LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 41

The Eclogues and the Georgics

VERGIL & OTHERS

Bucolica · Georgica

The Eclogues and the Georgics

With the Eclogues of Calpurnius Siculus and Nemesianus

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order

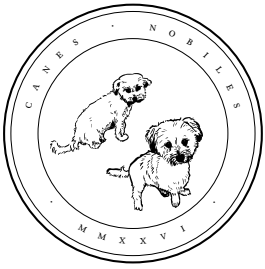


CANES NOBILES · MMXXVI

Copyright © 2026 Christopher Hench
All rights reserved

Published by Canes Nobiles
canesnobiles.com

Part of the source text is used under a Creative Commons
Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License;
the remainder is in the public domain
creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0



Volume 41 of the Canes Nobiles Latin interlinear texts

The Latin text follows Greenough's text of Vergil,
Boston, 1881, and Schenkl's of Calpurnius and Nemesianus
in Postgate's Corpus Poetarum Latinorum, London, 1905

Vergil set from the Perseus Digital Library's canonical Latin corpus,
with corrections; Calpurnius and Nemesianus set from Schenkl's printed text

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

Every section and English title is this press's. The verses Greenough
brackets as spurious are not printed, and the numbering passes over them.
Schenkl prints u for consonantal v; a dagger marks a place he holds corrupt.

CONTENTS

VERGIL · THE ECLOGUES

I · Tityrus and Meliboeus 11
II · Corydon's Complaint 17
III · The Singing Match 22
IV · The New Age 30
V · Daphnis 34
VI · Silenus 41
VII · Corydon and Thyrsis 47
VIII · The Sorceress 52
IX · Moeris and Lycidas 60
X · Gallus 65

VERGIL · THE GEORGICS

GEORGICS I

I.1 · The Farmer's Gods 73
I.2 · Labor and the Farmer's Tools 81

VERGIL · THE GEORGICS

(continued)

GEORGICS I

(continued)

I.3 · The Stars and the Seasons 87
I.4 · Night Work and Storms 93
I.5 · Signs and the Death of Caesar 100

GEORGICS II

II.1 · How Trees Are Born 109
II.2 · The Kinds of Vine and the Praise of Italy 115
II.3 · Kinds of Soil 121
II.4 · Planting the Vineyard 127
II.5 · Tending the Vine 133
II.6 · The Farmer's Happiness 139

GEORGICS III

III.1 · The Temple and the Breeding of Herds 149
III.2 · Sires, Dams, and Calves 155
III.3 · Training Horses and the Power of Love 161
III.4 · Sheep and Goats 169
III.5 · Wool, Milk, Dogs, and Snakes 176
III.6 · The Plague of Noricum 182

GEORGICS IV

IV.1 · The Bees' Home and Their Wars 189
IV.2 · The Gardener by the Galaesus and the Nature of Bees 195

VERGIL · THE GEORGICS

(continued)

GEORGICS IV

(continued)

IV.3 · The Bees' Commonwealth and Their Sicknesses 202
IV.4 · Aristaeus' Lament 208
IV.5 · Proteus and Orpheus 216
IV.6 · The Death of Orpheus and the New Bees 223

CALPURNIUS SICULUS · THE ECLOGUES OF CALPURNIUS

I · Faunus' Prophecy 231
II · Astacus and Idas 238
III · Lycidas' Lament 245
IV · The Shepherds' Song for Caesar 252
V · Micon's Precepts 264
VI · The Quarrel of Astylus and Lycidas 272
VII · Corydon at the Games 279

NEMESIANUS · THE ECLOGUES OF NEMESIANUS

I · The Lament for Meliboeus 287
II · Idas and Alcon 293
III · Pan's Song of Bacchus 299
IV · The Refrain of Mopsus and Lycidas 304

VERGIL

Bucolica

The Eclogues

Ecloga I. Meliboeus, Tityrus

I · TITYRUS AND MELIBOEUS

Meliboeus, driven from his fields, finds Tityrus at ease in the shade, singing of Amaryllis. Tityrus tells how a god gave him this leisure: at Rome he saw the young man who answered his plea and left him his land. Meliboeus calls him a fortunate old man and laments his own exile among Africans, Scythians, and Britons, while a soldier takes his fields. Tityrus offers him a night's rest, fruit, and cheese.

MELIBOEUS Tityre, tu patulae recubans sub tegmine fagi
Tityrus, you of-spreading reclining under the-cover a-beech
silvestrem tenui Musam meditaris avena;
woodland on-a-slender Muse you-practice reed;
nos patriae fines et dulcia linquimus arva:
we of-(our)-fatherland the-borders and sweet are-leaving fields:
nos patriam fugimus; tu, Tityre, lentus in umbra
we (our)-fatherland flee; you, Tityrus, at-ease in shade
formosam resonare doces Amaryllida silvas.
beautiful to-resound you-teach Amaryllis the-woods.
TITYRUS O Meliboee, deus nobis haec otia fecit:
O Meliboeus, a-god for-us this leisure has-made:
namque erit ille mihi semper deus; illius aram
for will-be he to-me always a-god; his altar
saepe tener nostris ab ovilibus imbuet agnus.
often tender our from folds will-stain lamb.
Ille meas errare boves, ut cernis, et ipsum
He my to-wander cattle, as you-see, and myself
ludere, quae vellem, calamo permisit agresti.
to-play, what I-wished, on-reed has-allowed rustic.
MELIBOEUS Non equidem invideo; miror magis: undique totis
Not indeed I-begrudge; I-wonder rather: everywhere in-all

usque adeo turbatur agris. En, ipse capellas
right so-far there-is-turmoil fields. Look, myself (my)-she-goats
protinus aeger ago; hanc etiam vix, Tityre, duco:
onward sick I-drive; this-one even scarcely, Tityrus, do-I-lead:
hic inter densas corylos modo namque gemellos,
here among thick hazels just-now for twins,
spem gregis, ah, silice in nuda conixa reliquit.
the-hope of-the-flock, ah, flint on bare having-labored she-left.
Saepe malum hoc nobis, si mens non laeva fuisset,
Often evil this to-us, if the-mind not perverse had-been,
de caelo tactas memini praedicere quercus: —
from heaven struck I-remember to-have-foretold the-oaks:
Sed tamen, iste deus qui sit, da, Tityre, nobis.
But however, that god who he-is, give, Tityrus, to-us.
TITYRUS Urbem, quam dicunt Romam, Meliboee, putavi
The-city, which they-call Rome, Meliboeus, I-thought
stultus ego huic nostrae similem, quo saepe solemus
foolish I this our like, where often we-are-wont
pastores ovium teneros depellere fetus:
shepherds of-the-sheep the-tender to-drive-down young:
sic canibus catulos similis, sic matribus haedos
so to-dogs puppies like, so to-mothers kids
noram, sic parvis componere magna solebam:
I-knew, so with-small to-compare great-things I-was-wont:
verum haec tantum alias inter caput extulit urbes,
but this so-much other among (its)-head has-raised cities,
quantum lenta solent inter viburna cupressi.
as-much-as pliant are-wont among the-viburnums cypresses.
MELIBOEUS Et quae tanta fuit Romam tibi causa videndi?
And what so-great was Rome to-you the-reason for-seeing?

TITYRUS Libertas; quae sera, tamen respexit inertem,
Liberty; which late, however looked-back-at (me)-sluggish,
candidior postquam tondenti barba cadebat;
whiter after for-(me)-shaving (my)-beard was-falling;
respexit tamen, et longo post tempore venit,
looked-back however, and long after time came,
postquam nos Amaryllis habet, Galatea reliquit:
since us Amaryllis has, Galatea has-left:
namque, fatebor enim, dum me Galatea tenebat,
for, I-will-confess indeed, while me Galatea held,
nec spes libertatis erat, nec cura peculi:
nor hope of-liberty was, nor care of-savings:
quamvis multa meis exiret victima saeptis,
although many from-my went-out victim pens,
pinguis et ingratae premeretur caseus urbi,
rich and for-the-ungrateful was-pressed cheese city,
non umquam gravis aere domum mihi dextra redibat.
not ever heavy with-money home to-me (my)-right-hand returned.
MELIBOEUS Mirabar, quid maesta deos, Amarylli, vocares,
I-wondered, why sad the-gods, Amaryllis, you-called,
cui pendere sua patereris in arbore poma:
for-whom to-hang its-own you-let on tree the-fruits:
Tityrus hinc aberat. Ipsae te, Tityre, pinus,
Tityrus hence was-away. The-very you, Tityrus, pines,
ipsi te fontes, ipsa haec arbusta vocabant.
the-very you springs, the-very these orchards were-calling.
TITYRUS Quid facerem? Neque servitio me exire licebat,
What was-I-to-do? Nor from-slavery me to-go-out was-it-allowed,
nec tam praesentis alibi cognoscere divos.
nor so present elsewhere to-know the-gods.

Hic illum vidi iuvenem, Meliboee, quot annis
Here him I-saw the-youth, Meliboeus, every year
bis senos cui nostra dies altaria fumant;
twice six for-whom our days altars smoke;
hic mihi responsum primus dedit ille petenti:
here to-me an-answer first gave he to-(me)-asking:
'pascite, ut ante, boves, pueri, submittite tauros.'
'graze, as before, (your)-cattle, boys, rear bulls.'
MELIBOEUS Fortunate senex, ergo tua rura manebunt,
Fortunate old-man, so your fields will-remain,
et tibi magna satis, quamvis lapis omnia nudus
and for-you large enough, although stone all bare
limosoque palus obducat pascua iunco!
and-muddy the-marsh may-cover the-pastures with-rush!
Non insueta gravis temptabunt pabula fetas,
Not unaccustomed heavy will-try fodder the-pregnant,
nec mala vicini pecoris contagia laedent.
nor bad of-a-neighboring flock contagions will-harm.
Fortunate senex, hic, inter flumina nota
Fortunate old-man, here, among rivers familiar
et fontis sacros, frigus captabis opacum!
and springs sacred, the-coolness you-will-catch shady!
Hinc tibi, quae semper, vicino ab limite, saepes
Hence for-you, which always, neighboring from boundary, the-hedge
Hyblaeis apibus florem depasta salicti
by-Hyblaean bees in-flower fed-upon of-willow
saepe levi somnum suadebit inire susurro;
often with-light sleep will-persuade to-enter whisper;
hinc alta sub rupe canet frondator ad auras;
hence high under rock will-sing the-leaf-stripper to the-breezes;

nec tamen interea raucae, tua cura, palumbes,
nor however meanwhile the-hoarse, your care, wood-pigeons,
nec gemere aëria cessabit turtur ab ulmo.
nor to-moan airy will-cease the-turtle-dove from elm.
TITYRUS Ante leves ergo pascentur in aequore cervi,
Before light so will-graze in the-sea stags,
et freta destituent nudos in litore pisces,
and the-seas will-leave bare on the-shore fishes,
ante pererratis amborum finibus exsul
before with-wandered-through of-both the-borders an-exile
aut Ararim Parthus bibet, aut Germania Tigrim,
either the-Arar the-Parthian will-drink, or Germany the-Tigris,
quam nostro illius labatur pectore voltus.
than from-our his may-slip breast face.
MELIBOEUS At nos hinc alii sitientis ibimus Afros,
But we hence some the-thirsty will-go-to Africans,
pars Scythiam et rapidum Cretae veniemus Oaxen,
part to-Scythia and the-swift of-Crete will-come-to Oaxes,
et penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos.
and wholly from-the-whole sundered world Britons.
En umquam patrios longo post tempore finis,
Look ever ancestral long after time borders,
pauperis et tuguri congestum caespite culmen,
of-a-poor and hut heaped with-turf the-roof,
post aliquot mea regna videns mirabor aristas?
after some my realms seeing shall-I-wonder-at ears-of-grain?
Impius haec tam culta novalia miles habebit,
An-impious these so tilled fallows soldier will-have,
barbarus has segetes? En, quo discordia civis
a-barbarian these crops? Look, to-what discord the-citizens

produxit miseros! His nos consevimus agros!
has-brought wretched! For-these we have-sown fields!
Insere nunc, Meliboee, piros, pone ordine vitis!
Graft now, Meliboeus, pears, set in-order vines!
Ite meae, felix quondam pecus, ite capellae.
Go my, happy once flock, go she-goats.
Non ego vos posthac, viridi proiectus in antro,
Not I you hereafter, green stretched-out in cave,
dumosa pendere procul de rupe videbo;
bushy to-hang far from rock will-see;
carmina nulla canam; non, me pascente, capellae,
songs none I-shall-sing; not, with-me grazing, she-goats,
florentem cytisum et salices carpetis amaras.
flowering clover and willows you-will-crop bitter.
TITYRUS Hic tamen hanc mecum poteras requiescere noctem
Here however this with-me you-could to-rest night
fronde super viridi: sunt nobis mitia poma,
leaf upon green: there-are for-us mellow apples,
castaneae molles, et pressi copia lactis;
chestnuts soft, and of-pressed an-abundance milk;
et iam summa procul villarum culmina fumant,
and already the-topmost far of-the-farmhouses roofs smoke,
maioresque cadunt altis de montibus umbrae.
and-greater fall high from mountains shadows.

Ecloga II

II · CORYDON'S COMPLAINT

The shepherd Corydon burns for the beautiful Alexis, his master's darling, and sings alone among the beeches. He reproaches the boy's scorn, boasts of his flocks, his milk, his singing, and his looks, and begs him to share his humble country life. He offers a pipe, two spotted roe-kids, flowers, and fruit, then calls himself rustic and mad, reminds himself of his half-pruned vine, and says he will find another Alexis.

