimus; hoc tecum percussum est sanguine foedus.
we-have-bought; with-this with-you struck is blood the-treaty.
accipe regna Phari nullo quaesita cruore,
receive the-kingdom of-Pharos by-no sought gore,
accipe Niliaci ius gurgitis, accipe quidquid
receive of-the-Nile's the-right flood, receive whatever
pro Magni ceruice dares; dignumque clientem
for Magnus' neck you-would-give; and-worthy a-client
castris crede tuis cui tantum fata licere
for-the-camp believe your to-whom so-much the-fates to-be-allowed
in generum uoluere tuum. nec uile putaris
over son-in-law have-wished your. nor cheap think
hoc meritum, facili nobis quod caede peractum est.
this service, by-easy for-us because slaughter accomplished it-is.
hospes auitus erat, depulso sceptra parenti
a-guest ancestral he-was, to-his-banished the-scepter father
reddiderat. quid plura feram? tu nomina tanto
he-had-restored. why more should-I-say? you names for-so-great
inuenies operi, uel famam consule mundi.
will-find a-deed, or the-fame consult of-the-world.
si scelus est, plus te nobis debere fateris,
if a-crime it-is, more you to-us to-owe confess,
quod scelus hoc non ipse facis.' sic fatus opertum
that the-crime this not yourself you-do.' so having-spoken the-covered
detexit tenuitque caput. iam languida morte
he-uncovered and-held the-head. already languid in-death
effigies habitum noti mutauerat oris.
the-likeness the-bearing of-the-known had-changed face.

non primo Caesar damnauit munera uisu
not at-the-first Caesar condemned the-gifts sight
auertitque oculos; uoltus, dum crederet, haesit;
and-turned-away his-eyes; his-face, until he-believed, stuck;
utque fidem uidit sceleris tutumque putauit
and-when the-proof he-saw of-the-crime and-safe thought
iam bonus esse socer, lacrimas non sponte cadentis
now good to-be a-father-in-law, tears not willingly falling
effudit gemitusque expressit pectore laeto,
he-poured-out and-groans squeezed from-his-breast glad,
non aliter manifesta potens abscondere mentis
not otherwise evident able to-hide of-his-mind
gaudia quam lacrimis, meritumque inmane tyranni
joys than with-tears, and-the-service huge of-the-tyrant
destruit et generi mauolt lugere reuolsum
destroys and for-the-son-in-law prefers to-mourn the-torn-off
quam debere caput. qui duro membra senatus
than to-owe head. who with-hard the-limbs of-the-senate
calcarat uoltu, qui sicco lumine campos
had-trampled face, who with-dry eye the-plains
uiderat Emathios, uni tibi, Magne, negare
had-seen Emathian, to-alone you, Magnus, to-deny
non audet gemitus. o sors durissima fati!
not dares groans. O lot hardest of-fate!
huncine tu, Caesar, scelerato Marte petisti
this-one you, Caesar, with-wicked Mars did-you-attack
qui tibi flendus erat? nunc mixti foedera tangunt
who by-you to-be-wept was? now of-the-mingled the-compacts touch
te generis? nunc gnata iubet maerere neposque?
you race? now your-daughter bids to-mourn and-your-grandson?

credis apud populos Pompei nomen amantis
do-you-believe among the-peoples of-Pompey the-name loving
hoc castris prodesse tuis? fortasse tyranni
this to-the-camp to-profit your? perhaps of-the-tyrant
tangeris inuidia, captique in uiscera Magni
you-are-touched by-envy, and-of-the-captured upon the-entrails Magnus
hoc alii licuisse doles, quererisque perisse
this to-another to-have-been-allowed you-grieve, and-complain to-have-perished
uindictam belli raptumque e iure superbi
the-vengeance of-the-war and-snatched from the-right of-the-proud
uictoris generum. quisquis te flere coegit
victor the-son-in-law. whatever you to-weep compelled
impetus, a uera longe pietate recessit.
impulse, from true far dutifulness withdrew.
scilicet hoc animo terras atque aequora lustras,
of-course with-this mind lands and seas you-survey,
necubi suppressus pereat gener. o bene rapta
lest-anywhere suppressed perish your-son-in-law. O well snatched
arbitrio mors ista tuo! quam magna remisit
from-the-judgment death that your! how great remitted
crimina Romano tristis fortuna pudori,
crimes to-Roman sad fortune shame,
quod te non passa est misereri, perfide, Magni
that you not allowed has to-pity, faithless-one, Magnus
uiuentis! nec non his fallere uocibus audet
living! nor not with-these to-deceive words he-dares
adquiritque fidem simulati fronte doloris:
and-acquires credit of-feigned by-the-face grief:

Caesar tells the henchman to take away the gift: the crime has robbed him of the one reward of civil war, to pardon the conquered; he would have sent Cleopatra's head to her brother in return. Egypt could have struck him too; he spares the boy king, orders the head buried with honor and the ashes gathered into an urn, and tells Magnus that had he lived he would have asked for his old affection and his life and been content to be his equal. No one believes him; the men hide their groans behind glad faces and, though Caesar mourns, dare to look cheerfully on the crime.

'aufer ab aspectu nostro funesta, satelles,
'take-away from the-sight our the-deadly, henchman,
regis dona tui. peius de Caesare uestrum
of-the-king gifts your. worse from Caesar your
quam de Pompeio meruit scelus; unica belli
than from Pompey has-earned crime; the-only of-war
praemia ciuilis, uictis donare salutem,
rewards civil, to-the-conquered to-grant safety,
perdidimus. quod si Phario germana tyranno
we-have-lost. but if to-the-Pharian his-sister tyrant
non inuisa foret, potuissem reddere regi
not hated were, I-could-have to-repay the-king
quod meruit, fratrique tuum pro munere tali
what he-deserved, and-to-the-brother your for gift such
misissem, Cleopatra, caput. secreta quid arma
I-would-have-sent, Cleopatra, head. secret why arms
mouit et inseruit nostro sua tela labori?
did-he-move and inserted into-our his-own weapons toil?
ergo in Thessalicis Pellaeo fecimus aruis
so in Thessalian for-the-Pellaean did-we-make fields

ius gladio? uestris quaesita licentia regnis?
right for-the-sword? for-your sought license kingdom?
non tuleram Magnum mecum Romana regentem:
not I-had-borne Magnus with-me Roman-things ruling:
te, Ptolemaee, feram? frustra ciuilibus armis
you, Ptolemy, shall-I-bear? in-vain in-civil arms
miscuimus gentes, siqua est hoc orbe potestas
we-have-mingled nations, if-any is in-this world power
altera quam Caesar, si tellus ulla duorum est.
other than Caesar, if land any of-two is.
uertissem Latias a uestro litore proras:
I-would-have-turned Latin from your shore prows:
famae cura uetat, ne non damnasse cruentam
of-fame the-care forbids, lest not to-have-condemned bloody
sed uidear timuisse Pharon. nec fallere uosmet
but I-seem to-have-feared Pharos. nor to-deceive yourselves
credite uictorem: nobis quoque tale paratum
believe the-victor: for-us also such prepared-was
litoris hospitium; ne sic mea colla gerantur
of-the-shore hospitality; lest so my neck be-carried
Thessaliae fortuna facit. maiore profecto
of-Thessaly the-fortune brings-about. with-greater surely
quam metui poterat discrimine gessimus arma:
than to-be-feared could peril we-waged arms:
exilium generique minas Romamque timebam:
exile and-the-son-in-law's threats and-Rome I-was-fearing:
poena fugae Ptolemaeus erat. sed parcimus annis
the-penalty of-flight Ptolemy was. but we-spare his-years
donamusque nefas. sciat hac pro caede tyrannus
and-pardon the-abomination. let-know this for slaughter the-tyrant

nil uenia plus posse dari. uos condite busto
nothing than-pardon more to-be-able to-be-given. you bury in-a-tomb
tanti colla ducis, sed non ut crimina solum
of-so-great the-neck leader, but not that the-crimes only
uestra tegat tellus: iusto date tura sepulchro
your may-cover the-earth: to-a-proper give incense tomb
et placate caput cineresque in litore fusos
and appease the-head and-the-ashes on the-shore poured
colligite atque unam sparsis date manibus urnam.
collect and one to-the-scattered give ghosts urn.
sentiat aduentum soceri uocesque querentis
let-it-feel the-arrival of-the-father-in-law and-the-voices of-one-complaining
audiat umbra pias. dum nobis omnia praefert,
let-hear the-shade dutiful. while to-us all-things he-prefers,
dum uitam Phario mauolt debere clienti,
while his-life to-the-Pharian he-prefers to-owe client,
laeta dies rapta est populis, concordia mundo
a-glad day snatched has-been from-the-peoples, the-concord for-the-world
nostra perit. caruere deis mea uota secundis,
our perishes. have-lacked gods my prayers favorable,
ut te conplexus positis felicibus armis
that you embracing with-laid-down fortunate arms
adfectus a te ueteres uitamque rogarem,
the-affections from you old and-the-life I-might-ask,
Magne, tuam dignaque satis mercede laborum
Magnus, your and-with-worthy enough reward of-toils
contentus par esse tibi. tunc pace fideli
content equal to-be to-you. then with-peace faithful
fecissem ut uictus posses ignoscere diuis,
I-would-have-brought-about that conquered you-could to-forgive the-gods,

fecisses ut Roma mihi.' nec talia fatus
you-would-have-brought-about that Rome me.' nor such-things having-spoken
inuenit fletus comitem nec turba querenti 1105
he-found for-his-weeping a-companion nor the-throng him-complaining
credidit: abscondunt gemitus et pectora laeta
believed: they-hide their-groans and their-breasts glad
fronte tegunt, hilaresque nefas spectare cruentum,
with-their-face they-cover, and-cheerfully the-abomination to-look-at bloody,
o bona libertas, cum Caesar lugeat, audent.
O good liberty, though Caesar mourn, they-dare.