Formosum pastor Corydon ardebat Alexim,
Beautiful the-shepherd Corydon burned-for Alexis,
delicias domini, nec quid speraret habebat;
the-darling of-(his)-master, nor what he-might-hope had;
tantum inter densas, umbrosa cacumina, fagos
only among thick, shady tops, beeches
adsidue veniebat. Ibi haec incondita solus
constantly he-would-come. There these artless alone
montibus et silvis studio iactabat inani:
to-the-mountains and woods with-zeal flung vain:
O crudelis Alexi, nihil mea carmina curas?
O cruel Alexis, nothing my songs you-care-for?
Nil nostri miserere? Mori me denique coges.
Nothing on-us you-pity? To-die me at-last you-will-force.
Nunc etiam pecudes umbras et frigora captant;
Now even the-flocks shades and coolness seek;
nunc viridis etiam occultant spineta lacertos,
now the-green even hide thickets lizards,
Thestylis et rapido fessis messoribus aestu
Thestylis and in-the-scorching for-the-weary reapers heat
allia serpyllumque herbas contundit olentis.
garlic and-thyme herbs pounds fragrant.

At mecum raucis, tua dum vestigia lustro,
But with-me with-the-hoarse, your while footsteps I-trace,
sole sub ardenti resonant arbusta cicadis.
sun under burning resound the-orchards cicadas.
Nonne fuit satius tristis Amaryllidis iras
Not was-it better the-gloomy of-Amaryllis angers
atque superba pati fastidia, nonne Menalcan,
and haughty to-endure disdain, not Menalcas,
quamvis ille niger, quamvis tu candidus esses?
although he dark, although you fair you-were?
O formose puer, nimium ne crede colori!
O beautiful boy, too-much not trust color!
Alba ligustra cadunt, vaccinia nigra leguntur.
White privets fall, hyacinths dark are-gathered.
Despectus tibi sum, nec qui sim quaeris, Alexi,
Scorned by-you I-am, nor who I-am you-ask, Alexis,
quam dives pecoris, nivei quam lactis abundans.
how rich in-flock, in-snowy how milk abounding.
Mille meae Siculis errant in montibus agnae;
A-thousand my Sicilian wander in mountains ewe-lambs;
lac mihi non aestate novum, non frigore defit;
milk to-me not in-summer new, not in-cold fails;
canto quae solitus, si quando armenta vocabat,
I-sing what was-wont, if ever the-herds he-called,
Amphion Dircaeus in Actaeo Aracintho.
Amphion Dircaean on Actaean Aracynthus.
Nec sum adeo informis: nuper me in litore vidi,
Nor am-I so ugly: lately myself on the-shore I-saw,
cum placidum ventis staret mare; non ego Daphnim
when calm by-the-winds stood the-sea; not I Daphnis

iudice te metuam, si numquam fallit imago.
with-judge you would-fear, if never deceives the-image.
O tantum libeat mecum tibi sordida rura
O only may-it-please with-me you the-humble countryside
atque humilis habitare casas, et figere cervos,
and lowly to-inhabit huts, and to-shoot stags,
haedorumque gregem viridi compellere hibisco!
and-of-kids a-flock with-green to-drive mallow-wand!
Mecum una in silvis imitabere Pana canendo.
With-me together in woods you-will-imitate Pan by-singing.
Nec te paeniteat calamo trivisse labellum:
Nor you let-it-grieve on-the-reed to-have-chafed (your)-lip:
haec eadem ut sciret, quid non faciebat Amyntas?
this same that he-might-know, what not was-doing Amyntas?
Est mihi disparibus septem compacta cicutis
There-is to-me of-unequal seven fitted hemlock-stalks
fistula, Damoetas dono mihi quam dedit olim,
a-pipe, Damoetas as-a-gift to-me which gave once,
et dixit moriens: 'Te nunc habet ista secundum.'
and said dying: 'You now has this-one second.'
Dixit Damoetas; invidit stultus Amyntas.
Said Damoetas; envied foolish Amyntas.
Praeterea duo, nec tuta mihi valle reperti,
Besides two, nor in-safe by-me valley found,
capreoli, sparsis etiam nunc pellibus albo,
roe-kids, with-spotted even now skins with-white,
bina die siccant ovis ubera; quos tibi servo:
two a-day drain of-the-ewe udders; which for-you I-keep:
iam pridem a me illos abducere Thestylis orat;
already long from me them to-take-away Thestylis begs;

et faciet, quoniam sordent tibi munera nostra.
and she-will-do-it, since are-mean to-you the-gifts our.
Huc ades, O formose puer: tibi lilia plenis
Hither come, O beautiful boy: for-you lilies in-full
ecce ferunt Nymphae calathis; tibi candida Nais,
behold bring the-Nymphs baskets; for-you the-fair Naiad,
pallentis violas et summa papavera carpens,
pale violets and the-tops of-poppies plucking,
narcissum et florem iungit bene olentis anethi;
narcissus and the-flower joins sweetly smelling of-dill;
tum casia atque aliis intexens suavibus herbis,
then with-cassia and other weaving sweet herbs,
mollia luteola pingit vaccinia calta.
the-soft with-yellow paints hyacinths marigold.
Ipse ego cana legam tenera lanugine mala,
Myself I hoary will-gather with-tender down quinces,
castaneasque nuces, mea quas Amaryllis amabat;
and-chestnut nuts, my which Amaryllis used-to-love;
addam cerea pruna: honos erit huic quoque pomo;
I-will-add waxen plums: honor will-be to-this too fruit;
et vos, O lauri, carpam, et te, proxima myrte,
and you, O laurels, I-will-pluck, and you, next myrtle,
sic positae quoniam suavis miscetis odores.
so placed since sweet you-mingle scents.
Rusticus es, Corydon: nec munera curat Alexis,
Rustic you-are, Corydon: nor the-gifts cares-for Alexis,
nec, si muneribus certes, concedat Iollas.
nor, if with-gifts you-should-vie, would-yield Iollas.
Heu, heu, quid volui misero mihi! Floribus austrum
Alas, alas, what have-I-wished wretched for-me! On-the-flowers the-south-wind

perditus et liquidis inmisi fontibus apros.
ruined and into-the-clear I-have-let-in springs boars.
Quem fugis, ah, demens? Habitarunt di quoque silvas,
Whom do-you-flee, ah, madman? Have-dwelt the-gods too in-the-woods,
Dardaniusque Paris. Pallas, quas condidit arces,
and-Dardanian Paris. Pallas, which she-founded citadels,
ipsa colat; nobis placeant ante omnia silvae.
herself let-her-inhabit; to-us let-be-pleasing before all the-woods.
Torva leaena lupum sequitur; lupus ipse capellam;
The-grim lioness the-wolf follows; the-wolf itself the-she-goat;
florentem cytisum sequitur lasciva capella;
the-flowering clover follows the-wanton she-goat;
te Corydon, o Alexi: trahit sua quemque voluptas.
you Corydon, O Alexis: draws his-own each pleasure.
Aspice, aratra iugo referunt suspensa iuvenci,
See, the-plows on-the-yoke bring-back suspended the-bullocks,
et sol crescentis decedens duplicat umbras:
and the-sun the-lengthening departing doubles shadows:
me tamen urit amor; quis enim modus adsit amori?
me however burns love; what indeed limit could-be to-love?
Ah, Corydon, Corydon, quae te dementia cepit!
Ah, Corydon, Corydon, what you madness has-seized!
Semiputata tibi frondosa vitis in ulmo est;
Half-pruned for-you leafy the-vine on elm is;
quin tu aliquid saltem potius, quorum indiget usus,
why-not you something at-least rather, of-which needs use,
viminibus mollique paras detexere iunco?
with-osiers and-soft prepare to-weave rush?
Invenies alium, si te hic fastidit, Alexim.
You-will-find another, if you this-one scorns, Alexis.

Ecloga III. Menalcas, Damoetas, Palaemon

III · THE SINGING MATCH

Menalcas and Damoetas trade insults over a stolen goat and a broken bow, then agree to a contest: Damoetas stakes a heifer, Menalcas two carved beechwood cups. Palaemon sits as judge, and they sing in turns of Jupiter and Phoebus, of Galatea, Amyntas, and Phyllis, of Pollio, and of the flocks. At the end each sets a riddle, and Palaemon declares both worthy of the heifer.

MENALCAS Dic mihi, Damoeta, cuium pecus, an Meliboei?
Tell me, Damoetas, whose flock, or of-Meliboeus?

DAMOETAS Non, verum Aegonis; nuper mihi tradidit Aegon.
No, but of-Aegon; lately to-me entrusted-it Aegon.

MENALCAS Infelix o semper, ovis, pecus, ipse Neaeram
Unlucky O always, sheep, flock, himself Neaera
dum fovet, ac ne me sibi praeferat illa veretur,
while he-courts, and lest me to-himself prefer she he-fears,
hic alienus ovis custos bis mulget in hora,
here a-stranger the-sheep keeper twice milks in an-hour,
et sucus pecori et lac subducitur agnis.
and strength from-the-flock and milk is-withdrawn from-the-lambs.

DAMOETAS Parcius ista viris tamen obicienda memento:
More-sparingly such-things to-men however to-be-thrown-up remember:
novimus et qui te, transversa tuentibus hircis,
we-know both who you, askance with-watching he-goats,
et quo — sed faciles Nymphae risere — sacello.
and in-what but easy the-Nymphs laughed shrine.

MENALCAS Tum, credo, cum me arbustum videre Miconis
Then, I-believe, when me the-orchard they-saw of-Micon
atque mala vitis incidere falce novellas.
and with-wicked the-vines to-cut-down hook young.

DAMOETAS Aut hic ad veteres fagos cum Daphnidis arcum
Or here by old beeches when of-Daphnis the-bow
fregisti et calamos: quae tu, perverse Menalca,
you-broke and arrows: which you, perverse Menalcas,
et, cum vidisti puero donata, dolebas,
both, when you-saw to-the-boy given, were-grieving,
et, si non aliqua nocuisses, mortuus esses.
and, if not somehow you-had-hurt, dead you-would-be.
MENALCAS Quid domini faciant, audent cum talia fures!
What masters would-do, dare when such-things thieves!
Non ego te vidi Damonis, pessime, caprum
Not I you saw Damon's, worst-one, goat
excipere insidiis, multum latrante Lycisca?
to-catch by-ambush, with-much barking Lycisca?
Et cum clamarem: 'Quo nunc se proripit ille?
And when I-was-shouting: 'Where now himself rushes that-one?
Tityre, coge pecus;' tu post carecta latebas.
Tityrus, gather the-flock;' you behind the-sedges were-hiding.
DAMOETAS An mihi cantando victus non redderet ille
Or to-me by-singing beaten not should-he-give-back that
quem mea carminibus meruisset fistula caprum?
which my by-songs had-earned pipe goat?
Si nescis, meus ille caper fuit; et mihi Damon
If you-do-not-know, mine that goat was; and to-me Damon
ipse fatebatur, sed reddere posse negabat.
himself confessed-it, but to-give-it-back to-be-able he-denied.
MENALCAS Cantando tu illum, aut umquam tibi fistula cera
By-singing you him, or ever to-you a-pipe with-wax
iuncta fuit? Non tu in triviis, indocte, solebas
joined was? Not you at the-crossroads, unskilled, were-wont

stridenti miserum stipula disperdere carmen?
on-screeching a-wretched straw to-murder song?

DAMOETAS Vis ergo inter nos quid possit uterque vicissim
Do-you-wish so between us what can each in-turn

experiamur? Ego hanc vitulam — ne forte recuses,
let-us-test? I this heifer lest by-chance you-refuse,

bis venit ad mulctram, binos alit ubere fetus —
twice she-comes to the-milking-pail, two she-nurses at-the-udder young

depono: tu dic, mecum quo pignore certes.
stake: you say, with-me with-what pledge you-will-contend.

MENALCAS De grege non ausim quicquam deponere tecum.
From the-flock not I-would-dare anything to-stake with-you.

Est mihi namque domi pater, est iniusta noverca;
There-is for-me for at-home a-father, there-is an-unjust stepmother;

bisque die numerant ambo pecus, alter et haedos.
and-twice a-day count both the-flock, one also the-kids.