BOOK X

X.1 · CAESAR AT ALEXANDRIA

When Caesar lands in Egypt, the people resent the Roman fasces, and he sees that Pompey did not die for his sake. He tours the temples and descends into the tomb of Alexander. The poet calls Alexander a lucky robber and a deadly evil to the world, kept for a mockery: he left Macedon, crushed Asia, mingled the Euphrates and the Ganges with blood, and would have sailed the outer Ocean had death not stopped him; Rome, ruling north and west, still yields to the Parthians, whom Pella once ruled.

Ut primum terras Pompei colla secutus
As soon-as the-lands of-Pompey the-neck having-followed
attigit et diras calcauit Caesar harenas,
reached and the-dire trod Caesar sands,
pugnauit fortuna ducis fatumque nocentis
fought the-fortune of-the-leader and-the-fate of-guilty
Aegypti, regnum Lagi Romana sub arma
Egypt, the-kingdom of-Lagus Roman under arms
iret, an eriperet mundo Memphiticus ensis
should-go, or should-snatch from-the-world the-Memphite sword
uictoris uictique caput. tua profuit umbra,
of-the-victor and-of-the-conquered the-head. your helped shade,
Magne, tui socerum rapuere a sanguine manes,
Magnus, your the-father-in-law snatched from the-blood ghosts,
ne populus post te Nilum Romanus amaret.
lest the-people after you the-Nile Roman should-love.
inde Paraetoniam fertur securus in urbem
thence the-Paraetonian he-is-borne untroubled into city
pignore tam saeui sceleris sua signa secutam.
by-the-pledge so of-savage crime his standards having-followed.

sed fremitu uolgi fasces et iura querentis
but by-the-roaring of-the-crowd the-fasces and laws complaining
inferri Romana suis discordia sensit
to-be-brought-in Roman into-their-own discordant he-felt
pectora et ancipites animos, Magnumque perisse
breasts and wavering spirits, and-Magnus to-have-perished
non sibi. tum uoltu semper celante pauorem
not for-himself. then with-a-face always hiding fear
intrepidus superum sedes et templa uetusti
undaunted of-the-gods-above the-seats and the-temples of-ancient
numinis antiquas Macetum testantia uires
divinity the-old of-the-Macedonians attesting strength
circumit, et nulla captus dulcedine rerum,
he-goes-round, and by-no taken sweetness of-things,
non auro cultuque deum, non moenibus urbis.
not by-the-gold and-adornment of-the-gods, not by-the-walls of-the-city,
effossum tumulis cupide descendit in antrum.
dug-out in-mounds eagerly he-descends into the-cave.
illic Pellaei proles uaesana Philippi,
there of-Pellaean the-offspring mad Philip,
felix praedo, iacet, terrarum uindice fato
the-lucky robber, lies, of-the-lands with-avenging fate
raptus: sacratis totum spargenda per orbem
snatched-away: in-a-sacred whole to-be-scattered through the-world
membra uiri posuere adytis; fortuna pepercit
the-limbs of-the-man they-placed shrine; fortune spared
manibus, et regni durauit ad ultima fatum.
his-ghost, and of-his-kingship lasted to the-last fate.
nam sibi libertas umquam si redderet orbem
for to-herself liberty ever if should-restore the-world

ludibrio seruatus erat, non utile mundo
for-a-mockery kept he-had-been, not useful to-the-world
editus exemplum, terras tot posse sub uno
put-forth an-example, lands so-many to-be-able under one
esse uiro. Macetum fines latebrasque suorum
to-be man. of-the-Macedonians the-borders and-the-hiding-places of-his-own
deseruit uictasque patri despexit Athenas,
he-deserted and-conquered by-his-father despised Athens,
perque Asiae populos fatis urguentibus actus
and-through of-Asia the-peoples with-the-fates pressing driven
humana cum strage ruit gladiumque per omnis
human with slaughter he-rushed and-the-sword through all
exegit gentes, ignotos miscuit amnes
drove nations, unknown he-mingled rivers
Persarum Euphraten, Indorum sanguine Gangen,
of-the-Persians the-Euphrates, of-the-Indians with-the-blood the-Ganges,
terrarum fatale malum fulmenque quod omnis
of-the-lands a-deadly evil and-a-thunderbolt which all
percuteret pariter populos et sidus iniquum
might-strike equally peoples and a-star unjust
gentibus. Oceano classes inferre parabat
for-the-nations. to-the-Ocean fleets to-bring he-was-preparing
exteriore mari. non illi flamma nec undae
from-the-outer sea. not to-him flame nor waves
nec sterilis Libye nec Syrticus obstitit Hammon.
nor barren Libya nor Syrtic stood-in-the-way Hammon.
isset in occasus mundi deuexa secutus
he-would-have-gone into the-settings of-the-world the-slope having-followed
ambissetque polos Nilumque a fonte bibisset:
and-would-have-gone-round the-poles and-the-Nile from its-source would-have-drunk:

occurrit suprema dies, naturaque solum
met-him the-last day, and-nature alone
hunc potuit finem uaesano ponere regi;
this could end on-the-mad to-set king;
qui secum inuidia, quo totum ceperat orbem,
who with-himself by-envy, by-which whole he-had-taken the-world,
abstulit imperium, nulloque herede relicto
carried-off the-empire, and-with-no heir left
totius fati lacerandas praebuit urbes.
of-whole fate to-be-torn offered the-cities.
sed cecidit Babylone sua Parthoque uerendus.
but he-fell in-Babylon his-own and-by-the-Parthian revered.
pro pudor, Eoi propius timuere sarisas
O shame, the-Eastern more-closely feared the-pikes
quam nunc pila timent populi. licet usque sub Arcton
than now the-javelins fear peoples. though all-the-way under the-Bear
regnemus Zephyrique domos terrasque premamus
we-reign and-of-Zephyr the-homes and-lands we-press
flagrantis post terga Noti, cedemus in ortus
of-the-burning behind the-back South-Wind, we-shall-yield in the-east
Arsacidum domino. non felix Parthia Crassis
of-the-Arsacids to-the-master. not lucky Parthia for-the-Crassi
exiguae secura fuit prouincia Pellae.
of-small untroubled was a-province Pella.

Ptolemy has come to Alexandria as a hostage of peace when Cleopatra, bribing the guard, has herself carried by boat into Caesar's palace: the disgrace of Egypt, a Fury for Latium, who as Helen ruined Troy increased Rome's frenzies. Caesar, his hands still red from Pharsalus, takes her as his lover and has a son by her. She begs him to restore her to her father's throne and to free her brother from Pothinus. She wins him in a night, and peace is bought; a feast follows.

iam Pelusiaco ueniens a gurgite Nili
now Pelusian coming from flood of-the-Nile
rex puer inbellis populi sedauerat iras,
the-king a-boy unwarlike of-the-people had-calmed the-angers,
obside quo pacis Pellaea tutus in aula
with-hostage whom of-peace the-Pellaean safe in court
Caesar erat, cum se parua Cleopatra biremi
Caesar was, when herself in-a-small Cleopatra bireme
corrupto custode Phari laxare catenas
with-bribed guard of-Pharos to-loosen the-chains
intulit Emathiis ignaro Caesare tectis,
brought into-the-Emathian with-unaware Caesar halls,
dedecus Aegypti, Latii feralis Erinys,
the-disgrace of-Egypt, of-Latium the-deadly Erinys,
Romano non casta malo. quantum inpulit Argos
to-Roman not chaste evil. as-much-as drove Argos
Iliacasque domos facie Spartana nocenti,
and-the-Ilian houses with-beauty Spartan harmful,
Hesperios auxit tantum Cleopatra furores.
the-Hesperian increased so-much Cleopatra frenzies.
terruit illa suo, si fas, Capitolia sistro
frightened she with-her-own, if it-is-right, the-Capitol rattle