Verum, id quod multo tute ipse fatebere maius,
But, that which by-much you yourself will-confess greater,

insanire libet quoniam tibi, pocula ponam
to-be-mad it-pleases since to-you, cups I-will-stake

fagina, caelatum divini opus Alcimedontis;
beechen, the-carved of-the-divine work Alcimedon;

lenta quibus torno facili superaddita vitis
pliant on-which with-a-lathe nimble added-over a-vine

diffusos hedera vestit pallente corymbos:
spread-out with-ivy clothes pale clusters:

in medio duo signa, Conon, et — quis fuit alter,
in the-middle two figures, Conon, and who was the-other,

descripsit radio totum qui gentibus orbem,
mapped-out with-his-rod the-whole who for-the-nations world,

tempora quae messor, quae curvus arator haberet?
the-seasons which the-reaper, which the-bent plowman should-have?
Necdum illis labra admovi, sed condita servo.
Not-yet to-them my-lips I-have-moved, but stored-away I-keep-them.
DAMOETAS Et nobis idem Alcimedon duo pocula fecit,
And for-us the-same Alcimedon two cups made,
et molli circum est ansas amplexus acantho,
and with-soft around has the-handles embraced acanthus,
Orpheaque in medio posuit silvasque sequentis.
and-Orpheus in the-middle placed and-the-woods following.
Necdum illis labra admovi, sed condita servo:
Not-yet to-them my-lips I-have-moved, but stored-away I-keep-them:
si ad vitulam spectas, nihil est quod pocula laudes.
if to the-heifer you-look, nothing there-is why the-cups you-should-praise.
MENALCAS Nunquam hodie effugies; veniam, quocumque vocaris:
Never today you-will-escape; I-will-come, wherever you-call:
audiat haec tantum — vel qui venit ecce Palaemon:
let-hear these-things only or-even who comes behold Palaemon:
efficiam posthac ne quemquam voce lacessas.
I-will-bring-it-about hereafter that-not anyone with-voice you-challenge.
DAMOETAS Quin age, si quid habes, in me mora non erit ulla,
Nay come, if anything you-have, in me delay not will-be any,
nec quemquam fugio: tantum, vicine Palaemon,
nor anyone do-I-flee: only, neighbor Palaemon,
sensibus haec imis, res est non parva, reponas.
in-heart these deepest, a-matter it-is not small, store-away.
PALAEMON Dicite, quandoquidem in molli consedimus herba:
Say-on, since on soft we-have-sat grass:
et nunc omnis ager, nunc omnis parturit arbos,
and now every field, now every bears tree,

nunc frondent silvae, nunc formosissimus annus.
now are-in-leaf the-woods, now loveliest the-year.
Incipe, Damoeta; tu deinde sequere Menalca:
Begin, Damoetas; you then follow Menalcas:
alternis dicetis; amant alterna Camenae.
in-turns you-shall-speak; love alternation the-Camenae.
DAMOETAS Ab Iove principium, Musae; Iovis omnia plena:
From Jupiter the-beginning, Muses; of-Jupiter all-things are-full:
ille colit terras, illi mea carmina curae.
he tends the-lands, to-him my songs are-a-care.
MENALCAS Et me Phoebus amat; Phoebo sua semper apud me
And me Phoebus loves; for-Phoebus his-own always with me
munera sunt, lauri et suave rubens hyacinthus.
gifts are, laurels and sweetly blushing the-hyacinth.
DAMOETAS Malo me Galatea petit, lasciva puella,
With-an-apple me Galatea pelts, wanton girl,
et fugit ad salices, et se cupit ante videri.
and flees to the-willows, and herself wishes first to-be-seen.
MENALCAS At mihi sese offert ultro, meus ignis, Amyntas,
But to-me himself offers unasked, my flame, Amyntas,
notior ut iam sit canibus non Delia nostris.
better-known so-that now is to-dogs not Delia our.
DAMOETAS Parta meae Veneri sunt munera: namque notavi
Found for-my Venus are gifts: for I-have-marked
ipse locum, aëriae quo congessere palumbes.
myself the-place, airy where have-heaped the-wood-pigeons.
MENALCAS Quod potui, puero silvestri ex arbore lecta
What I-could, to-the-boy woodland from tree gathered
aurea mala decem misi; cras altera mittam.
golden apples ten I-have-sent; tomorrow another-ten I-will-send.

DAMOETAS O quotiens et quae nobis Galatea locuta est!
O how-often and what-things to-us Galatea spoken has!
Partem aliquam, venti, divom referatis ad auris!
Part some, winds, of-the-gods may-you-carry to ears!
MENALCAS Quid prodest, quod me ipse animo non spernis,
What does-it-help, that me yourself in-heart not you-spurn,
Amynta,
Amyntas,
si, dum tu sectaris apros, ego retia servo?
if, while you hunt boars, I the-nets guard?
DAMOETAS Phyllida mitte mihi: meus est natalis, Iolla;
Phyllis send to-me: my it-is birthday, Iollas;
cum faciam vitula pro frugibus, ipse venito.
when I-shall-sacrifice with-a-heifer for the-crops, yourself come.
MENALCAS Phyllida amo ante alias; nam me discedere flevit,
Phyllis I-love before others; for me to-go-away she-wept,
et longum 'formose, vale, vale,' inquit, 'Iolla.'
and long 'beautiful-one, farewell, farewell,' she-says, 'Iollas.'
DAMOETAS Triste lupus stabulis, maturis frugibus imbres.
A-grim-thing the-wolf to-the-folds, to-ripe crops rains.
arboribus venti, nobis Amaryllidis irae.
to-the-trees winds, to-us of-Amaryllis the-angers.
MENALCAS Dulce satis umor, depulsis arbutus haedis,
A-sweet-thing to-the-sown-fields moisture, to-the-weaned the-arbutus kids,
lenta salix feto pecori, mihi solus Amyntas.
pliant the-willow to-the-pregnant flock, to-me alone Amyntas.
DAMOETAS Pollio amat nostram, quamvis est rustica, Musam:
Pollio loves our, although she-is rustic, Muse:
Pierides, vitulam lectori pascite vestro.
Pierides, a-heifer for-the-reader feed your.

MENALCAS Pollio et ipse facit nova carmina: pascite taurum,
Pollio also himself makes new songs: feed a-bull,
iam cornu petat et pedibus qui spargat arenam.
already with-horn may-butt and with-feet who may-scatter sand.
DAMOETAS Qui te, Pollio, amat, veniat quo te quoque gaudet:
Who you, Pollio, loves, may-he-come where you too he-rejoices:
mella fluant illi, ferat et rubus asper amomum.
honey may-flow for-him, may-bear also the-bramble rough amomum.
MENALCAS Qui Bavium non odit, amet tua carmina, Maevi,
Who Bavius not hates, may-he-love your songs, Maevius,
atque idem iungat vulpes et mulgeat hircos.
and the-same may-he-yoke foxes and milk he-goats.
DAMOETAS Qui legitis flores et humi nascentia fraga,
You-who gather flowers and on-the-ground growing strawberries,
frigidus, O pueri, fugite hinc, latet anguis in herba.
cold, O boys, flee hence, lurks a-snake in the-grass.
MENALCAS Parcite, oves, nimium procedere; non bene ripae
Forbear, sheep, too-far to-go-forward; not well the-bank
creditur; ipse aries etiam nunc vellera siccat.
is-trusted; himself the-ram even now his-fleece is-drying.
DAMOETAS Tityre, pascentes a flumine reice capellas:
Tityrus, the-grazing from the-river drive-back she-goats:
ipse ubi tempus erit, omnis in fonte lavabo.
myself when time it-will-be, all in the-spring I-will-wash.
MENALCAS Cogite ovis, pueri; si lac praeceperit aestus,
Gather the-sheep, boys; if the-milk shall-have-caught-up the-heat,
ut nuper, frustra pressabimus ubera palmis.
as lately, in-vain we-shall-squeeze the-udders with-our-palms.
DAMOETAS Heu, heu, quam pingui macer est mihi taurus in ervo!
Alas, alas, how rich lean is my bull in vetch!

Idem amor exitium est pecori pecorisque magistro.
The-same love the-ruin is of-the-flock and-of-the-flock of-the-master.

MENALCAS His certe neque amor causa est;
For-these surely not-even love the-cause is;
vix ossibus haerent:
scarcely to-their-bones they-cling:
nescio quis teneros oculus mihi fascinat agnos.
I-know-not what tender eye my bewitches lambs.

DAMOETAS Dic, quibus in terris — et
Say, what in lands and
eris mihi magnus Apollo —
you-will-be to-me great Apollo
tris pateat caeli spatium non amplius ulnas.
three spreads of-heaven the-space not more ells.

MENALCAS Dic, quibus in terris inscripti nomina regum
Say, what in lands inscribed with-the-names of-kings
nascantur flores, et Phyllida solus habeto.
are-born flowers, and Phyllis alone have.

PALAEMON Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites.
Not ours between you so-great to-settle disputes.
Et vitula tu dignus, et hic, et quisquis amores
Both of-the-heifer you worthy, and he, and whoever loves
aut metuet dulces, aut experietur amaros.
either will-fear sweet, or will-try bitter.
Claudite iam rivos, pueri, sat prata biberunt.
Close now the-channels, boys, enough the-meadows have-drunk.

Ecloga IV

IV · THE NEW AGE

The poet raises his pastoral voice for Pollio's consulship. The last age of the Cumaean song has come: the Virgin returns, and a child is born under whom the iron race will end and a golden one rise. Earth will bring him gifts unbidden; traces of old guilt will linger a while, then the land will bear all things. The poet hopes to live to sing his deeds and bids the child smile at his mother.

Sicelides Musae, paulo maiora canamus!
Sicilian Muses, a-little greater-things let-us-sing!
Non omnis arbusta iuvant humilesque myricae;
Not all orchards please and-lowly tamarisks;
si canimus silvas, silvae sint consule dignae.
if we-sing woods, the-woods let-be of-a-consul worthy.
Ultima Cumaei venit iam carminis aetas;
The-last of-the-Cumaean has-come now song age;
magnus ab integro saeclorum nascitur ordo:
great from fresh of-the-ages is-born the-order:
iam redit et Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna;
now returns also the-Virgin, return Saturn's reigns;
iam nova progenies caelo demittitur alto.
now a-new offspring from-heaven is-sent-down high.
Tu modo nascenti puero, quo ferrea primum
You only to-the-being-born boy, under-whom the-iron-race first
desinet ac toto surget gens aurea mundo,
shall-cease and in-the-whole shall-rise a-race golden world,
casta fave Lucina: tuus iam regnat Apollo.
chaste be-gracious Lucina: your now reigns Apollo.
Teque adeo decus hoc aevi te consule inibit,
And-you indeed glory this of-the-age with-you consul will-enter,

Pollio, et incipient magni procedere menses.
Pollio, and shall-begin the-great to-proceed months.
Te duce, si qua manent sceleris vestigia nostri,
With-you leader, if any remain of-crime traces our,
irrita perpetua solvent formidine terras.
made-void from-perpetual will-free fear the-lands.
ille deum vitam accipiet, divisque videbit
He of-the-gods the-life shall-receive, and-with-the-gods shall-see
permixtos heroas, et ipse videbitur illis,
mingled heroes, and himself shall-be-seen by-them,
pacatumque reget patriis virtutibus orbem.
and-the-pacified shall-rule with-his-father's virtues world.
At tibi prima, puer, nullo munuscula cultu
But for-you first, boy, with-no little-gifts tilling
errantis hederas passim cum baccare tellus
wandering ivies everywhere with foxglove the-earth
mixtaque ridenti colocasia fundet acantho.
and-mingled with-laughing colocasia shall-pour-forth acanthus.
Ipsae lacte domum referent distenta capellae
Of-themselves with-milk home shall-bring swollen the-she-goats
ubera, nec magnos metuent armenta leones;
udders, nor great shall-fear the-herds lions;
ipsa tibi blandos fundent cunabula flores,
of-itself for-you caressing will-pour-forth the-cradle flowers,
occidet et serpens, et fallax herba veneni
shall-die also the-serpent, and the-treacherous herb of-poison
occidet; Assyrium volgo nascetur amomum.
shall-die; Assyrian everywhere shall-spring-up amomum.
At simul heroum laudes et facta parentis
But as-soon-as of-heroes the-praises and the-deeds of-your-father

iam legere et quae sit poteris cognoscere virtus,
now to-read and what is you-shall-be-able to-know valor,
molli paulatim flavescet campus arista,
with-the-soft little-by-little shall-grow-yellow the-plain ear-of-grain,
incultisque rubens pendebit sentibus uva,
and-on-untilled reddening shall-hang briers the-grape,
et durae quercus sudabunt roscida mella.
and hard oaks shall-sweat dewy honey.
Pauca tamen suberunt priscae vestigia fraudis,
A-few however shall-lurk of-ancient traces deceit,
quae temptare Thetim ratibus, quae cingere muris
which to-tempt Thetis with-ships, which to-gird with-walls
oppida, quae iubeant telluri infindere sulcos:
towns, which bid in-the-earth to-cleave furrows:
alter erit tum Tiphys, et altera quae vehat Argo
another there-will-be then Tiphys, and another which may-carry Argo
delectos heroas; erunt etiam altera bella,
chosen heroes; there-will-be also other wars,
atque iterum ad Troiam magnus mittetur Achilles.
and again to Troy great shall-be-sent Achilles.
Hinc, ubi iam firmata virum te fecerit aetas,
Hence, when now the-strengthened a-man you shall-have-made age,
cedet et ipse mari vector, nec nautica pinus
shall-retire also himself from-the-sea the-trader, nor nautical pine
mutabit merces: omnis feret omnia tellus:
shall-exchange wares: every shall-bear all-things land:
non rastros patietur humus, non vinea falcem;
not harrows shall-suffer the-soil, not the-vineyard the-hook;
robustus quoque iam tauris iuga solvet arator;
the-sturdy also now from-the-bulls the-yokes shall-loose plowman;

nec varios discet mentiri lana colores:
nor various shall-learn to-counterfeit wool colors:
ipse sed in pratis aries iam suave rubenti
himself but in the-meadows the-ram now with-sweetly blushing
murice, iam croceo mutabit vellera luto;
purple, now with-saffron shall-change his-fleece yellow-dye;
sponte sua sandyx pascentis vestiet agnos.
by-will its-own scarlet the-grazing shall-clothe lambs.
Talia saecla, suis dixerunt, currite, fusis
Such ages, to-their-own said, run, spindles
concordes stabili fatorum numine Parcae.
in-concord with-the-fixed of-the-fates will the-Parcae.
Adgredere o magnos — aderit iam tempus — honores,
Approach O great will-be-at-hand already the-time honors,
cara deum suboles, magnum Iovis incrementum!
dear of-the-gods offspring, great of-Jupiter increase!
Aspice convexo nutantem pondere mundum,
Behold with-its-vaulted nodding weight the-world,
terrasque tractusque maris caelumque profundum!
and-the-lands and-the-expanses of-sea and-the-heaven deep!
Aspice, venturo laetentur ut omnia saeclo!
Behold, at-the-coming rejoice how all-things age!
O mihi tam longae maneat pars ultima vitae,
O for-me so long may-remain the-part last of-life,
spiritus et quantum sat erit tua dicere facta!
breath and as-much-as enough will-be your to-tell deeds!
Non me carminibus vincet nec Thracius Orpheus,
Not me in-songs shall-surpass neither Thracian Orpheus,
nec Linus, huic mater quamvis atque huic pater adsit,
nor Linus, to-this-one his-mother although and to-that-one his-father stand-by,

Orphei Calliopea, Lino formosus Apollo,
to-Orpheus Calliope, to-Linus beautiful Apollo,
Pan etiam, Arcadia mecum si iudice certet,
Pan even, with-Arcadia with-me if judge should-contend,
Pan etiam Arcadia dicat se iudice victum.
Pan even with-Arcadia would-say himself judge beaten.
Incipe, parve puer, risu cognoscere matrem,
Begin, little boy, by-a-smile to-recognize your-mother,
matri longa decem tulerunt fastidia menses.
to-your-mother long ten have-brought weariness months.
Incipe, parve puer, cui non risere parentes,
Begin, little boy, on-whom not have-smiled parents,
nec deus hunc mensa, dea nec dignata cubili est.
neither god him with-his-table, goddess nor deemed-worthy with-her-couch has.

Ecloga V. Menalcas, Mopsus

V · DAPHNIS

Menalcas and Mopsus sit in a cave to sing. Mopsus laments the death of Daphnis, mourned by nymphs, beasts, and the land, which now grows only weeds, and recites the epitaph to be set on his tomb. Menalcas answers with Daphnis made a god, marveling at Olympus, while the countryside rejoices and he is promised altars and yearly rites. They exchange gifts, a pipe for a shepherd's crook.

MENALCAS Cur non, Mopse, boni quoniam convenimus ambo,
Why not, Mopsus, good since we-have-met both,
tu calamos inflare levis, ego dicere versus,
you reeds to-blow light, I to-recite verses,
hic corylis mixtas inter consedimus ulmos?
here with-hazels mingled among have-we-sat elms?

MOPSUS Tu maior; tibi me est aequum parere, Menalca,
You are-the-elder; you me it-is right to-obey, Menalcas,
sive sub incertas zephyris motantibus umbras,
whether under shifting with-the-zephyrs stirring shades,
sive antro potius succedimus: aspice, ut antrum
or the-cave rather we-enter: look, how the-cave
silvestris raris sparsit labrusca racemis.
woodland with-scattered has-sprinkled wild-vine clusters.
MENALCAS Montibus in nostris solus tibi certat Amyntas.
Mountains on our alone with-you vies Amyntas.
MOPSUS Quid, si idem certet Phoebum superare canendo?
What, if the-same should-strive Phoebus to-surpass in-singing?
MENALCAS Incipe, Mopse, prior, si quos aut Phyllidis ignes,
Begin, Mopsus, first, if any either of-Phyllis flames,
aut Alconis habes laudes, aut iurgia Codri:
or of-Alcon you-have praises, or quarrels of-Codrus:
incipe, pascentis servabit Tityrus haedos.
begin, the-grazing will-watch Tityrus kids.
MOPSUS Immo haec, in viridi nuper quae cortice fagi
Nay these, on the-green lately which bark of-a-beech
carmina descripsi et modulans alterna notavi,
songs I-wrote and setting-to-tune in-turn I-marked,
experiar, tu deinde iubeto ut certet Amyntas.
I-will-try, you then bid that should-vie Amyntas.
MENALCAS Lenta salix quantum pallenti cedit olivae,
The-pliant willow as-much-as to-the-pale yields olive,
puniceis humilis quantum saliunca rosetis,
to-crimson the-lowly as-much-as Celtic-nard rose-beds,
iudicio nostro tantum tibi cedit Amyntas.
in-judgment our so-much to-you yields Amyntas.

Sed tu desine plura, puer; successimus antro.
But you cease more, boy; we-have-entered the-cave.

MOPSUS Extinctum nymphae crudeli funere Daphnim
Dead the-nymphs by-cruel death Daphnis

flebant; vos coryli testes et flumina nymphis;
were-weeping; you hazels witnesses and rivers to-the-nymphs;

cum, complexa sui corpus miserabile nati,
when, embracing of-her-own the-body piteous son,

atque deos atque astra vocat crudelia mater.
both the-gods and the-stars calls cruel the-mother.

Non ulli pastos illis egere diebus
Not any fed in-those drove days

frigida, Daphni, boves ad flumina; nulla neque amnem
cool, Daphnis, the-cattle to rivers; none neither the-stream

libavit quadrupes, nec graminis attigit herbam.
tasted four-footed, nor of-grass touched a-blade.

Daphni, tuum Poenos etiam ingemuisse leones
Daphnis, your Punic even to-have-groaned lions

interitum montesque feri silvaeque loquuntur.
death and-the-mountains wild and-the-woods tell.

Daphnis et Armenias curru subiungere tigres
Daphnis also Armenian to-the-chariot to-yoke tigers

instituit; Daphnis thiasos inducere Bacchi,
taught; Daphnis the-dances to-lead-in of-Bacchus,

et foliis lentas intexere mollibus hastas.
and with-leaves pliant to-wreathe soft wands.

Vitis ut arboribus decori est, ut vitibus uvae,
The-vine as to-the-trees for-a-grace is, as to-the-vines grapes,

ut gregibus tauri, segetes ut pinguibus arvis,
as to-the-herds bulls, crops as to-rich fields,

tu decus omne tuis! Postquam te fata tulerunt,
you the-grace whole to-your-own! After you the-fates took,
ipsa Pales agros atque ipse reliquit Apollo.
herself Pales the-fields and himself left Apollo.
Grandia saepe quibus mandavimus hordea sulcis,
Large often to-which we-have-committed barley furrows,
infelix lolium et steriles nascuntur avenae;
unfruitful darnel and barren spring-up wild-oats;
pro molli viola, pro purpureo narcisso,
in-place-of the-soft violet, in-place-of the-purple narcissus,
carduus et spinis surgit paliurus acutis.
the-thistle and with-thorns rises the-Christ's-thorn sharp.
Spargite humum foliis, inducite fontibus umbras,
Strew the-ground with-leaves, draw-over the-springs shades,
pastores, mandat fieri sibi talia Daphnis;
shepherds, orders to-be-done for-himself such-things Daphnis;
et tumulum facite, et tumulo superaddite carmen:
and a-mound make, and on-the-mound set-above a-verse:
DAPHNIS EGO IN SILVIS HINC
DAPHNIS I IN THE-WOODS HENCE
USQUE AD SIDERA NOTUS
EVEN TO THE-STARS KNOWN
FORMONSI PECORIS CUSTOS FORMONSIOR IPSE.
OF-A-LOVELY FLOCK THE-KEEPER LOVELIER MYSELF.
MENALCAS Tale tuum carmen nobis, divine poeta,
Such your song to-us, divine poet,
quale sopor fessis in gramine, quale per aestum
as sleep to-the-weary on the-grass, as in the-heat
dulcis aquae saliente sitim restinguere rivo:
of-sweet water with-a-leaping thirst to-quench brook:

nec calamis solum aequiparas, sed voce magistrum.
not on-reeds only do-you-match, but in-voice your-master.

Nos tamen haec quocumque modo tibi nostra vicissim
We however these in-whatever way to-you our in-turn

dicemus, Daphnimque tuum tollemus ad astra;
will-sing, and-Daphnis your will-raise to the-stars;

Daphnin ad astra feremus: amavit nos quoque Daphnis.
Daphnis to the-stars we-will-bear: loved us too Daphnis.

MOPSUS An quicquam nobis tali sit munere maius?
Or anything to-us than-such could-be a-gift greater?

Et puer ipse fuit cantari dignus, et ista
Both the-boy himself was to-be-sung worthy, and those

iam pridem Stimichon laudavit carmina nobis.
already long-since Stimichon praised songs to-us.

MENALCAS Candidus insuetum miratur limen Olympi,
Radiant the-unaccustomed marvels-at threshold of-Olympus,

sub pedibusque videt nubes et sidera Daphnis.
under and-his-feet sees the-clouds and the-stars Daphnis.

Ergo alacris silvas et cetera rura voluptas
So eager the-woods and the-other countryside delight

Panaque pastoresque tenet, Dryadasque puellas;
and-Pan and-the-shepherds holds, and-the-Dryad maidens;

nec lupus insidias pecori, nec retia cervis
neither the-wolf ambush for-the-flock, nor nets for-the-stags

ulla dolum meditantur: amat bonus otia Daphnis.
any guile devise: loves the-good peace Daphnis.

Ipsi laetitia voces ad sidera iactant
Themselves for-joy their-voices to the-stars fling

intonsi montes; ipsae iam carmina rupes,
the-unshorn mountains; themselves now songs the-rocks,

ipsa sonant arbusta: 'Deus, deus ille, Menalca!'
themselves sound the-orchards: 'A-god, a-god he, Menalcas!'
Sis bonus O felixque tuis! En quattuor aras:
May-you-be good O and-propitious to-your-own! Look four altars:
ecce duas tibi, Daphni, duas altaria Phoebo.
behold two for-you, Daphnis, two high-altars for-Phoebus.
Pocula bina novo spumantia lacte quotannis,
Cups two with-new foaming milk yearly,
craterasque duo statuam tibi pinguis olivi,
and-bowls two I-will-set for-you of-rich olive-oil,
et multo in primis hilarans convivia Baccho, —
and with-much above all cheering the-feasts Bacchus,
ante focum, si frigus erit, si messis, in umbra, —
before the-hearth, if cold it-be, if harvest, in the-shade,
vina novum fundam calathis Ariusia nectar.
wines new I-will-pour from-goblets Ariusian nectar.
Cantabunt mihi Damoetas et Lyctius Aegon;
Shall-sing for-me Damoetas and Lyctian Aegon;
saltantis satyros imitabitur Alphesiboeus.
dancing satyrs shall-imitate Alphesiboeus.
Haec tibi semper erunt, et cum solemnia vota
These for-you always shall-be, both when the-solemn vows
reddemus Nymphis, et cum lustrabimus agros.
we-shall-render to-the-Nymphs, and when we-shall-purify the-fields.
Dum iuga montis aper, fluvios dum piscis amabit,
While the-ridges of-the-mountain the-boar, the-rivers while the-fish shall-love,
dumque thymo pascentur apes, dum rore cicadae,
and-while on-thyme shall-feed the-bees, while on-dew the-cicadas,
semper honos nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt;
always the-honor and-name your and-praises shall-remain;

ut Baccho Cererique, tibi sic vota quotannis
as to-Bacchus and-to-Ceres, to-you so vows yearly
agricolae facient: damnabis tu quoque votis.
the-farmers shall-make: shall-bind you too by-their-vows.
MOPSUS Quae tibi, quae tali reddam pro carmine dona?
What to-you, what such shall-I-render for song gifts?
Nam neque me tantum venientis sibilus austri,
For neither me so-much of-the-coming whistling of-the-south-wind,
nec percussa iuvant fluctu tam litora, nec quae
nor stricken please by-the-wave so shores, nor which
saxosas inter decurrunt flumina valles.
rocky among run-down rivers valleys.
MENALCAS Hac te nos fragili donabimus ante cicuta:
With-this you we frail will-present first hemlock-pipe:
haec nos, 'Formosum Corydon ardebat Alexim,'
this us, 'Beautiful Corydon burned-for Alexis,'
haec eadem docuit, 'Cuium pecus, an Meliboei?'
this the-same taught, 'Whose flock, is-it of-Meliboeus?'
MOPSUS At tu sume pedum, quod, me cum saepe rogaret,
But you take the-crook, which, me although often asked,
non tulit Antigenes — et erat tum dignus amari —
not got Antigenes and he-was then worthy to-be-loved
formosum paribus nodis atque aere, Menalca.
beautiful with-even knots and with-bronze, Menalcas.

Ecloga VI

VI · SILENUS

Apollo warns the poet to keep to pastoral song, which he dedicates to Varus. Two boys and the nymph Aegle bind the sleeping Silenus in garlands, and he sings for his release: the making of the world from seeds, Pyrrha's stones, the age of Saturn, Hylas, Pasiphae, the girl who marveled at the Hesperides' apples, the sisters of Phaethon, Gallus led to the Muses, Scylla, and Philomela, until evening calls the flocks home.

Prima Syracosio dignata est ludere versu,
First in-Syracusan deigned has to-play verse,
nostra nec erubuit silvas habitare Thalia.
our nor blushed the-woods to-inhabit Thalia.
Cum canerem reges et proelia, Cynthius aurem
When I-was-singing-of kings and battles, the-Cynthian my-ear
vellit, et admonuit: 'Pastorem, Tityre, pinguis
plucked, and admonished: 'A-shepherd, Tityrus, fat
pascere oportet ovis, deductum dicere carmen.' 5
to-graze ought sheep, a-fine-spun to-sing song.'
Nunc ego — namque super tibi erunt, qui dicere laudes,
Now I for in-plenty for-you there-will-be, who to-tell praises,
Vare, tuas cupiant, et tristia condere bella —
Varus, your may-desire, and grim to-compose wars
agrestem tenui meditabor arundine Musam.
rustic on-slender will-practice reed Muse.
Non iniussa cano: si quis tamen haec quoque, si quis
Not unbidden I-sing: if anyone however these too, if anyone
captus amore leget, te nostrae, Vare, myricae, 10
captured by-love shall-read, you our, Varus, tamarisks,
te nemus omne canet; nec Phoebo gratior ulla est,
you grove every shall-sing; nor to-Phoebus more-welcome any is,

quam sibi quae Vari praescripsit pagina nomen.
than to-itself which of-Varus has-set-at-the-head page the-name.
Pergite, Pierides! Chromis et Mnasyllos in antro
Proceed, Pierides! Chromis and Mnasyllus in a-cave
Silenum pueri somno videre iacentem,
Silenus the-boys in-sleep saw lying,
inflatum hesterno venas, ut semper, Iaccho:
swollen yesterday's in-his-veins, as always, with-Iacchus:
serta procul tantum capiti delapsa iacebant,
garlands far only from-his-head slipped were-lying,
et gravis attrita pendebat cantharus ansa.
and heavy by-its-worn was-hanging the-tankard handle.
Adgressi — nam saepe senex spe carminis ambo
Attacking for often the-old-man with-the-hope of-a-song both
luserat — iniciunt ipsis ex vincula sertis:
had-mocked they-cast-on very from bonds the-garlands:
addit se sociam, timidisque supervenit Aegle, —
adds herself as-ally, and-to-the-timid comes-up Aegle,
Aegle, Naiadum pulcherrima, — iamque videnti
Aegle, of-the-Naiads loveliest, and-now to-him-seeing
sanguineis frontem moris et tempora pingit.
with-blood-red his-brow mulberries and temples she-paints.
Ille dolum ridens, 'Quo vincula nectitis?' inquit;
He the-trick laughing-at, 'Why bonds do-you-weave?' he-says;
'solvite me, pueri; satis est potuisse videri:
'loose me, boys; enough it-is to-have-been-able to-seem:
carmina, quae voltis, cognoscite; carmina vobis,
the-songs, which you-want, learn; songs to-you,
huic aliud mercedis erit:' simul incipit ipse.
for-her other of-reward there-will-be:' at-once begins himself.