et Romana petit inbelli signa Canopo
and the-Roman attacked with-unwarlike standards Canopus
Caesare captiuo Pharios ductura triumphos;
with-Caesar captive Pharian going-to-lead triumphs;
Leucadioque fuit dubius sub gurgite casus,
and-the-Leucadian was doubtful under flood the-chance,
an mundum ne nostra quidem matrona teneret.
whether the-world not our even matron would-hold.
hoc animi nox illa dedit quae prima cubili
this boldness night that gave which first in-bed
miscuit incestam ducibus Ptolemaida nostris.
mingled the-incestuous with-leaders the-daughter-of-Ptolemy our.
quis tibi uaesani ueniam non donet amoris,
who to-you of-mad pardon not would-grant love,
Antoni, durum cum Caesaris hauserit ignis
Antony, hard when of-Caesar has-drunk-in the-fire
pectus? et in media rabie medioque furore
the-breast? and in the-middle of-madness and-the-middle of-frenzy
et Pompeianis habitata manibus aula
and by-Pompeian haunted ghosts court
sanguine Thessalicae cladis perfusus adulter
with-the-blood of-the-Thessalian slaughter drenched the-adulterer
admisit Venerem curis, et miscuit armis
admitted Venus to-his-cares, and mingled with-arms
inlicitosque toros et non ex coniuge partus.
and-illicit couches and not from a-wife offspring.
pro pudor, oblitus Magni tibi, Iulia, fratres
O shame, forgetful of-Magnus for-you, Julia, brothers
obscaena de matre dedit, partesque fugatas
an-obscene from mother he-gave, and-the-party routed

passus in extremis Libyae coalescere regnis
allowing in farthest of-Libya to-grow-together kingdoms
tempora Niliaco turpis dependit amori,
the-time to-a-Nilotic shameful he-paid-away love,
dum donare Pharon, dum non sibi uincere mauolt.
while to-give-away Pharos, while not for-himself to-conquer he-prefers.
quem formae confisa suae Cleopatra sine ullis
him in-the-beauty trusting her-own Cleopatra without any
tristis adit lacrimis, simulatum compta dolorem
sad approaches tears, her-feigned adorned grief
qua decuit, ueluti laceros dispersa capillos,
as it-befitted, as-if torn scattering hair,
et sic orsa loqui: 'siqua est, o maxime Caesar,
and so began to-speak: 'if-any there-is, O greatest Caesar,
nobilitas, Pharii proles clarissima Lagi,
nobility, of-Pharian the-offspring most-famous Lagus,
exul in aeternum sceptris depulsa paternis,
an-exile for ever from-the-scepter driven paternal,
ni tua restituit ueteri me dextera fato,
unless your restores to-ancient me right-hand fate,
conplector regina pedes. tu gentibus aequum
I-embrace a-queen your-feet. you to-the-nations just
sidus ades nostris. non urbes prima tenebo
star are-present our. not the-cities the-first I-shall-hold
femina Niliacas: nullo discrimine sexus
woman Nile's: with-no distinction of-sex
reginam scit ferre Pharos. lege summa perempti
a-queen knows to-bear Pharos. read the-last of-the-slain
uerba patris, qui iura mihi communia regni
words of-my-father, who the-rights to-me shared of-the-kingdom

et thalamos cum fratre dedit. puer ipse sororem,
and the-marriage-bed with my-brother gave. the-boy himself his-sister,
sit modo liber, amat; sed habet sub iure Pothini
may-he-be only free, loves; but he-has under the-control of-Pothinus
adfectus ensesque suos. nil ipsa paterni
his-affections and-swords his-own. nothing myself of-my-father's
iuris inire peto: culpa tantoque pudore
right to-enter-on I-seek: from-guilt and-from-so-great shame
solue domum, remoue funesta satellitis arma
free the-house, remove the-deadly of-the-henchman arms
et regem regnare iube. quantosne tumores
and the-king to-reign bid. how-great swellings
mente gerit famulus! Magni ceruice reuolsa
in-mind carries the-servant! of-Magnus with-the-neck torn-off
iam tibi, sed procul hoc auertant fata, minatur.
now you, but far this may-avert the-fates, he-threatens.
sat fuit indignum, Caesar, mundoque tibique
enough it-was unworthy, Caesar, and-to-the-world and-to-you
Pompeium facinus meritumque fuisse Pothini.'
Pompey the-crime and-the-service to-have-been of-Pothinus.'
nequiquam duras temptasset Caesaris aures:
in-vain hard she-would-have-tried of-Caesar ears:
uoltus adest precibus faciesque incesta perorat.
her-face is-present at-the-prayers and-her-beauty unchaste pleads.
exigit infandam corrupto iudice noctem.
she-spends an-unspeakable with-corrupted judge night.
pax ubi parta ducis donisque ingentibus empta est,
peace when won of-the-leader and-with-gifts huge bought was,
excepere epulae tantarum gaudia rerum,
received a-feast of-so-great the-joys things,

explicuitque suos magno Cleopatra tumultu
and-unfolded her-own with-great Cleopatra uproar
nondum translatos Romana in saecula luxus.
not-yet transferred Roman to ages luxuries.
ipse locus templi, quod uix corruptior aetas
itself the-place of-a-temple, which scarcely a-more-corrupt age
extruat, instar erat, laqueataque tecta ferebant
would-build, the-likeness was, and-paneled ceilings bore
diuitias crassumque trabes absconderat aurum.
riches and-thick the-beams had-hidden gold.
nec summis crustata domus sectisque nitebat
nor on-the-surface veneered the-house and-with-cut shone
marmoribus, stabatque sibi non segnis achates
marbles, and-stood for-its-own-sake not idle agate
purpureusque lapis, totaque effusus in aula
and-purple stone, and-whole spread through the-court
calcabatur onyx; hebenus Mareotica uastos
was-trodden onyx; ebony Mareotic the-vast
non operit postes sed stat pro robore uili,
not covers doorposts but stands for wood cheap,
auxilium non forma domus. ebur atria uestit,
a-support not an-ornament of-the-house. ivory the-halls clothes,
et suffecta manu foribus testudinis Indae
and stained by-hand on-the-doors of-the-tortoise Indian
terga sedent, crebro maculas distincta zmaragdo.
the-backs sit, with-frequent the-spots marked emerald.
fulget gemma toris, et iaspide fulua supellex
gleams the-jewel on-the-couches, and with-jasper yellow the-furniture
stat mensas onerans, uariaque triclinia ueste
stands the-tables loading, and-with-varied couches cloth

strata micant, Tyrio cuius pars maxima fuco
spread shine, with-Tyrian of-which part greatest dye
cocta diu uirus non uno duxit aeno,
steeped long the-poison not from-one has-drawn cauldron,
pars auro plumata nitet, pars ignea cocco,
part with-gold embroidered shines, part fiery with-scarlet,
ut mos est Phariis miscendi licia telis.
as the-custom is in-Pharian of-mingling threads looms.
tum famulae numerus turbae populusque minister.
then of-the-servant the-number throng and-a-people serving.
discolor hos sanguis, alios distinxerat aetas;
of-different-color these blood, others had-distinguished age;
haec Libycos, pars tam flauos gerit altera crines
this Libyan, part so yellow bears other hair
ut nullis Caesar Rheni se dicat in aruis
that no Caesar of-the-Rhine himself might-say in fields
tam rutilas uidisse comas; pars sanguinis usti
so red to-have-seen locks; part of-blood scorched
torta caput refugosque gerens a fronte capillos;
twisted in-head and-receding bearing from the-brow hair;
nec non infelix ferro mollita iuuentus
nor not unlucky by-steel softened youth
atque exsecta uirum: stat contra fortior aetas
and cut-off of-manhood: stands opposite stronger age
uix ulla fuscante tamen lanugine malas.
scarcely any darkening yet with-down cheeks.

Cleopatra, painted and laden with the spoils of the Red Sea, reclines with the kings and Caesar at a feast served on gold, with crystal, Falernian wine aged at Meroe, and garlands of nard and rose; the poet says that Fabricius or Curius would have longed to lead such riches in triumph. Caesar learns to squander the world's wealth and wishes for causes of war with Egypt. After the feast he asks the priest Acoreus to tell him the history and rites of Egypt, and above all the source of the Nile: if he could see its springs, he would leave the civil war.

discubuere illic reges maiorque potestas
reclined there the-kings and-the-greater power
Caesar; et inmodice formam fucata nocentem,
Caesar; and immoderately her-beauty painted harmful,
nec sceptris contenta suis nec fratre marito,
nor with-scepter content her-own nor with-brother as-husband,
plena maris rubri spoliis, colloque comisque
full of-the-sea red with-the-spoils, and-on-her-neck and-on-her-hair
diuitias Cleopatra gerit cultuque laborat.
riches Cleopatra wears and-under-her-finery labors.
candida Sidonio perlucent pectora filo,
white through-the-Sidonian show-through her-breasts thread,
quod Nilotis acus conpressum pectine Serum
which the-Nilotic needle pressed by-the-comb of-the-Seres
soluit et extenso laxauit stamina uelo.
loosened and with-stretched has-relaxed the-warp veil.
dentibus hic niueis sectos Atlantide silua
on-tusks here snowy cut from-the-Atlantic wood
inposuere orbes, quales ad Caesaris ora
they-set round-tables, such-as to Caesar's eyes