Tum vero in numerum Faunosque ferasque videres
Then truly in measure and-Fauns and-wild-beasts you-would-have-seen
ludere, tum rigidas motare cacumina quercus;
to-sport, then stiff to-sway their-tops the-oaks;
nec tantum Phoebo gaudet Parnasia rupes,
nor so-much in-Phoebus rejoices the-Parnassian rock,
nec tantum Rhodope miratur et Ismarus Orphea.
nor so-much Rhodope marvels-at and Ismarus Orpheus.
Namque canebat, uti magnum per inane coacta
For he-sang, how great through void compelled-together
semina terrarumque animaeque marisque fuissent,
the-seeds and-of-the-earths and-of-the-air and-of-the-sea had-been,
et liquidi simul ignis; ut his exordia primis
and of-the-liquid also fire; how from-these beginnings first
omnia et ipse tener mundi concreverit orbis;
all-things and itself tender of-the-universe grew-together the-globe;
tum durare solum et discludere Nerea ponto
then to-harden the-ground and to-shut-off Nereus in-the-sea
coeperit, et rerum paulatim sumere formas;
began, and of-things little-by-little to-take forms;
iamque novum terrae stupeant lucescere solem,
and-now the-new the-lands be-amazed to-shine sun,
altius atque cadant submotis nubibus imbres;
higher and fall from-the-removed clouds rains;
incipiant silvae cum primum surgere, cumque
begin the-woods when first to-rise, and-when
rara per ignaros errent animalia montis.
scattered through ignorant roam animals mountains.
Hinc lapides Pyrrhae iactos, Saturnia regna,
Hence the-stones by-Pyrrha thrown, Saturn's reign,

Caucasiasque refert volucres, furtumque Promethei:
and-the-Caucasian tells birds, and-the-theft of-Prometheus:
his adiungit, Hylan nautae quo fonte relictum
to-these he-joins, Hylas the-sailors at-what spring left-behind
clamassent, ut litus 'Hyla, Hyla!' omne sonaret.
had-called, so-that the-shore 'Hylas, Hylas!' all resounded.
Et fortunatam, si numquam armenta fuissent,
And fortunate, if never herds had-been,
Pasiphaen nivei solatur amore iuvenci.
Pasiphae of-a-snowy he-consoles in-her-love bullock.
Ah, virgo infelix, quae te dementia cepit!
Ah, maiden unhappy, what you madness has-seized!
Proetides inplerunt falsis mugitibus agros:
The-daughters-of-Proetus filled with-false lowings the-fields:
at non tam turpis pecudum tamen ulla secuta est
but not so foul of-cattle however any followed has
concubitus, quamvis collo timuisset aratrum,
couplings, although for-her-neck she-had-feared the-plow,
et saepe in levi quaesisset cornua fronte.
and often on smooth had-sought horns brow.
Ah, virgo infelix, tu nunc in montibus erras:
Ah, maiden unhappy, you now on the-mountains wander:
ille, latus niveum molli fultus hyacintho,
he, his-side snowy on-soft propped hyacinth,
ilice sub nigra pallentis ruminat herbas,
holm-oak under black pale chews-the-cud grasses,
aut aliquam in magno sequitur grege. 'Claudite, nymphae,
or some-cow in great follows herd. 'Close, nymphs,
Dictaeae nymphae, nemorum iam claudite saltus,
Dictaean nymphs, of-the-groves now close the-glades,

si qua forte ferant oculis sese obvia nostris
if somehow by-chance may-bring to-the-eyes themselves in-the-way our
errabunda bovis vestigia; forsitan illum,
wandering of-the-bull the-tracks; perhaps him,
aut herba captum viridi, aut armenta secutum,
either by-the-grass captured green, or the-herds following,
perducant aliquae stabula ad Gortynia vaccae.' 60
may-lead-home some the-stalls to Gortynian cows.'
Tum canit Hesperidum miratam mala puellam;
Then he-sings of-the-Hesperides having-marveled-at the-apples the-girl;
tum Phaethontiades musco circumdat amaro
then the-sisters-of-Phaethon with-moss he-girds bitter
corticis, atque solo proceras erigit alnos.
of-bark, and from-the-ground tall raises alders.
Tum canit, errantem Permessi ad flumina Gallum
Then he-sings, wandering of-Permessus by the-streams Gallus
Aonas in montis ut duxerit una sororum, 65
Aonian into mountains how had-led one of-the-sisters,
utque viro Phoebi chorus adsurrexerit omnis;
and-how before-the-man of-Phoebus the-choir had-risen whole;
ut Linus haec illi, divino carmine pastor,
how Linus these to-him, with-divine song shepherd,
floribus atque apio crinis ornatus amaro,
with-flowers and with-parsley his-hair adorned bitter,
dixerit: 'Hos tibi dant calamos, en accipe, Musae,
said: 'These to-you give the-reeds, look take, the-Muses,
Ascraeo quos ante seni, quibus ille solebat 70
to-the-Ascraean which before old-man, with-which he was-wont
cantando rigidas deducere montibus ornos:
by-singing stiff to-lead-down from-the-mountains ash-trees:

his tibi Grynei nemoris dicatur origo,
with-these by-you of-the-Grynean grove let-be-told the-origin,
ne quis sit lucus, quo se plus iactet Apollo.'
that-not any be grove, in-which himself more may-vaunt Apollo.'
Quid loquar aut Scyllam Nisi, quam fama secuta est
Why should-I-tell either-of Scylla of-Nisus, whom report followed has
candida succinctam latrantibus inguina monstris
white girt-about with-barking her-loins monsters
Dulichias vexasse rates, et gurgite in alto
the-Dulichian to-have-harried ships, and the-swirl in deep
ah, timidos nautas canibus lacerasse marinis,
ah, the-timid sailors with-dogs to-have-torn sea,
aut ut mutatos Terei narraverit artus;
or how the-changed of-Tereus he-told limbs;
quas illi Philomela dapes, quae dona pararit,
what for-him Philomela feasts, what gifts prepared,
quo cursu deserta petiverit, et quibus ante
with-what speed deserts she-sought, and with-what before
infelix sua tecta supervolitaverit alis?
unhappy her-own roof hovered-over wings?
Omnia, quae, Phoebo quondam meditante, beatus
All, which, with-Phoebus once practicing, blessed
audiit Eurotas, iussitque ediscere laurus,
heard Eurotas, and-bade to-learn-by-heart the-laurels,
ille canit: pulsae referunt ad sidera valles;
he sings: struck echo-them to the-stars the-valleys;
cogere donec ovis stabulis numerumque referri
to-gather until the-sheep in-the-stalls and-the-count to-be-returned
iussit, et invito processit Vesper Olympo.
bade, and against-unwilling advanced Vesper Olympus.

Ecloga VII. Meliboeus, Corydon, Thyrsis

VII · CORYDON AND THYRSIS

Meliboeus tells how, chasing a strayed goat, he was invited by Daphnis to hear Corydon and Thyrsis contend in alternate verses. They sing to the Nymphs, to Delia and Priapus, to Galatea, of summer and winter, of absent and present loves, and of the trees each god loves best. Meliboeus remembers that Thyrsis was beaten, and that from that day Corydon has been Corydon to them.

MELIBOEUS Forte sub arguta consederat ilice Daphnis,
By-chance under a-whispering had-sat holm-oak Daphnis,
compulerantque greges Corydon et Thyrsis in unum,
and-had-driven their-flocks Corydon and Thyrsis into one,
Thyrsis ovis, Corydon distentas lacte capellas,
Thyrsis sheep, Corydon swollen with-milk she-goats,
ambo florentes aetatibus, Arcades ambo,
both flowering in-years, Arcadians both,
et cantare pares, et respondere parati.
and to-sing equal, and to-respond ready.
Huc mihi, dum teneras defendo a frigore myrtos,
Hither to-me, while the-tender I-am-guarding from the-cold myrtles,
vir gregis ipse caper deerraverat; atque ego Daphnim
the-husband of-the-flock himself the-goat had-strayed; and I Daphnis
aspicio. Ille ubi me contra videt: 'Ocius' inquit
see. He when me opposite sees: 'Quickly' he-says
'huc ades, O Meliboee, caper tibi salvus et haedi;
'hither come, O Meliboeus, your-goat to-you safe and your-kids;
et, si quid cessare potes, requiesce sub umbra.
and, if at-all to-idle you-can, rest under the-shade.
Huc ipsi potum venient per prata iuvenci,
Hither of-themselves to-drink will-come through the-meadows bullocks,

hic viridis tenera praetexit arundine ripas
here the-green with-tender fringes reed banks
Mincius, eque sacra resonant examina quercu.'
Mincius, and-from sacred hum swarms oak.'
Quid facerem? Neque ego Alcippen, nec Phyllida habebam,
What was-I-to-do? Neither I Alcippe, nor Phyllis had,
depulsos a lacte domi quae clauderet agnos,
weaned from milk at-home who might-shut-up lambs,
et certamen erat, Corydon cum Thyrside, magnum.
and a-contest it-was, Corydon with Thyrsis, great.
Posthabui tamen illorum mea seria ludo:
I-put-after however to-their my serious-business play:
alternis igitur contendere versibus ambo
in-alternate therefore to-contend verses both
coepere; alternos Musae meminisse volebant.
began; alternate-verses the-Muses to-recall wished.
Hos Corydon, illos referebat in ordine Thyrsis.
These Corydon, those was-reporting in order Thyrsis.
CORYDON Nymphae, noster amor, Libethrides, aut mihi carmen,
Nymphs, our love, of-Libethra, either to-me a-song,
quale meo Codro, concedite: proxima Phoebi
such-as to-my Codrus, grant: next-to of-Phoebus
versibus ille facit; aut, si non possumus omnes,
verses he makes; or, if not we-can all,
hic arguta sacra pendebit fistula pinu.
here the-whispering on-the-sacred shall-hang pipe pine.
THYRSIS Pastores, hedera crescentem ornate poetam,
Shepherds, with-ivy the-growing adorn poet,
Arcades, invidia rumpantur ut ilia Codro;
Arcadians, with-envy may-burst so-that the-flanks for-Codrus;

aut si ultra placitum laudarit, baccare frontem
or if beyond what-is-pleasing he-shall-praise, with-foxglove the-brow
cingite, ne vati noceat mala lingua futuro.
gird, lest the-bard should-harm the-evil tongue future.
CORYDON Saetosi caput hoc apri tibi, Delia, parvus
Of-the-bristly head this boar to-you, Delia, little
et ramosa Micon vivacis cornua cervi.
and branching Micon of-the-long-lived the-antlers stag.
Si proprium hoc fuerit, levi de marmore tota
If lasting this shall-be, smooth of marble whole
puniceo stabis suras evincta coturno.
in-crimson you-shall-stand your-calves bound-up buskin.
THYRSIS Sinum lactis et haec te liba, Priape, quotannis
A-bowl of-milk and these you cakes, Priapus, yearly
exspectare sat est: custos es pauperis horti.
to-expect enough it-is: guardian you-are of-a-poor garden.
Nunc te marmoreum pro tempore fecimus; at tu,
Now you of-marble for the-time we-have-made; but you,
si fetura gregem suppleverit, aureus esto.
if the-breeding the-flock shall-have-filled-up, golden be.
CORYDON Nerine Galatea, thymo mihi dulcior Hyblae,
Nereus'-daughter Galatea, than-thyme to-me sweeter of-Hybla,
candidior cycnis, hedera formosior alba,
whiter than-swans, than-ivy lovelier white,
cum primum pasti repetent praesepia tauri,
when first the-fed shall-seek-again the-stalls bulls,
si qua tui Corydonis habet te cura, venito.
if any of-your Corydon has you care, come.
THYRSIS Immo ego Sardoniis videar tibi amarior herbis,
Nay I than-Sardinian may-seem to-you more-bitter herbs,

horridior rusco, proiecta vilior alga,
more-bristly than-butcher's-broom, than-cast-up cheaper seaweed,
si mihi non haec lux toto iam longior anno est.
if to-me not this day than-the-whole now longer year is.
Ite domum pasti, si quis pudor, ite iuvenci.
Go home fed, if any shame, go bullocks.
CORYDON Muscosi fontes, et somno mollior herba,
Mossy springs, and than-sleep softer grass,
et quae vos rara viridis tegit arbutus umbra,
and which you with-scanty the-green covers arbutus shade,
solstitium pecori defendite; iam venit aestas
the-summer-heat from-the-flock ward-off; now comes summer
torrida, iam lento turgent in palmite gemmae.
scorching, now pliant swell on tendril buds.
THYRSIS Hic focus et taedae pingues, hic plurimus ignis
Here a-hearth and pine-torches resinous, here very-much fire
semper, et adsidua postes fuligine nigri;
always, and with-constant doorposts soot black;
hic tantum Boreae curamus frigora, quantum
here so-much of-Boreas we-care-for the-cold, as-much-as
aut numerum lupus, aut torrentia flumina ripas.
either the-count the-wolf, or torrential rivers banks.
CORYDON Stant et iuniperi, et castaneae hirsutae;
Stand both junipers, and chestnuts shaggy;
strata iacent passim sua quaque sub arbore poma;
strewn lie everywhere its-own each under tree the-fruits;
omnia nunc rident: at si formosus Alexis
all-things now smile: but if beautiful Alexis
montibus his abeat, videas et flumina sicca.
from-mountains these should-go-away, you-would-see even the-rivers dry.