nec capto uenere Iuba. pro caecus et amens
not with-captured came Juba. O blind and mad
ambitione furor, ciuilia bella gerenti
in-ambition frenzy, civil wars to-one-waging
diuitias aperire suas, incendere mentem
riches to-open her-own, to-kindle the-mind
hospitis armati. non sit licet ille nefando
of-a-guest armed. not let-him-be though he by-unspeakable
Marte paratus opes mundi quaesisse ruina;
Mars prepared riches of-the-world to-have-sought by-ruin;
pone duces priscos et nomina pauperis aeui
place leaders ancient and the-names of-a-poor age
Fabricios Curiosque graues, hic ille recumbat
the-Fabricii and-the-Curii stern, here that let-recline
sordidus Etruscis abductus consul aratris:
squalid from-the-Etruscan carried-off consul plows:
optabit patriae talem duxisse triumphum.
he-will-wish for-his-fatherland such to-have-led a-triumph.
infudere epulas auro, quod terra, quod aer,
they-poured-in the-feast on-gold, what earth, what air,
quod pelagus Nilusque dedit, quod luxus inani
what sea and-the-Nile gave, what luxury with-empty
ambitione furens toto quaesiuit in orbe
ambition raging whole sought in world
non mandante fame; multas uolucresque ferasque
with-not commanding hunger; many and-birds and-beasts
Aegypti posuere deos, manibusque ministrat
of-Egypt they-served gods, and-for-the-hands supplies
Niliacas crystallos aquas, gemmaeque capaces
Nile's crystal waters, and-jewels capacious

excepere merum, sed non Mareotidos uuae,
received the-unmixed-wine, but not of-the-Mareotic grape,
nobile sed paucis senium cui contulit annis
noble but in-few old-age to-which brought years
indomitum Meroe cogens spumare Falernum.
untamed Meroe compelling to-foam Falernian.
accipiunt sertas nardo florente coronas
they-receive woven with-nard blooming garlands
et numquam fugiente rosa, multumque madenti
and with-never fading rose, and-much on-dripping
infudere comae quod nondum euanuit aura
they-poured hair which not-yet has-faded in-air
cinnamon externa nec perdidit aera terrae,
cinnamon foreign nor has-lost the-air of-its-land,
aduectumque recens uicinae messis amomon.
and-brought fresh of-the-neighboring harvest amomum.
discit opes Caesar spoliati perdere mundi
learns wealth Caesar of-a-plundered to-waste world
et gessisse pudet genero cum paupere bellum
and to-have-waged he-is-ashamed son-in-law with poor war
et causas Martis Phariis cum gentibus optat.
and causes of-Mars the-Pharian with nations he-wishes.
postquam epulis Bacchoque modum lassata uoluptas
after to-feasts and-to-Bacchus a-limit wearied pleasure
inposuit, longis Caesar producere noctem
set, with-long Caesar to-prolong the-night
inchoat adloquiis, summaque in sede iacentem
begins conversations, and-the-highest on seat reclining
linigerum placidis conpellat Acorea dictis.
linen-wearing with-calm addresses Acoreus words.

‘o sacris deuote senex, quodque arguit aetas
‘O to-sacred-rites devoted old-man, and-what proves your-age
non neclecte deis, Phariae primordia gentis
not neglected by-the-gods, of-the-Pharian the-beginnings race
terrarumque situs uolgique edissere mores
and-of-the-lands the-site and-of-the-crowd set-forth the-ways
et ritus formasque deum; quodcumque uetustis
and the-rites and-forms of-the-gods; whatever on-ancient
insculptum est adytis profer, noscique uolentes
carved is shrines bring-out, and-to-be-known wishing
prode deos. si Cecropium sua sacra Platona
reveal the-gods. if the-Cecropian their-own rites Plato
maiores docuere tui, quis dignior umquam
the-ancestors taught your, who more-worthy ever
hoc fuit auditu mundique capacior hospes?
of-this was hearing and-of-the-world more-capacious a-guest?
fama quidem generi Pharias me duxit ad urbes,
the-fame indeed of-my-son-in-law the-Pharian me led to cities,
sed tamen et uestri; media inter proelia semper
but yet also of-yours; mid among battles always
stellarum caelique plagis superisque uacaui,
for-the-stars’ and-the-sky’s regions and-the-gods-above I-had-leisure,
nec meus Eudoxi uincetur fastibus annus.
nor my than-Eudoxus’ will-be-surpassed calendar year.
sed, cum tanta meo uiuat sub pectore uirtus,
but, while so-great my lives under breast valor,
tantus amor ueri, nihil est quod noscere malim
so-great a-love of-truth, nothing is which to-know I-would-prefer
quam fluuii causas per saecula tanta latentis
than of-the-river the-causes through ages so-many lying-hidden

ignotumque caput: spes sit mihi certa uidendi
and-unknown source: let-the-hope be for-me sure of-seeing
Niliacos fontes, bellum ciuile relinquam.'
the-Nile's springs, war civil I-will-leave.'

X.4 · ACOREUS ON THE NILE

Acoreus explains that each planet has its power and that Mercury rules the waters; when he stands with the sun in Leo and Cancer, the Nile rises in summer, unlike other rivers, and floods until autumn. The snows of Ethiopia cannot cause it, and the old belief in the west winds driving clouds or holding back its mouths is vain; others think it flows through the earth from the north, or is fed by the Ocean. He holds that some waters burst out in later ages, but some, like the Nile, began with the world.

finierat, contraque sacer sic orsus Acoreus:
he-had-finished, and-in-reply the-holy so began Acoreus:
'fas mihi magnorum, Caesar, secreta parentum
'right for-me of-my-great, Caesar, the-secrets ancestors
edere ad hoc aeui populis ignota profanis.
to-reveal to this of-time to-peoples unknown profane.
sit pietas aliis miracula tanta silere;
let-it-be dutifulness for-others wonders so-great to-keep-silent;
ast ego caelicolis gratum reor ire per omnis
but I to-the-heaven-dwellers welcome think to-go through all
hoc opus et sacras populis notescere leges.
this work and the-sacred to-the-peoples to-become-known laws.
sideribus, quae sola fugam moderantur Olympi
to-the-stars, which alone the-flight govern of-Olympus
occurruntque polo, diuersa potentia prima
and-run-against the-pole, different power by-the-first

mundi lege data est. sol tempora diuidit aeui,
of-the-world law given was. the-sun the-seasons divides of-time,
mutat nocte diem, radiisque potentibus astra
changes with-night day, and-with-rays mighty the-stars
ire uetat cursusque uagos statione moratur;
to-go forbids and-the-courses wandering in-station delays;
luna suis uicibus Tethyn terrenaque miscet;
the-moon with-her-own changes Tethys and-earthly-things mingles;
frigida Saturno glacies et zona niualis
cold to-Saturn the-ice and the-zone snowy
cessit; habet uentos incertaque fulmina Mauors;
fell; has the-winds and-uncertain thunderbolts Mars;
sub Ioue temperies et numquam turbidus aer;
under Jupiter temperateness and never turbid air;
at fecunda Venus cunctarum semina rerum
but fruitful Venus of-all the-seeds things
possidet; inmensae Cyllenius arbiter undaest.
possesses; of-the-immense the-Cyllenian judge water-is.
hunc ubi pars caeli tenuit, qua mixta Leonis
him when the-part of-the-sky has-held, where mingled of-Leo
sidera sunt Cancro, rapidos qua Sirius ignes
the-stars are with-Cancer, swift where Sirius fires
exerit et uarii mutator circulus anni
puts-forth and of-the-varied the-changer circle year
Aegoceron Cancrumque tenet, cui subdita Nili
Capricorn and-Cancer holds, beneath-which placed of-the-Nile
ora latent, quae cum dominus percussit aquarum
the-mouths lie-hid, which when the-lord has-struck of-the-waters
igne superiecto, tunc Nilus fonte soluto,
with-fire thrown-over, then the-Nile with-spring loosened,

exit ut Oceanus lunaribus incrementis,
goes-out as the-Ocean at-the-lunar increases,
iussus adest, auctusque suos non ante coartat
ordered he-is-present, and-swellings his-own not before confines
quam nox aestiuas a sole receperit horas.
than the-night the-summer from the-sun has-taken-back hours.
uana fides ueterum, Nilo, quod crescat in arua,
vain the-belief of-the-ancients, to-the-Nile, that it-may-rise onto the-fields,
Aethiopum prodesse niues. non Arctos in illis
of-the-Ethiopians to-profit the-snows. not the-Bear on those
montibus aut Boreas. testis tibi sole perusti
mountains or Boreas. witness for-you by-the-sun scorched
ipse color populi calidique uaporibus Austri.
itself the-color of-the-people and-of-hot by-the-vapors South-Wind.
adde quod omne caput fluuii, quodcumque soluta
add that every source of-a-river, whatever loosened
praecipitat glacies, ingresso uere tumescit
hurls-down ice, with-entered spring swells
prima tabe niuis: Nilus neque suscitat undas
at-the-first melting of-the-snow: the-Nile neither rouses its-waves
ante Canis radios nec ripis alligat amnem
before of-the-Dog the-rays nor with-banks binds its-stream
ante parem nocti Libra sub iudice Phoebum.
before equal to-night the-Scales under (as)-judge Phoebus.
inde etiam leges aliarum nescit aquarum,
thence too the-laws of-other knows-not waters,
nec tumet hibernus, cum longe sole remoto
nor swells in-winter, when far with-the-sun removed
officiis caret unda suis: dare iussus iniquo
of-its-duties lacks the-water its-own: to-give ordered to-the-unjust