THYRSIS Aret ager; vitio moriens sitit aeris herba;
Is-parched the-field; through-fault dying thirsts of-the-air the-grass;
Liber pampineas invidit collibus umbras:
Liber vine-leafed has-grudged to-the-hills shades:
Phyllidis adventu nostrae nemus omne virebit,
of-Phyllis at-the-coming our grove all will-grow-green,
Iuppiter et laeto descendet plurimus imbri.
Jupiter and in-glad will-descend abundant shower.
CORYDON Populus Alcidae gratissima, vitis Iaccho,
The-poplar to-Alcides most-pleasing, the-vine to-Iacchus,
formosae myrtus Veneri, sua laurea Phoebo;
to-beautiful the-myrtle Venus, his-own laurel to-Phoebus;
Phyllis amat corylos: illas dum Phyllis amabit,
Phyllis loves hazels: them while Phyllis shall-love,
nec myrtus vincet corylos, nec laurea Phoebi.
neither the-myrtle shall-surpass hazels, nor the-laurel of-Phoebus.
THYRSIS Fraxinus in silvis pulcherrima, pinus in hortis,
The-ash in the-woods loveliest, the-pine in gardens,
populus in fluviis, abies in montibus altis:
the-poplar by rivers, the-fir on mountains high:
saepius at si me, Lycida formose, revisas,
oftener but if me, Lycidas beautiful, you-would-revisit,
fraxinus in silvis cedat tibi, pinus in hortis.
the-ash in the-woods would-yield to-you, the-pine in gardens.
MELIBOEUS Haec memini, et victum frustra contendere Thyrsim:
These I-recall, and beaten in-vain to-strive Thyrsis:
ex illo Corydon Corydon est tempore nobis.
from that Corydon Corydon is time to-us.

Ecloga VIII. Damon, Alphesiboeus

VIII · THE SORCERESS

The poet sings of Damon and Alphesiboeus, dedicating the song to a patron now passing the Timavus or the Illyrian coast. Damon, betrayed by Nisa, who marries Mopsus, sings his despair at dawn with the refrain of Maenalian verses and resolves to leap from a mountain into the waves. Alphesiboeus sings of a woman working spells with threads, wax, herbs, and ashes to draw her lover Daphnis home from the city, until the ash blazes and he comes.

Pastorum Musam Damonis et Alphesiboei —
Of-the-shepherds the-Muse of-Damon and of-Alphesiboeus
immemor herbarum quos est mirata iuvenca
forgetful of-the-grass whom has marveled-at the-heifer
certantis, quorum stupefactae carmine lynces,
contending, whose stunned at-song lynxes,
et mutata suos requierunt flumina cursus —
and changed their have-stayed rivers courses
Damonis Musam dicemus et Alphesiboei.
of-Damon the-Muse we-shall-sing and of-Alphesiboeus.
Tu mihi seu magni superas iam saxa Timavi,
You for-me whether of-great you-pass now the-rocks Timavus,
sive oram Illyrici legis aequoris, en erit umquam
or the-coast of-Illyrian you-skirt sea, look will-there-be ever
ille dies, mihi cum liceat tua dicere facta?
that day, for-me when it-may-be-allowed your to-tell deeds?
En erit ut liceat totum mihi ferre per orbem
Look will-it-be that it-may-be-allowed whole to-me to-bear through the-world
sola Sophocleo tua carmina digna coturno?
alone of-Sophocles your songs worthy buskin?

A te principium, tibi desinam: accipe iussis
From you the-beginning, in-you I-shall-end: accept at-the-commands
carmina coepta tuis, atque hanc sine tempora circum
songs begun your, and this let temples around
inter victrices hederam tibi serpere laurus.
among victorious ivy for-you to-creep laurels.
Frigida vix caelo noctis decesserat umbra,
Cold scarcely from-heaven of-night had-departed the-shade,
cum ros in tenera pecori gratissimus herba,
when the-dew on tender to-the-flock most-welcome grass,
incumbens tereti Damon sic coepit olivae.
leaning-on smooth Damon thus began olive-staff.
DAMON Nascere, praeque diem veniens age, Lucifer, almum,
Be-born, and-before the-day coming bring, Lucifer, kindly,
coniugis indigno Nisae deceptus amore
of-my-bride by-unworthy Nisa deceived love
dum queror, et divos, quamquam nil testibus illis
while I-lament, and the-gods, although nothing with-witnesses them
profeci, extrema moriens tamen adloquor hora.
I-have-gained, at-the-last dying however I-address hour.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Maenalus argutumque nemus pinosque loquentis
Maenalus and-whispering grove and-pines speaking
semper habet; semper pastorum ille audit amores,
always has; always of-the-shepherds he hears the-loves,
Panaque, qui primus calamos non passus inertis.
and-Pan, who first the-reeds not suffered idle.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.

Mopso Nisa datur: quid non speremus amantes?
To-Mopsus Nisa is-given: what not may-we-hope lovers?
Iungentur iam grypes equis, aevoque sequenti
Shall-be-joined now griffins with-horses, and-in-the-age following
cum canibus timidi venient ad pocula dammae.
with dogs timid shall-come to the-drinking-cups deer.
Mopse, novas incide faces: tibi ducitur uxor;
Mopsus, new cut torches: for-you is-led a-wife;
sparge, marite, nuces: tibi deserit Hesperus Oetam.
scatter, bridegroom, nuts: for-you leaves Hesperus Oeta.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
O digno coniuncta viro, dum despicis omnes,
O to-a-worthy joined husband, while you-despise all,
dumque tibi est odio mea fistula, dumque capellae,
and-while to-you is an-object-of-hate my pipe, and-while my-she-goats,
hirsutumque supercilium promissaque barba,
and-my-shaggy eyebrow and-my-long beard,
nec curare deum credis mortalia quemquam!
nor to-care-for of-the-gods you-believe mortal-things any!
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Saepibus in nostris parvam te roscida mala —
hedges in our little you dewy apples
dux ego vester eram — vidi cum matre legentem.
guide I your was I-saw with your-mother gathering.
Alter ab undecimo tum me iam acceperat annus;
The-next after-the eleventh then me now had-received year;
iam fragilis poteram ab terra contingere ramos.
now the-brittle I-could from the-ground to-touch boughs.

Ut vidi, ut perii! Ut me malus abstulit error!
How I-saw, how I-perished! How me wicked swept-away error!
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Nunc scio, quid sit Amor: duris in cotibus illum
Now I-know, what is Love: hard on whetstones him
aut Tmaros, aut Rhodope, aut extremi Garamantes,
either Tmaros, or Rhodope, or the-furthest Garamantes,
nec generis nostri puerum nec sanguinis edunt.
neither of-race our the-boy nor of-blood bring-forth.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Saevus Amor docuit natorum sanguine matrem
Savage Love taught with-her-children's blood the-mother
commaculare manus; crudelis tu quoque, mater:
to-stain her-hands; cruel you also, mother:
crudelis mater magis, an puer improbus ille?
cruel the-mother more, or the-boy wicked that?
Improbus ille puer; crudelis tu quoque, mater.
Wicked that boy; cruel you also, mother.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Nunc et ovis ultro fugiat lupus; aurea durae
Now even the-sheep unasked let-flee the-wolf; golden hard
mala ferant quercus; narcisso floreat alnus;
apples let-bear oaks; with-narcissus let-bloom the-alder;
pinguia corticibus sudent electra myricae;
rich from-their-bark let-sweat amber tamarisks;
certent et cycnis ululae; sit Tityrus Orpheus,
let-vie also with-swans owls; let-be Tityrus Orpheus,

Orpheus in silvis, inter delphinas Arion.
Orpheus in the-woods, among the-dolphins Arion.
Incipe Maenalios mecum, mea tibia, versus.
Begin Maenalian with-me, my flute, verses.
Omnia vel medium fiant mare: vivite, silvae!
All-things or the-middle let-become sea: live, woods!
Praeceps aerii specula de montis in undas
Headlong of-an-airy watch-tower from mountain into the-waves
deferar; extremum hoc munus morientis habeto.
I-will-be-borne-down; the-last this gift of-the-dying have.
Desine Maenalios, iam desine, tibia, versus.
Cease Maenalian, now cease, flute, verses.
Haec Damon: vos, quae responderit Alphesiboeus,
These-things Damon: you, what replied Alphesiboeus,
dicite, Pierides; non omnia possumus omnes.
tell, Pierides; not all-things we-can all.
ALPHESIBOEUS Effer aquam, et molli cinge haec altaria vitta,
Bring-out water, and with-soft gird these altars fillet,
verbenasque adole pinguis et mascula tura,
and-vervain burn fat and male frankincense,
coniugis ut magicis sanos avertere sacris
of-my-lover that by-magic the-sane to-turn-aside rites
experiar sensus: nihil hic nisi carmina desunt.
I-may-try senses: nothing here except songs are-lacking.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Carmina vel caelo possunt deducere Lunam;
Songs even from-heaven can to-lead-down the-Moon;
carminibus Circe socios mutavit Ulixi;
by-songs Circe the-comrades changed of-Ulysses;

frigidus in pratis cantando rumpitur anguis.
the-cold in the-meadows by-singing is-burst snake.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Terna tibi haec primum triplici diversa colore
Three for-you these first in-threefold different color
licia circumdo, terque haec altaria circum
threads I-twine-around, and-thrice these altars around
effigiem duco: numero deus impare gaudet.
your-image I-lead: in-number the-god uneven rejoices.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Necte tribus nodis ternos, Amarylli, colores,
Tie in-three knots three, Amaryllis, colors,
necte, Amarylli, modo, et 'Veneris' dic 'vincula necto.'
tie, Amaryllis, only, and 'of-Venus' say 'the-bonds I-tie.'
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Limus ut hic durescit et haec ut cera liquescit
The-clay as this hardens and this as wax melts
uno eodemque igni, sic nostro Daphnis amore.
in-one and-the-same fire, so by-our Daphnis love.
Sparge molam, et fragilis incende bitumine laurus.
Sprinkle the-meal, and the-brittle kindle with-pitch laurels.
Daphnis me malus urit, ego hanc in Daphnide laurum.
Daphnis me wicked burns, I this against Daphnis laurel.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Talis amor Daphnim, qualis cum fessa iuvencum
Such love Daphnis, as when weary for-the-bullock

per nemora atque altos quaerendo bucula lucos
through groves and high in-seeking a-heifer woods
propter aquae rivum viridi procumbit in ulva,
by of-water a-stream green sinks-down on sedge,
perdita, nec serae meminit decedere nocti,
lost, nor to-the-late remembers to-yield night,
talis amor teneat, nec sit mihi cura mederi.
such love may-it-hold, nor may-there-be to-me care to-heal-it.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Has olim exuvias mihi perfidus ille reliquit,
These once cast-offs to-me faithless that-man left,
pignora cara sui, quae nunc ego limine in ipso,
pledges dear of-himself, which now I threshold on very,
terra, tibi mando; debent haec pignora Daphnim.
earth, to-you I-entrust; owe these pledges Daphnis.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Has herbas atque haec Ponto mihi lecta venena
These herbs and these in-Pontus for-me gathered poisons
ipse dedit Moeris; nascuntur plurima Ponto.
himself gave Moeris; grow very-many in-Pontus.
His ego saepe lupum fieri et se condere silvis
By-these I often a-wolf to-become and himself to-hide in-the-woods
Moerim, saepe animas imis excire sepulcris,
Moeris, often spirits from-deepest to-call-forth tombs,
atque satas alio vidi traducere messis.
and sown elsewhere I-have-seen to-lead-over harvests.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.

Fer cineres, Amarylli, foras, rivoque fluenti
Carry the-ashes, Amaryllis, outside, and-into-the-stream flowing
transque caput iace, nec respexeris: his ego Daphnim
and-over your-head throw, nor look-back: with-these I Daphnis
adgrediar; nihil ille deos, nil carmina curat.
will-assail; nothing he the-gods, nothing songs cares-for.
Ducite ab urbe domum, mea carmina, ducite Daphnim.
Lead from the-city home, my songs, lead Daphnis.
Aspice, corripuit tremulis altaria flammis 105
Look, has-seized with-flickering the-altars flames
sponte sua, dum ferre moror, cinis ipse: bonum sit!
by-will its-own, while to-carry-it I-delay, the-ash itself: good may-it-be!
Nescio quid certe est, et Hylas in limine latrat.
I-know-not what surely it-is, and Hylas on the-threshold barks.
Credimus, an, qui amant, ipsi sibi somnia fingunt?
Do-we-believe, or, those-who love, themselves for-themselves dreams fashion?
Parcite, ab urbe venit, iam carmina, parcite, Daphnis.
Spare, from the-city comes, now songs, spare, Daphnis.