temperiem caelo mediis aestatibus exit
temperateness sky in-the-middle summers it-goes-out
sub torrente plaga, neu terras dissipet ignis
under the-burning zone, and-lest the-lands should-scatter the-fire
Nilus adest mundo contraque incensa Leonis
the-Nile is-present for-the-world and-against the-kindled of-Leo
ora tumet Cancroque suam torrente Syenen
mouth swells and-with-Cancer its-own scorching Syene
inploratus adest, nec campos liberat undis
implored is-present, nor the-plains frees from-its-waters
donec in autumnum declinet Phoebus et umbras
until into autumn declines Phoebus and the-shadows
extendat Meroe. quis causas reddere possit?
stretches Meroe. who the-causes to-render could?
sic iussit natura parens discurrere Nilum,
so ordered nature the-parent to-run-about the-Nile,
sic opus est mundo. Zephyros quoque uana uetustas
so need is for-the-world. the-Zephyrs also vain antiquity
his ascripsit aquis, quorum stata tempora flatus
to-these ascribed waters, whose fixed the-times of-blowing
continuique dies et in aera longa potestas,
and-continuous the-days and in the-air long power,
uel quod ab occiduo depellunt nubila caelo
either because from the-western they-drive clouds sky
trans Noton et fluuio cogunt incumbere nimbos,
beyond the-South and to-the-river force to-press rainclouds,
uel quod aquas totiens rumpentis litora Nili
or because the-waters so-often of-breaking the-shores Nile
adsiduo feriunt coguntque resistere fluctu:
with-continual they-strike and-force to-resist wave:

ille mora cursus aduersique obice ponti
it by-the-delay of-its-course and-of-the-opposing by-the-barrier sea
aestuat in campos. sunt qui spiramina terris
surges onto the-plains. there-are those-who breathing-holes in-the-earth
esse putent magnosque cauae conpagis hiatus.
to-be may-think and-great of-the-hollow structure gapings.
commeat hac penitus tacitis discursibus unda
travels this-way deep in-silent wanderings the-water
frigore ab Arctoo medium reuocata sub axem,
the-cold from northern middle called-back under axis,
cum Phoebus pressit Meroen tellusque perusta
when Phoebus has-pressed Meroe and-the-earth scorched
illuc duxit aquas; trahitur Gangesque Padusque
thither has-drawn the-waters; is-drawn and-the-Ganges and-the-Po
per tacitum mundi: tunc omnia flumina Nilus
through the-silent-(part) of-the-world: then all rivers the-Nile
uno fonte uomens non uno gurgite perfert.
from-one spring vomiting not in-one flood carries.
rumor ab Oceano, qui terras alligat omnes,
the-rumor from the-Ocean, which the-lands binds all,
exundante procul uiolentum erumpere Nilum
overflowing far-off violent to-burst-forth the-Nile
aequoreosque sales longo mitescere tractu.
and-sea's salts by-long to-grow-mild course.
nec non Oceano pasci Phoebumque polosque
nor not on-the-Ocean to-be-fed and-Phoebus and-the-poles
credimus: hunc, calidi tetigit cum bracchia Cancri,
we-believe: this, of-hot it-has-touched when the-arms Cancer,
sol rapit, atque undae plus quam quod digerat aer
the-sun snatches, and of-water more than what can-digest the-air

tollitur; hoc noctes referunt Niloque profundunt.
is-raised; this the-nights bring-back and-on-the-Nile pour.
ast ego, si tantam ius est mihi soluere litem,
but I, if so-great right it-is for-me to-loose a-dispute,
quasdam, Caesar, aquas post mundi sera peracti
some, Caesar, waters after of-the-world late accomplished
saecula concussis terrarum erumpere uenis
ages with-shaken of-the-lands to-burst-forth veins
non id agente deo, quasdam conpage sub ipsa
with-not this doing god, some the-structure under very
cum toto coepisse reor, quas ille creator
with whole to-have-begun think, which that creator
atque opifex rerum certo sub iure coercet.
and fashioner of-things fixed under law restrains.

X.5 · THE SEARCH FOR THE SOURCE

Kings have sought the source of the Nile and never found it: Alexander sent men to Ethiopia, Sesostris and Cambyses failed. No people may boast of seeing it small. Acoreus traces its course: rising at the equator, it runs north, ringing Meroe, crossing the desert, gathering its channels again at Philae, breaking over the cataracts, passing Abaton, and flowing quietly between the mountains until Memphis gives it the plains.

quae tibi noscendi Nilum, Romane, cupido est,
which to-you of-knowing the-Nile, Roman, desire is,
et Phariis Persisque fuit Macetumque tyrannis,
also to-the-Pharian and-Persian was and-Macedonian tyrants,
nullaque non aetas uoluit conferre futuris
and-no not age has-wished to-bring to-those-to-come

notitiam; sed uincit adhuc natura latendi.
knowledge; but conquers still the-nature of-lying-hidden.
summus Alexander regum, quem Memphis adorat,
highest Alexander of-kings, whom Memphis worships,
inuidit Nilo, misitque per ultima terrae
envied the-Nile, and-sent through the-farthest-parts of-the-earth
Aethiopum lectos: illos rubicunda perusti
of-the-Ethiopians chosen-men: them the-ruddy of-scorched
zona poli tenuit; Nilum uidere calentem.
zone pole held; the-Nile they-saw warm.
uenit ad occasus mundique extrema Sesostris
came to the-settings and-of-the-world the-ends Sesostris
et Pharios currus regum ceruicibus egit;
and the-Pharian chariots of-kings on-the-necks drove;
ante tamen uestros amnes, Rhodanumque Padumque,
before yet your rivers, the-Rhone and-the-Po,
quam Nilum de fonte bibit. uaesanus in ortus
than the-Nile from its-source he-drank. mad into the-east
Cambyses longi populos peruenit ad aeui,
Cambyses of-long the-peoples reached to age,
defectusque epulis et pastus caede suorum
and-deprived of-feasts and fed on-the-slaughter of-his-own
ignoto te, Nile, redit. non fabula mendax
with-unknown you, Nile, returned. not legend lying
ausa loqui de fonte tuo est. ubicumque uideris
dared to-speak about source your has. wherever you-are-seen
quaereris, et nulli contingit gloria genti
you-are-sought, and to-no befalls the-glory nation
ut Nilo sit laeta suo. tua flumina prodam,
that in-the-Nile it-may-be glad its-own. your streams I-will-reveal,

qua deus undarum celator, Nile, tuarum
as the-god of-waters the-concealer, Nile, of-your
te mihi nosse dedit. medio consurgis ab axe;
you to-me to-know has-given. the-middle you-rise from axis;
ausus in ardentem ripas attollere Cancrum
having-dared toward the-burning your-banks to-raise Cancer
in Borean is rectus aquis mediumque Booten
toward the-North you-go straight with-waters and-the-middle Bootes
(cursus in occasus flexu torquetur et ortus,
(your-course to the-settings with-a-bend is-twisted and the-risings,
nunc Arabum populis, Libycis nunc aequus harenis),
now to-the-Arabs' peoples, to-Libyan now fair sands),
teque uident primi, quaerunt tamen hi quoque, Seres,
and-you see first, seek yet these too, the-Seres,
Aethiopumque feris alieno gurgite campos,
and-of-the-Ethiopians you-strike with-another's flood the-plains,
et te terrarum nescit cui debeat orbis.
and you of-the-lands knows-not to-whom it-should-owe the-world.
arcanum natura caput non prodidit ulli,
secret nature your-source not has-revealed to-anyone,
nec licuit populis paruum te, Nile, uidere,
nor it-has-been-allowed to-the-peoples small you, Nile, to-see,
amouitque sinus et gentes maluit ortus
and-it-removed your-bays and the-nations preferred your-risings
mirari quam nosse tuos. consurgere in ipsis
to-wonder-at than to-know your. to-rise at the-very
ius tibi solstitiis, aliena crescere bruma
right for-you solstices, in-another's to-grow winter
atque hiemes adferre tuas, solique uagari
and the-winters to-bring your-own, and-alone to-wander

concessum per utrosque polos. hic quaeritur ortus,
granted through both poles. here is-sought the-rising,
illic finis aquae. late tibi gurgite rupto
there the-end of-the-water. widely by-you with-flood broken
ambitur nigris Meroe fecunda colonis,
is-encircled with-black Meroe fruitful settlers,
laeta comis hebeni, quae quamuis arbore multa
glad in-the-foliage of-ebony, which although with-tree many
frondeat aestatem nulla sibi mitigat umbra,
it-be-leafy the-summer with-no for-itself softens shade,
linea tam rectum mundi ferit illa Leonem.
the-line so straight of-the-world strikes that Leo.
inde plagas Phoebi damnum non passus aquarum
thence the-regions of-Phoebus the-loss not having-suffered of-waters
praeueheris sterilesque diu metiris harenas,
you-sail-past and-barren long you-measure sands,
nunc omnes unum uires collectus in amnem,
now all one your-strength gathered into stream,
nunc uagus et spargens facilem tibi cedere ripam.
now wandering and scattering easy to-you to-yield bank.
rursus multifidas reuocat piger alueus undas,
again many-cleft calls-back sluggish the-channel waves,
qua dirimunt Arabum populis Aegyptia rura
where separate from-the-Arabs' peoples the-Egyptian fields
regni claustra Philae. mox te deserta secantem,
of-the-kingdom the-barriers Philae. soon you the-deserts cutting,
qua iungunt nostrum rubro commercia ponto,
where join our with-the-red commerce sea,
mollis lapsus agit. quis te tam lene fluentem
a-gentle glide drives. who you so gently flowing

moturum totas uiolenti gurgitis iras,
going-to-move whole of-violent flood the-angers,
Nile, putet? sed, cum lapsus abrupta uiarum
Nile, would-think? but, when your-gliding the-steeps of-the-ways
excepere tuos et praecipites cataractae
have-received your and headlong cataracts
ac nusquam uetitis ullas obsistere cautes
and nowhere to-forbidden any to-stand-against crags
indignaris aquis, spuma tunc astra lacessis,
you-are-indignant waters, with-foam then the-stars you-provoke,
cuncta fremunt undis, ac multo murmure montis
all-things roar with-waves, and with-much murmur of-the-mountain
spumeus inuitis canescit fluctibus amnis.
foaming with-unwilling grows-white waves the-river.
hinc, Abaton quam nostra uocat ueneranda uetustas,
hence, Abaton which our calls venerable antiquity,
terra potens primos sentit percussa tumultus
a-land mighty the-first feels struck tumults
et scopuli, placuit fluuii quos dicere uenas,
and the-crags, it-pleased of-the-river which to-call the-veins,
quod manifesta noui primum dant signa tumoris.
because clear of-new first they-give signs swelling.
hinc montes natura uagis circumdedit undis,
hence mountains nature with-wandering has-surrounded waters,
qui Libyae te, Nile, negent; quos inter in alta
which to-Libya you, Nile, deny; which among in deep
it conualle tacens iam moribus unda receptis.
goes valley silent now with-its-ways recovered the-water.

prima tibi campos permittit apertaque Memphis
first to-you the-plains grants and-open Memphis
rura modumque uetat crescendi ponere ripas.'
fields and-a-limit forbids of-rising to-set the-banks.'

X.6 · POTHINUS' PLOT

Pothinus, already stained with Pompey's blood, plans to kill Caesar too, and the poet prays the fates to spare that crime for Brutus. He sends word to Achillas, the king's general: Cleopatra has seized the palace and will win the boy too, and both their heads will be her gift. Let Achillas rush in by night and kill her and Caesar; Pompey's murder has made them great, and Caesar's death would make the Roman people love them. Achillas gathers an army, mostly of degenerate Roman soldiers.

sic uelut in tuta securi pace trahebant
so as-if in safe untroubled peace they-were-drawing-out
noctis iter mediae. sed non uaesana Pothini
of-the-night the-journey middle. but not the-mad of-Pothinus
mens inbuta semel sacra iam caede uacabat
mind stained once with-sacred already slaughter was-free
a scelerum motu: Magno nihil ille perempto
from of-crimes the-impulse: with-Magnus nothing he slain
iam putat esse nefas; habitant sub pectore manes
now thinks to-be abomination; dwell under his-breast the-ghosts
ultricesque deae dant in noua monstra furorem.
and-the-avenging goddesses give for new monsters frenzy.
dignatur uiles isto quoque sanguine dextras
he-deems-worthy cheap with-that also blood hands
quo Fortuna parat uictos perfundere patres,
with-which Fortune prepares the-conquered to-drench fathers,

poenaque ciuilis belli, uindicta senatus
and-the-penalty of-civil war, the-vengeance of-the-senate
paene data est famulo. procul hoc auertite, fata,
almost given was to-a-servant. far this avert, fates,
crimen, ut haec Bruto ceruix absente secetur.
crime, that this with-Brutus neck absent be-cut.
in scelus it Pharium Romani poena tyranni,
into a-crime goes Pharian of-the-Roman the-punishment tyrant,
exemplumque perit. struit audax inrita fatis
and-the-example perishes. he-builds bold vain-things with-the-fates
nec parat occultae caedem committere fraudi
nor prepares to-hidden the-slaughter to-commit treachery
inuictumque ducem detecto Marte lacessit.
and-the-unconquered leader with-uncovered Mars provokes.
tantum animi delicta dabant, ut colla ferire
so-much of-spirit his-crimes gave, that the-neck to-strike
Caesaris et socerum iungi tibi, Magne, iuberet;
of-Caesar and the-father-in-law to-be-joined to-you, Magnus, he-ordered;
atque haec dicta monet famulos perferre fideles
and these words he-warns servants to-carry faithful
ad Pompeianae socium sibi caedis Achillam,
to of-the-Pompeian the-partner for-himself slaughter Achillas,
quem puer inbellis cunctis praefecerat armis
whom the-boy unwarlike over-all had-set-in-charge arms
et dederat ferrum, nullo sibi iure retento,
and had-given the-steel, with-no for-himself right kept,
in cunctos in seque simul. 'tu mollibus' inquit
against all against and-himself together. 'you on-soft' he-says
'nunc incumbe toris et pinguis exige somnos:
'now lie couches and rich spend sleep:

inuasit Cleopatra domum, nec prodita tantum est
has-invaded Cleopatra the-house, nor betrayed only is
sed donata Pharos. cessas accurrere solus
but given-away Pharos. do-you-delay to-run-to alone
ad dominae thalamos? nubit soror inpia fratri,
to of-the-mistress the-bedroom? marries the-sister impious her-brother,
nam Latio iam nupta duci est, interque maritos
for to-the-Latin already married to-the-leader she-is, and-between husbands
discurrens Aegypton habet Romamque meretur.
running-about Egypt she-holds and-Rome she-earns.
expugnare senem potuit Cleopatra uenenis:
to-storm the-old-man could Cleopatra with-potions:
crede, miser, puero, quem nox si iunxerit una
trust, wretched, the-boy, whom the-night if shall-have-joined one
et semel amplexus incesto pectore passus
and once embraces with-incestuous breast having-suffered
hauserit obscaenum titulo pietatis amorem,
shall-have-drunk an-obscene under-the-title of-dutifulness love,
meque tuumque caput per singula forsitan illi
and-me and-your head for single perhaps to-him
oscula donabit. crucibus flammisque luemus
kisses she-will-give. on-crosses and-in-flames we-shall-pay
si fuerit formonsa soror. nil undique restat
if she-shall-have-been beautiful the-sister. nothing from-anywhere remains
auxilii: rex hinc coniunx, hinc Caesar adulter.
of-help: the-king on-this-side husband, on-that Caesar adulterer.
et sumus, ut fatear, tam saeua iudice sontes:
and we-are, that I-may-confess, with-so savage judge guilty:
quem non e nobis credit Cleopatra nocentem
whom not of us believes Cleopatra guilty

a quo casta fuit? per te quod fecimus una
by whom chaste she-was? by you what we-did together
perdidimusque nefas, perque ictum sanguine Magni
and-ruined abomination, and-by struck with-the-blood of-Magnus
foedus, ades; subito bellum molire tumultu,
treaty, be-at-hand; with-sudden war stir-up uproar,
inrue; nocturnas rumpamus funere taedas
rush-in; the-nocturnal let-us-break with-funeral torches
crudelemque toris dominam mactemus in ipsis
and-the-cruel couches mistress let-us-slaughter on very
cum quocumque uiro. nec nos deterreat ausis
with whatever man. nor us let-deter from-the-ventures
Hesperii fortuna ducis, quae sustulit illum
of-the-Hesperian the-fortune leader, which raised him
inposuitque orbi: communis gloria nobis,
and-placed-over the-world: common glory for-us,
nos quoque sublimes Magnus facit. aspice litus,
us too lofty Magnus makes. look-at the-shore,
spem nostri sceleris; pollutos consule fluctus
the-hope of-our crime; the-polluted consult waves
quid liceat nobis, tumulumque e puluere paruo
what may-be-allowed to-us, and-the-mound from dust small
aspice Pompei non omnia membra tegentem.
look-at of-Pompey not all limbs covering.
quem metuis, par huius erat. non sanguine clari
whom you-fear, equal of-this-one was. not in-blood famous
(quid refert?) nec opes populorum et regna mouemus:
(what does-it-matter?) nor the-wealth of-peoples and kingdoms we-move:
ad scelus ingentis fati sumus. attrahit illos
for crime of-a-huge fate we-are. draws them