Ecloga IX. Lycidas, Moeris

IX · MOERIS AND LYCIDAS

On the road to the city Moeris tells Lycidas that a newcomer has taken their fields, and that Menalcas' songs could not save them; Menalcas barely escaped with his life. They recall fragments of his songs, to Tityrus about the goats, to Varus and Mantua, to Galatea, and to Caesar's star. Moeris has forgotten much with age; when Lycidas, halfway there at Bianor's tomb, urges him to sing, Moeris bids him stop until Menalcas himself returns.

LYCIDAS Quo te, Moeri, pedes, an, quo via ducit, in urbem?
Whither you, Moeris, feet, is-it, where the-road leads, to the-city?

MOERIS O Lycida, vivi pervenimus, advena nostri
O Lycidas, alive we-have-come, a-stranger of-our

(quod numquam veriti sumus) ut possessor agelli
(which never feared we-have) so-that the-owner little-field

diceret: 'Haec mea sunt; veteres migrate coloni!'
should-say: 'These mine are; old move-out tenants!'

Nunc victi, tristes, quoniam Fors omnia versat,
Now beaten, sad, since Chance all-things turns,

hos illi — quod nec vertat bene — mittimus haedos.
these to-him which nor may-it-turn well we-send kids.

LYCIDAS Certe equidem audieram, qua se subducere colles
Surely indeed I-had-heard, where themselves to-withdraw the-hills

incipiunt, mollique iugum demittere clivo,
begin, and-in-a-gentle the-ridge to-let-down slope,

usque ad aquam et veteres (iam fracta cacumina) fagos
right to the-water and the-old (now broken their-tops) beeches

omnia carminibus vestrum servasse Menalcan.
all by-his-songs your to-have-saved Menalcas.

MOERIS Audieras, et fama fuit; sed carmina tantum
You-had-heard, and the-report it-was; but songs so-much
nostra valent, Lycida, tela inter Martia, quantum
our avail, Lycidas, weapons among Martial, as-much-as
Chaonias dicunt aquila veniente columbas.
Chaonian they-say with-the-eagle coming doves.
Quod nisi me quacumque novas incidere lites
But if-not me in-whatever-way new to-cut-short quarrels
ante sinistra cava monuisset ab ilice cornix,
before left hollow had-warned from holm-oak the-crow,
nec tuus hic Moeris, nec viveret ipse Menalcas.
neither your here Moeris, nor would-live himself Menalcas.
LYCIDAS Heu, cadit in quemquam tantum scelus? Heu, tua nobis
Alas, falls upon anyone so-great a-crime? Alas, your from-us
paene simul tecum solatia rapta, Menalca?
almost along with-you solace snatched-away, Menalcas?
Quis caneret nymphas; quis humum florentibus herbis
Who would-sing the-nymphs; who the-ground with-flowering herbs
spargeret, aut viridi fontes induceret umbra?
would-strew, or with-green the-springs would-overlay shade?
Vel quae sublegi tacitus tibi carmina nuper,
Or which I-picked-up silent from-you songs lately,
cum te ad delicias ferres, Amaryllida, nostras?
when you to the-darling you-were-taking, Amaryllis, our?
'Tityre, dum redeo — brevis est via — pasce capellas,
'Tityrus, while I-return short is the-way graze my-she-goats,
et potum pastas age, Tityre, et inter agendum
and to-drink having-grazed drive-them, Tityrus, and in driving
occursare capro, cornu ferit ille, caveto.'
to-meet the-he-goat, with-his-horn butts he, beware.'

MOERIS Immo haec, quae Varo necdum perfecta canebat:
Nay these, which to-Varus not-yet finished he-was-singing:
'Vare, tuum nomen, superet modo Mantua nobis —
'Varus, your name, may-survive only Mantua for-us
Mantua, vae miserae nimium vicina Cremonae —
Mantua, alas to-wretched too near Cremona
cantantes sublime ferent ad sidera cycni.'
singing aloft shall-bear to the-stars the-swans.'
LYCIDAS Sic tua Cyrneas fugiant examina taxos;
So your Corsican may-shun swarms yews;
sic cytiso pastae distendant ubera vaccae!
so on-clover fed may-swell their-udders the-cows!
Incipe, si quid habes: et me fecere poetam
Begin, if anything you-have: also me have-made a-poet
Pierides; sunt et mihi carmina; me quoque dicunt
the-Pierides; there-are also to-me songs; me too call
vatem pastores; sed non ego credulus illis.
a-bard the-shepherds; but not I credulous to-them.
Nam neque adhuc Vario videor, nec dicere Cinna
For neither yet of-Varius I-seem, nor to-say of-Cinna
digna, sed argutos inter strepere anser olores.
worthy-things, but clear-voiced among to-cackle a-goose swans.
MOERIS Id quidem ago et tacitus, Lycida,
That indeed I-am-doing and silent, Lycidas,
mecum ipse voluto,
with-myself myself I-turn-over,
si valeam meminisse; neque est ignobile carmen:
whether I-can to-remember; nor is mean the-song:
'Huc ades, O Galatea; quis est nam ludus in undis?
'Hither come, O Galatea; what is pray sport in the-waves?

Hic ver purpureum; varios hic flumina circum
Here spring purple; various here the-streams around
fundit humus flores; hic candida populus antro
pours-forth the-earth flowers; here the-white poplar over-the-cave
imminet, et lentae texunt umbracula vites.
hangs, and pliant weave bowers vines.
Huc ades: insani feriant sine litora fluctus.'
Hither come: mad beat let the-shores waves.'
LYCIDAS Quid, quae te pura solum sub nocte canentem
What, which you clear alone under night singing
audieram? Numeros memini, si verba tenerem.
I-had-heard? The-measures I-remember, if the-words I-could-hold.
MOERIS 'Daphni, quid antiquos signorum suspicis ortus?
'Daphnis, why ancient of-the-constellations do-you-look-up-at risings?
Ecce Dionaei processit Caesaris astrum,
Behold of-Dione's has-come-forth of-Caesar the-star,
astrum, quo segetes gauderent frugibus, et quo
the-star, by-which the-crops should-rejoice in-their-fruits, and by-which
duceret apricis in collibus uva colorem.
should-take sunny on hills the-grape its-color.
insere, Daphni, piros: carpent tua poma nepotes.'
graft, Daphnis, pears: shall-pluck your fruit your-descendants.'
Omnia fert aetas, animum quoque: saepe ego longos
All-things bears-off age, the-mind too: often I long
cantando puerum memini me condere soles:
in-singing as-a-boy I-remember myself to-have-laid-to-rest days:
nunc oblita mihi tot carmina; vox quoque Moerim
now forgotten by-me so-many songs; the-voice too Moeris
iam fugit ipsa; lupi Moerim videre priores.
now has-fled itself; wolves Moeris have-seen first.

Sed tamen ista satis referet tibi saepe Menalcas.
But however those enough will-repeat to-you often Menalcas.

LYCIDAS Causando nostros in longum ducis amores:
By-making-excuses our into long you-draw-out longings:

et nunc omne tibi stratum silet aequor, et omnes,
and now all for-you smoothed is-silent the-sea, and all,

aspice, ventosi ceciderunt murmuris aurae.
look, of-the-windy have-fallen murmur breezes.

Hinc adeo media est nobis via; namque sepulcrum
From-here indeed half-way is for-us the-road; for the-tomb

incipit adparere Bianoris: hic ubi densas
begins to-appear of-Bianor: here where thick

agricolae stringunt frondes, hic, Moeri, canamus;
farmers strip leaves, here, Moeris, let-us-sing;

hic haedos depone: tamen veniemus in urbem.
here the-kids set-down: however we-shall-come to the-city.

Aut si, nox pluviam ne colligat ante, veremur,
Or if, the-night rain lest should-gather first, we-fear,

cantantes licet usque (minus via laedit) eamus;
singing it-is-allowed right-on (less the-road hurts) we-may-go;

cantantes ut eamus, ego hoc te fasce levabo.
singing that we-may-go, I of-this you bundle will-relieve.

MOERIS Desine plura, puer, et quod nunc instat agamus:
Cease more, boy, and what now presses let-us-do:

carmina tum melius, cum venerit ipse, canemus.
songs then better, when shall-have-come himself, we-shall-sing.

Ecloga X

X · GALLUS

The poet asks Arethusa for a last song for his friend Gallus, dying for love of Lycoris, who has followed another into the camps. Shepherds, Apollo, Silvanus, and Pan come to him; Gallus wishes he had lived as an Arcadian, imagines carving his love on trees and hunting in the Arcadian hills, and ends: Love conquers all. The poet rises, for evening falls.

Extremum hunc, Arethusa, mihi concede laborem:
The-last this, Arethusa, to-me grant toil:
pauca meo Gallo, sed quae legat ipsa Lycoris,
a-few for-my Gallus, but which may-read herself Lycoris,
carmina sunt dicenda: neget quis carmina Gallo?
songs are to-be-sung: would-deny who songs to-Gallus?
Sic tibi, cum fluctus subterlabere Sicanos,
So for-you, when the-waves you-glide-beneath Sicilian,
Doris amara suam non intermisceat undam.
Doris bitter her-own not may-intermingle wave.
Incipe; sollicitos Galli dicamus amores,
Begin; the-anxious of-Gallus let-us-tell loves,
dum tenera attondent simae virgulta capellae.
while the-tender crop snub-nosed thickets she-goats.
Non canimus surdis; respondent omnia silvae.
Not we-sing to-the-deaf; answer all-things the-woods.
Quae nemora, aut qui vos saltus habuere, puellae
What groves, or what you glades held, maidens
Naides, indigno cum Gallus amore peribat?
Naiads, by-unworthy when Gallus love was-perishing?
Nam neque Parnasi vobis iuga, nam neque Pindi
For neither of-Parnassus for-you the-ridges, for neither of-Pindus

ulla moram fecere, neque Aoniae Aganippe.
any delay made, nor Aonian Aganippe.
Illum etiam lauri, etiam flevere myricae.
Him even the-laurels, even wept the-tamarisks.
Pinifer illum etiam sola sub rupe iacentem
Pine-bearing him even lonely under a-rock lying
Maenalus, et gelidi fleverunt saxa Lycaei.
Maenalus, and of-cold wept the-rocks Lycaeus.
Stant et oves circum; — nostri nec poenitet illas,
Stand also the-sheep around; of-us nor it-shames them,
nec te poeniteat pecoris, divine poeta; —
nor you let-it-shame of-the-flock, divine poet;
et formosus ovis ad flumina pavit Adonis;
even beautiful the-sheep by the-rivers fed Adonis;
venit et upilio; tardi venere subulci;
came also the-shepherd; slow came the-swineherds;
uvidus hiberna venit de glande Menalcas.
wet the-winter came from acorn Menalcas.
Omnes 'Unde amor iste' rogant 'tibi?' Venit Apollo:
All 'Whence love that' ask 'to-you?' Came Apollo:
'Galle, quid insanis?' inquit; 'tua cura Lycoris
'Gallus, why are-you-mad?' he-says; 'your care Lycoris
perque nives alium perque horrida castra secuta est.'
both-through snows another and-through rough camps followed has.'
Venit et agresti capitis Silvanus honore,
Came also with-rustic of-the-head Silvanus glory,
florentis ferulas et grandia lilia quassans.
flowering fennels and great lilies shaking.
Pan deus Arcadiae venit, quem vidimus ipsi
Pan the-god of-Arcadia came, whom we-saw ourselves

sanguineis ebuli bacis minioque rubentem.
with-blood-red of-the-danewort berries and-with-vermilion glowing.
'Ecquis erit modus?' inquit; 'Amor non talia curat;
'Any will-be limit?' he-says; 'Love not such-things cares-for;
nec lacrimis crudelis Amor, nec gramina rivis,
nor with-tears cruel Love, nor the-grass with-streams,
nec cytiso saturantur apes, nec fronde capellae.' 30
nor with-clover are-sated bees, nor with-leafage she-goats.'
Tristis at ille: 'Tamen cantabitis, Arcades' inquit
Sad but he: 'However you-will-sing, Arcadians' he-says
'montibus haec vestris: soli cantare periti
'to-mountains these your: alone to-sing skilled
Arcades. O mihi tum quam molliter ossa quiescant,
Arcadians. O for-me then how softly my-bones would-rest,
vestra meos olim si fistula dicat amores!
your my some-day if pipe should-tell loves!
Atque utinam ex vobis unus, vestrique fuissem 35
And would-that from you one, and-of-your I-had-been
aut custos gregis, aut maturae vinitor uvae!
either the-keeper flock, or of-the-ripe vinedresser grape!
Certe, sive mihi Phyllis, sive esset Amyntas,
Surely, whether for-me Phyllis, or were Amyntas,
seu quicumque furor — quid tum, si fuscus Amyntas;
or whoever my-passion what then, if dark Amyntas;
et nigrae violae sunt et vaccinia nigra —
both dark violets are and hyacinths dark
mecum inter salices lenta sub vite iaceret; 40
with-me among the-willows pliant under the-vine would-lie;
serta mihi Phyllis legeret, cantaret Amyntas.
garlands for-me Phyllis would-gather, would-sing Amyntas.