in nostras fortuna manus: en, altera uenit
into our fortune hands: look, another comes
uictima nobilior. placemus caede secunda
victim nobler. let-us-appease with-slaughter a-second
Hesperias gentes: iugulus mihi Caesaris haustus
the-Hesperian nations: the-throat by-me of-Caesar drained
hoc praestare potest, Pompei caede nocentis
this to-bring-about can, of-Pompey for-the-slaughter (us)-guilty
ut populus Romanus amet. quid nomina tanta
that the-people Roman may-love. why names so-great
horremus uiresque ducis, quibus ille relictis
do-we-dread and-the-strength of-the-leader, with-which he left
miles erit? nox haec peraget ciuilia bella
a-soldier will-be? night this will-complete civil wars
inferiasque dabit populis et mittet ad umbras
and-funeral-offerings will-give to-the-peoples and will-send to the-shades
quod debetur adhuc mundo caput. ite feroces
which is-owed still to-the-world head. go fierce
Caesaris in iugulum; praestet Lagea iuuentus
of-Caesar against the-throat; let-supply the-Lagean youth
hoc regi, Romana sibi. tu parce morari.
this to-the-king, the-Roman to-itself. you spare to-delay.
plenum epulis madidumque mero Venerique paratum
full of-feasts and-drenched with-wine and-for-Venus prepared
inuenies: aude, superi tot uota Catonum
you-will-find-him: dare, the-gods-above so-many prayers of-Catos
Brutorumque tibi tribuent.' non lentus Achillas
and-of-Brutuses to-you will-grant.' not slow Achillas
suadenti parere nefas haud clara mouendis,
to-the-one-urging to-obey abomination not clear for-moving,

ut mos, signa dedit castris nec prodidit arma
as the-custom, signals gave to-the-camp nor betrayed the-arms
ullius clangore tubae: temere omnia saeui
of-any by-the-blare trumpet: rashly all of-savage
instrumenta rapit belli. pars maxima turbae
the-implements he-snatches war. the-greatest part of-the-throng
plebis erat Latiae, sed tanta obliuio mentis
of-the-commons was Latin, but so-great forgetfulness of-mind
cepit in externos corrupto milite mores
seized into foreign with-corrupted soldiery ways
ut duce sub famulo iussuque satellitis irent
that with-leader under a-servant and-by-the-command of-a-henchman went
quos erat indignum Phario parere tyranno.
those-whom it-was unworthy the-Pharian to-obey tyrant.

X.7 · THE SIEGE OF THE PALACE

The soldiers fight for pay, and the civil war comes to Egypt. They could have killed Caesar at the feast but fear that a confused fight by night might kill Ptolemy, and Caesar is kept for open day. At dawn the army advances in battle order, and Caesar, distrusting the city's walls, shuts himself in a corner of the palace with the king as hostage, raging like a caged beast. The king's envoy, sent to rebuke the servants, is killed, and the poet curses Egypt's crimes; the soldiers assault the palace without siege engines, divided and without plan, and Fortune guards it like a wall.

nulla fides pietasque uiris qui castra secuntur,
no loyalty and-dutifulness in-the-men who camps follow,
uenalesque manus; ibi fas ubi proxima merces:
and-venal hands; there right where nearest the-reward:
aere merent paruo, iugulumque in Caesaris ire
for-bronze they-serve small, and-the-throat against Caesar's to-go

non sibi dant. pro fas! ubi non ciuilia bella
not for-themselves they-grant. O right! where not civil wars
inuenit imperii fatum miserabile nostri?
has-found of-the-empire the-fate pitiable our?
Thessaliae subducta acies in litore Nili
from-Thessaly withdrawn the-battle-line on the-shore of-the-Nile
more furit patrio. quid plus te, Magne, recepto
in-the-manner rages ancestral. what more with-you, Magnus, received
ausa foret Lagea domus? dat scilicet omnis
dared would-have the-Lagean house? gives of-course every
dextera quod debet superis, nullique uacare
right-hand what it-owes to-the-gods-above, and-for-no-one to-be-idle
fas est Romano. Latium sic scindere corpus
right is Roman. Latin so to-split the-body
dis placitum: non in soceri generique fauorem
to-the-gods it-pleased: not into of-the-father-in-law and-of-the-son-in-law favor
discedunt populi; ciuilia bella satelles
divide the-peoples; civil wars a-henchman
mouit, et in partem Romani uenit Achillas;
has-moved, and into the-part of-a-Roman has-come Achillas;
et nisi fata manus a sanguine Caesaris arcent
and unless the-fates the-hands from the-blood of-Caesar keep
hae uincent partes. aderat maturus uterque,
these will-conquer the-party. was-present ripe each,
et districta epulis ad cunctas aula patebat
and distracted by-feasts for all the-court lay-open
insidias, poteratque cruor per regia fundi
plots, and-could the-blood through royal to-be-poured
pocula Caesareus mensaeque incumbere ceruix.
cups Caesarian and-on-the-tables to-lie the-neck.

sed metuunt belli trepidos in nocte tumultus,
but they-fear of-war the-trembling in the-night uproars,
ne caedes confusa manu permissaque fatis
lest the-slaughter confused by-hand and-entrusted to-the-fates
te, Ptolemaee, trahat. tanta est fiducia ferri,
you, Ptolemy, drag-off. so-great is the-confidence in-steel,
non rapuere nefas; summi contempta facultas
not they-snatched the-abomination; of-the-supreme scorned the-chance
est operis; uisum famulis reparabile damnum
is work; it-seemed to-the-servants a-repairable loss
illam mactandi dimittere Caesaris horam.
that of-slaughtering to-let-go of-Caesar hour.
seruatur poenas in aperta luce daturus;
he-is-kept penalties in open light going-to-pay;
donata est nox una duci, uixitque Pothini
granted was night one to-the-leader, and-lived of-Pothinus
munere Phoebeos Caesar dilatus in ortus.
by-the-gift Phoebean Caesar postponed to risings.
Lucifer a Casia prospexit rupe diemque
Lucifer from the-Casian looked-out rock and-the-day
misit in Aegypton primo quoque sole calentem,
sent into Egypt with-the-first even sun hot,
cum procul a muris acies non sparsa maniplis
when far from the-walls a-battle-line not scattered in-maniples
nec uaga conspicitur, sed iustos qualis ad hostes
nor wandering is-seen, but proper such-as against enemies
recta fronte uenit: passuri comminus arma
with-straight front comes: going-to-suffer at-close-quarters arms
laturique ruunt. at Caesar moenibus urbis
and-going-to-bring they-rush. but Caesar the-walls of-the-city

diffisus foribus clausae se protegit aulae
distrusting with-the-doors of-the-shut himself protects palace
degeneres passus latebras. nec tota uacabat
degenerate enduring hiding-places. nor whole was-free
regia conpresso: minima collegerat arma
the-palace for-him-confined: in-the-smallest he-had-gathered arms
parte domus. tangunt animos iraeque metusque,
part of-the-house. touch his-spirit and-angers and-fears,
et timet incursus indignaturque timere.
and he-fears the-onrushes and-is-indignant to-fear.
sic fremit in paruis fera nobilis abdita claustris
so roars in small the-beast noble hidden barriers
et frangit rabidos praemorso carcere dentes,
and breaks raging on-the-bitten prison teeth,
nec secus in Siculis fureret tua flamma cauernis,
nor otherwise in Sicilian would-rage your flame caverns,
obstrueret summam siquis tibi, Mulciber, Aetnam.
should-block the-top if-anyone for-you, Mulciber, Aetna.
audax Thessalici nuper qui rupe sub Haemi
bold of-Thessalian lately who rock under Haemus
Hesperiae cunctos proceres aciemque senatus
of-Hesperia all the-chiefs and-the-battle-line of-the-senate
Pompeiumque ducem causa sperare uetante
and-Pompey as-leader with-the-cause to-hope forbidding
non timuit fatumque sibi promisit iniquum,
not feared and-the-fate for-himself promised unjust,
expauit seruile nefas, intraque penates
dreaded a-slavish abomination, and-within the-household
obruitur telis. quem non uiolasset Alanus,
is-overwhelmed with-weapons. whom not would-have-violated the-Alan,

non Scytha, non fixo qui ludit in hospite Maurus,
not the-Scythian, not transfixed who plays on guest the-Moor,
hic, cui Romani spatium non sufficit orbis,
this-man, for-whom of-the-Roman the-space not suffices world,
paruaque regna putet Tyriis cum Gadibus Indos,
and-small kingdoms would-think Tyrian with Gades the-Indies,
ceu puer inbellis uel captis femina muris,
like a-boy unwarlike or with-captured a-woman walls,
quaerit tuta domus; spem uitae in limine clauso
seeks the-safe-parts of-the-house; the-hope of-life on the-threshold closed
ponit, et incerto lustrat uagus atria cursu,
he-places, and with-uncertain surveys wandering the-halls course,
non sine rege tamen, quem ducit in omnia secum
not without the-king yet, whom he-leads into all-things with-himself
sumpturus poenas et grata piacula morti
going-to-take penalties and welcome atonements for-his-death
missurusque tuum, si non sint tela nec ignes,
and-going-to-send your, if not there-be weapons nor fires,
in famulos, Ptolemaee, caput. sic barbara Colchis
against the-servants, Ptolemy, head. so the-barbarian Colchian
creditur ultorem metuens regnique fugaeque
is-believed the-avenger fearing and-of-her-kingdom and-of-her-flight
ense suo fratrisque simul ceruice parata
with-sword her-own and-of-her-brother at-the-same-time with-the-neck ready
expectasse patrem. cogunt tamen ultima rerum
to-have-awaited her-father. compel yet the-extremities of-affairs
spem pacis temptare ducem, missusque satelles
the-hope of-peace to-try the-leader, and-sent a-henchman
regius, ut saeuos absentis uoce tyranni
royal, that the-savage of-the-absent with-the-voice tyrant

corriperet famulos, quo bellum auctore mouerent.
he-might-rebuke servants, with-what war author they-were-moving.

sed neque ius mundi ualuit nec foedera sancta
but neither the-law of-the-world prevailed nor the-treaties sacred

gentibus, orator regis pacisque sequester
to-the-nations, the-spokesman of-the-king and-of-peace mediator

quin caderet ferro. quamquam quis talia facta
but-that he-should-fall by-steel. although who such deeds

aestimat in numero scelerum ponenda tuorum,
reckons among the-number of-crimes to-be-placed your,

tot monstris Aegypte nocens? non Thessala tellus
with-so-many monsters Egypt guilty? not the-Thessalian land

uastaque regna Iubae, non Pontus et inpia signa
and-vast the-kingdom of-Juba, not Pontus and impious the-standards

Pharnacis et gelido circumfluus orbis Hibero
of-Pharnaces and by-cold surrounded the-world Ebro

tantum ausus scelerum, non Syrtis barbara, quantum
so-much has-dared of-crimes, not Syrtis barbarian, as-much-as

deliciae fecere tuae. premit undique bellum,
the-darlings have-done your. presses from-all-sides war,

inque domum iam tela cadunt quassantque penates.
and-into the-house now weapons fall and-shake the-household.

non aries uno moturus limina pulsu
not a-ram with-one going-to-move the-threshold blow

fracturusque domum, non ulla est machina belli,
and-going-to-break the-house, not any is engine of-war,

nec flammis mandatur opus; sed caeca iuuentus
nor to-flames is-entrusted the-work; but blind the-youth

consilii uastos ambit diuisa penates,
of-plan the-vast surrounds divided household,

et nusquam totis incursat uiribus agmen.
and nowhere with-whole charges strength the-column.
fata uetant, murique uicem Fortuna tuetur.
the-fates forbid, and-of-a-wall in-place Fortune protects.

X.8 · FIRE, PHAROS, AND SCAEVA

Ships attack the palace from the sea, but Caesar sets the fleet on fire with pitch-soaked torches, and the flames spread to the city. By night he seizes Pharos and punishes Pothinus with death, and Arsinoe, stolen away by the servant Ganymede, kills Achillas; the poet tells Magnus that he stays unavenged until swords reach Caesar's own entrails. The war goes on under Ganymede, and on a narrow mole Caesar is surrounded by fleets and infantry, with no way of escape; doubtful whether to fear or wish for death, he looks back and sees Scaeva, who once held the walls at Epidamnus alone against Magnus.

nec non et ratibus temptatur regia, qua se
nor not also by-ships is-attacked the-palace, where itself
protulit in medios audaci margine fluctus
has-pushed-forth into the-midst with-a-bold edge waves
luxuriosa domus. sed adest defensor ubique
the-luxurious house. but is-present the-defender everywhere
Caesar et hos aditus gladiis, hos ignibus arcet,
Caesar and these approaches with-swords, these with-fires he-keeps-off,
obsessusque gerit, tanta est constantia mentis,
and-besieged he-does, so-great is the-steadiness of-his-mind,
expugnantis opus. piceo iubet unguine tinctas
of-one-storming the-work. with-pitchy he-orders ointment dipped
lampadas inmitti iunctis in uela carinis;
torches to-be-hurled at-the-joined toward sails ships;

nec piger ignis erat per stuppea uincula perque
nor sluggish the-fire was through hempen bonds and-through
manantis cera tabulas, et tempore eodem
dripping with-wax timbers, and at-time the-same
transtraque nautarum summique arsere ceruchi.
and-the-thwarts of-the-sailors and-the-topmost burned yards.
iam prope semustae merguntur in aequora classes,
now almost half-burnt are-sunk into the-sea the-fleets,
iamque hostes et tela natant. nec puppibus ignis
and-now enemies and weapons swim. nor on-the-ships the-fire
incubuit solis; sed quae uicina fuere
lay alone; but which near were
tecta mari longis rapuere uaporibus ignem,
roofs to-the-sea with-long seized vapors the-fire,
et cladem fouere Noti, percussaque flamma
and the-disaster fed the-South-Winds, and-struck the-flame
turbine non alio motu per tecta cucurrit
with-whirlwind not with-other motion through the-roofs ran
quam solet aetherio lampas decurrere sulco
than is-wont through-ethereal a-torch to-run-down furrow
materiaque carens atque ardens aere solo.
of-fuel lacking and burning by-air alone.
illa lues paulum clausa reuocauit ab aula
that plague a-little the-shut called-back from palace
urbis in auxilium populos. nec tempora cladis
of-the-city to help the-peoples. nor the-time of-the-disaster
perdidit in somnos, sed caeca nocte carinis
he-lost in sleep, but in-blind night onto-ships
insiluit Caesar semper feliciter usus
leapt Caesar always fortunately having-used

praecipiti cursu bellorum, et tempore rapto
the-headlong course of-wars, and with-time snatched
nunc claustrum pelagi cepit Pharon. insula quondam
now the-barrier of-the-sea seized Pharos. an-island once
in medio stetit illa mari sub tempore uatis
in the-middle stood that sea in time of-the-prophet
Proteos, at nunc est Pellaeis proxima muris.
Proteus, but now it-is to-the-Pellaean nearest walls.
illa duci geminos bellorum praestitit usus.
it for-the-leader twin of-wars supplied uses.
abstulit excursus et fauces aequoris hosti
he-took-away the-sallies and the-jaws of-the-sea from-the-enemy
Caesar et auxiliis ut uidit libera ponti
Caesar and for-auxiliaries when he-saw free of-the-sea
ostia, non fatum meriti poenasque Pothini
the-mouths, not the-fate of-deserving-(it) and-the-penalties of-Pothinus
distulit ulterius. sed non, qua debuit, ira,
put-off further. but not, which he-ought, with-anger,
non cruce, non flammis rapuit, non dente ferarum:
not by-the-cross, not by-flames he-snatched, not by-the-tooth of-beasts:
Magni morte perit. nec non subrepta paratis
of-Magnus by-the-death he-perishes. nor not stolen-away by-prepared
a famulo Ganymede dolis peruenit ad hostis
by the-servant Ganymede plots reached to the-enemies
Caesaris Arsinoe; quae castra carentia rege
of-Caesar Arsinoe; who the-camp lacking a-king
ut proles Lagea tenet, famulumque tyranni
as offspring Lagean holds, and-the-servant of-the-tyrant
terribilem iusto transegit Achillea ferro.
terrible with-just pierced Achillas steel.

altera, Magne, tuis iam uictima mittitur umbris;
another, Magnus, to-your now victim is-sent shades;
nec satis hoc Fortuna putat. procul absit ut ista
nor enough this Fortune thinks. far be-it that this
uindictae sit summa tuae. non ipse tyrannus
of-the-vengeance be the-sum your. not himself the-tyrant
sufficit in poenas, non omnis regia Lagi:
suffices for punishment, not all the-palace of-Lagus:
dum patrii ueniant in uiscera Caesaris enses
until the-ancestral come into the-entrails of-Caesar swords
Magnus inultus erit. sed non auctore furoris
Magnus unavenged will-be. but not with-the-author of-the-frenzy
sublato cecidit rabies; nam rursus in arma
removed fell the-madness; for again to arms
auspiciis Ganymedis eunt ac multa secundo
under-the-auspices of-Ganymede they-go and many with-favorable
proelia Marte gerunt. potuit discrimine summo
battles Mars wage. could in-the-crisis supreme
Caesaris una dies in famam et saecula mitti.
of-Caesar one day into fame and ages to-be-sent.
molis in exiguae spatio stipantibus armis
of-a-mole on small the-space with-crowding arms
dum parat in uacuas Martem transferre carinas,
while he-prepares onto empty Mars to-transfer ships,
dux Latius tota subitus formidine belli
the-leader Latin by-whole sudden the-terror of-war
cingitur: hinc densae praetexunt litora classes,
is-encircled: here thick fringe the-shores fleets,
hinc tergo insultant pedites: uia nulla salutis,
here on-his-back assault infantry: way no of-safety,

non fuga, non uirtus; uix spes quoque mortis honestae.
not flight, not valor; scarcely hope even of-death honorable.
non acie fusa nec magnae stragis aceruis
not by-battle-line routed nor of-great slaughter by-heaps
uincendus tum Caesar erat sed sanguine nullo.
to-be-conquered then Caesar was but by-blood no.
captus sorte loci pendet; dubiusque timeret
caught by-the-lot of-the-place he-hangs; and-doubtful whether-he-should-fear
optaretne mori respexit in agmine denso
or-should-wish to-die he-looked-back in the-column dense
Scaeuam perpetuae meritum iam nomina famae
at-Scaeva of-perpetual having-earned already names fame
ad campos, Epidamne, tuos, ubi solus apertis
by plains, Epidamnus, your, where alone with-opened
obsedit muris calcantem moenia Magnum.
he-blockaded walls treading-on the-ramparts Magnus.