Hic gelidi fontes, hic mollia prata, Lycori,
Here cool springs, here soft meadows, Lycoris,
hic nemus; hic ipso tecum consumerer aevo.
here a-grove; here by-very with-you I-would-be-consumed time.
Nunc insanus amor duri me Martis in armis
Now mad love of-harsh me Mars in arms
tela inter media atque adversos detinet hostes:
weapons amid mid and facing holds enemies:
tu procul a patria (nec sit mihi credere tantum!)
you far from your-fatherland (not let-it-be for-me to-believe so-great!)
Alpinas, ah dura, nives et frigora Rheni
Alpine, ah hard-one, snows and the-frosts of-the-Rhine
me sine sola vides: ah, te ne frigora laedant!
me without alone you-see: ah, you let-not the-frosts hurt!
ah, tibi ne teneras glacies secet aspera plantas!
ah, for-you let-not tender the-ice cut rough soles!
Ibo, et, Chalcidico quae sunt mihi condita versu
I-will-go, and, in-Chalcidian which are by-me composed verse
carmina, pastoris Siculi modulabor avena.
songs, of-the-shepherd Sicilian I-will-set-to reed.
certum est in silvis, inter spelaea ferarum
certain it-is in the-woods, among the-dens of-wild-beasts
malle pati, tenerisque meos incidere amores
to-prefer to-suffer, and-on-tender my to-carve loves
arboribus; crescent illae, crescetis, amores.
trees; shall-grow they, you-shall-grow, loves.
Interea mixtis lustrabo Maenala nymphis,
Meanwhile mingled-with I-will-range Maenalus the-nymphs,
aut acris venabor apros: non me ulla vetabunt
or fierce I-will-hunt boars: not me any shall-forbid

frigora Parthenios canibus circumdare saltus.
frosts Parthenian with-hounds to-surround the-glades.
iam mihi per rupes videor lucosque sonantis
now to-myself through rocks I-seem and-groves resounding
ire; libet Partho torquere Cydonia cornu
to-go; it-pleases from-the-Parthian to-hurl Cydonian bow
spicula: — tamquam haec sit nostri medicina furoris,
arrows: as-if this were of-our the-medicine madness,
ut deus ille malis hominum mitescere discat!
as-if the-god that at-the-woes of-men to-grow-gentle might-learn!
Iam neque hamadryades rursus nec carmina nobis
Now neither the-hamadryads again nor songs to-us
ipsa placent; ipsae rursus concedite silvae.
themselves please; yourselves again yield woods.
non illum nostri possunt mutare labores,
not him our can to-change toils,
nec si frigoribus mediis Hebrumque bibamus,
nor if in-frosts mid and-the-Hebrus we-should-drink,
Sithoniasque nives hiemis subeamus aquosae,
and-Sithonian snows of-winter should-undergo rainy,
nec si, cum moriens alta liber aret in ulmo,
nor if, when dying high the-bark withers on elm,
Aethiopum versemus ovis sub sidere Cancri.
of-the-Ethiopians we-should-drive the-sheep under the-star of-Cancer.
Omnia vincit Amor; et nos cedamus Amori.'
All-things conquers Love; and we let-us-yield to-Love.'
Haec sat erit, divae, vestrum cecinisse poetam,
These enough will-be, goddesses, your to-have-sung poet,
dum sedet et gracili fiscellam texit hibisco,
while he-sits and with-slender a-basket weaves mallow,

Pierides; vos haec facietis maxima Gallo —
Pierides; you these-things will-make most-great for-Gallus
Gallo, cuius amor tantum mihi crescit in horas,
for-Gallus, whose love so-much for-me grows by hours,
quantum vere novo viridis se subicit alnus.
as-much-as in-spring new green itself shoots-up alder.
Surgamus; solet esse gravis cantantibus umbra;
Let-us-rise; is-wont to-be harmful to-singers the-shade;
iuniperi gravis umbra; nocent et frugibus umbrae.
of-the-juniper harmful the-shade; harm even the-crops shades.
Ite domum saturae, venit Hesperus, ite capellae!
Go home sated, comes Hesperus, go she-goats!

VERGIL

Georgica

The Georgics

GEORGICS I

I.1 · THE FARMER'S GODS

The poet announces his themes (crops, vines, cattle, and bees) and calls on the gods of the country and on Caesar, soon to be a god. In spring the plowing must begin, after first learning each region's nature: land bears what nature ordained. Rich soil is plowed early, poor soil lightly; fields lie fallow in turn or rotate crops; stubble is burned, clods broken, the rank crop grazed down, and the fields watered and drained.

Quid faciat laetas segetes, quo sidere terram
What may-make glad the-crops, under-what star the-earth
vertere, Maecenas ulmisque adiungere vites
to-turn, Maecenas and-to-elms to-join vines
conveniat, quae cura boum, qui cultus habendo
may-be-fitting, what care of-oxen, what tending for-keeping
sit pecori, apibus quanta experientia parcis,
be for-the-flock, for-the-bees how-much experience thrifty,
hinc canere incipiam. Vos, O clarissima mundi
hence to-sing I-will-begin. You, O brightest of-the-world
lumina, labentem caelo quae ducitis annum;
lights, the-gliding through-the-sky who lead year;
Liber et alma Ceres, vestro si munere tellus
Liber and kindly Ceres, by-your if gift the-earth
Chaoniam pingui glandem mutavit arista,
Chaonian for-the-rich acorn changed ear-of-grain,
poculaque inventis Acheloia miscuit uvis;
and-the-cups with-the-found of-Achelous mingled grapes;
et vos, agrestum praesentia numina, Fauni,
and you, of-rustics present powers, Fauns,

ferte simul Faunique pedem Dryadesque puellae:
bring together and-Fauns your-foot and-Dryad maidens:
munera vestra cano. Tuque O, cui prima frementem
the-gifts your I-sing. And-you O, for-whom first neighing
fudit equom magno tellus percussa tridenti,
poured-forth the-horse by-the-great the-earth struck trident,
Neptune; et cultor nemorum, cui pinguia Ceae
Neptune; and the-dweller of-the-groves, for-whom rich of-Cea
ter centum nivei tondent dumeta iuvenci;
three hundred snowy crop thickets bullocks;
ipse nemus linquens patrium saltusque Lycaei
yourself the-grove leaving ancestral and-the-glades of-Lycaeus
Pan, ovium custos, tua si tibi Maenala curae,
Pan, of-the-sheep guardian, your if to-you Maenalus is-a-care,
adsis, O Tegeaee, favens, oleaeque Minerva
be-present, O Tegean, favoring, and-of-the-olive Minerva
inventrix, uncique puer monstrator aratri,
discoverer, and-of-the-curved boy shower plow,
et teneram ab radice ferens, Silvane, cupressum;
and the-tender from the-root bearing, Silvanus, cypress;
dique deaeque omnes, studium quibus arva tueri,
and-gods and-goddesses all, the-zeal for-whom the-fields to-guard,
quique novas alitis non ullo semine fruges,
and-who new nourish not from-any seed crops,
quique satis largum caelo demittitis imbrem;
and-who on-the-sown abundant from-the-sky send-down rain;
tuque adeo, quem mox quae sint habitura deorum
and-you indeed, whom soon what are going-to-hold of-the-gods
concilia incertum est, urbisne invisere, Caesar,
councils uncertain is, whether-cities to-visit, Caesar,

terrarumque velis curam, et te maxumus orbis
and-of-the-lands you-would-wish the-care, and you the-greatest world
auctorem frugum tempestatumque potentem
as-author of-fruits and-of-the-seasons ruling
accipiat cingens materna tempora myrto,
may-receive girding with-your-mother's temples myrtle,
an deus immensi venias maris ac tua nautae
or-whether a-god of-the-boundless you-come sea and your sailors
numina sola colant, tibi serviat ultima Thule
divinity alone worship, to-you may-serve farthest Thule
teque sibi generum Tethys emat omnibus undis,
and-you for-herself as-son-in-law Tethys buy with-all her-waves,
anne novum tardis sidus te mensibus addas,
or-whether new to-the-slow a-star you months add,
qua locus Erigonen inter Chelasque sequentis
where a-space Erigone between and-the-Claws following
panditur; ipse tibi iam bracchia contrahit ardens
opens; himself for-you already his-arms draws-in the-burning
Scorpius et caeli iusta plus parte relinquit,
Scorpion and of-the-sky just more than-a-share leaves,
quidquid eris, nam te nec sperant Tartara regem
whatever you-will-be, for you neither hope-for Tartarus as-king
nec tibi regnandi veniat tam dira cupido,
nor for-you of-reigning may-come so dire a-desire,
quamvis Elysios miretur Graecia campos
although the-Elysian admires Greece fields
nec repetita sequi curet Proserpina matrem,
nor sought-back to-follow cares Proserpina her-mother,
da facilem cursum atque audacibus adnue coeptis,
grant easy a-course and to-bold nod-assent undertakings,

ignarosque viae mecum miseratus agrestis
and-ignorant of-the-way with-me pitying the-rustics
ingredere et votis iam nunc adsuesce vocari.
enter and to-prayers already now grow-used to-be-called.
Vere novo gelidus canis cum montibus umor
In-spring new cold on-the-white when mountains moisture
liquitur et Zephyro putris se gleba resolvit,
melts and by-the-Zephyr crumbling itself the-clod loosens,
depresso incipiat iam tum mihi taurus aratro
with-pressed-down let-begin now then for-me the-bull plow
ingemere, et sulco attritus splendescere vomer.
to-groan, and by-the-furrow worn to-gleam the-share.
Illa seges demum votis respondet avari
That crop at-length the-prayers answers of-the-greedy
agricolae, bis quae solem, bis frigora sensit;
farmer, twice which the-sun, twice the-cold has-felt;
illius immensae ruperunt horrea messes.
its boundless have-burst the-granaries harvests.
At prius ignotum ferro quam scindimus aequor,
But before unknown with-iron than we-cleave plain,
ventos et varium caeli praediscere morem
the-winds and the-varied of-the-sky to-learn-beforehand habit
cura sit ac patrios cultusque habitusque locorum,
care let-there-be and ancestral and-the-tilling and-the-character of-the-places,
et quid quaeque ferat regio et quid quaeque recuset.
and what each may-bear region and what each may-refuse.
Hic segetes, illic veniunt felicius uvae,
Here crops, there come more-happily grapes,
arborei fetus alibi atque iniussa virescunt
of-trees the-young-growths elsewhere and unbidden grow-green

gramina. Nonne vides croceos ut Tmolus odores,
grasses. Do-you-not see saffron how Tmolus scents,
India mittit ebur, molles sua tura Sabaei,
India sends ivory, the-soft their-own frankincense the-Sabaeans,
at Chalybes nudi ferrum, virosaque Pontus
but the-Chalybes naked iron, and-rank Pontus
castorea, Eliadum palmas Epirus equarum?
castor, of-the-Elian palms Epirus mares?
Continuo has leges aeternaque foedera certis
At-once these laws and-eternal covenants on-certain
imposuit natura locis, quo tempore primum
has-imposed nature places, at-what time first
Deucalion vacuum lapides iactavit in orbem,
Deucalion empty stones threw on world,
unde homines nati, durum genus. Ergo age, terrae
whence men were-born, a-hard race. So come, of-the-earth
pingue solum primis extemplo a mensibus anni
the-rich soil the-first straightway from months of-the-year
fortes invertant tauri, glebasque iacentis
strong let-turn-over bulls, and-the-clods lying
pulverulenta coquat maturis solibus aestas;
dusty let-bake with-ripening suns summer;
at si non fuerit tellus fecunda, sub ipsum
but if not shall-be the-land fertile, under very
Arcturum tenui sat erit suspendere sulco:
Arcturus with-a-shallow enough it-will-be to-lift furrow:
illic, officiant laetis ne frugibus herbae,
there, may-hinder the-glad lest crops weeds,
hic, sterilem exiguus ne deserat umor arenam.
here, the-barren scanty lest may-desert moisture sand.

Alternis idem tonsas cessare novalis,
In-alternate-years likewise the-mowed to-rest fallows,
et segnem patiere situ durescere campum;
and the-sluggish you-will-allow in-idleness to-harden field;
aut ibi flava seres mutato sidere farra,
or there yellow you-will-sow with-changed star spelt,
unde prius laetum siliqua quassante legumen
whence before the-glad with-pod rattling pulse
aut tenuis fetus viciae tristisque lupini
or slender the-young of-the-vetch and-of-bitter lupine
sustuleris fragiles calamos silvamque sonantem.
you-have-taken-up the-brittle stalks and-the-forest rustling.
Urit enim lini campum seges, urit avenae,
Burns indeed of-flax the-field a-crop, burns of-oats,
urunt Lethaeo perfusa papavera somno;
burn with-Lethean soaked poppies sleep;
sed tamen alternis facilis labor, arida tantum
but however in-alternation easy the-labor, the-dry only
ne saturare fimo pingui pudeat sola neve
not to-saturate with-dung rich be-ashamed soils nor
effetos cinerem immundum iactare per agros.
exhausted ash foul to-throw through fields.
Sic quoque mutatis requiescunt fetibus arva;
So too with-changed rest crops the-fields;
nec nulla interea est inaratae gratia terrae.
nor no meanwhile is of-unplowed thanks earth.
Saepe etiam sterilis incendere profuit agros,
Often also barren to-fire has-profited fields,
atque levem stipulam crepitantibus urere flammis:
and light stubble with-crackling to-burn flames:

sive inde occultas vires et pabula terrae
whether thence hidden strength and nourishment the-lands
pinguia concipiunt, sive illis omne per ignem
rich conceive, or-whether in-them all through the-fire
excoquitur vitium atque exsudat inutilis umor,
is-baked-out the-vice and sweats-out useless moisture,
seu plures calor ille vias et caeca relaxat
or-whether more heat that passages and hidden opens
spiramenta, novas veniat qua sucus in herbas;
pores, new may-come by-which the-sap into blades;
seu durat magis, et venas adstringit hiantis,
or-whether it-hardens more, and the-veins binds gaping,
ne tenues pluviae rapidive potentia solis
lest fine rains or-of-the-fierce the-power sun
acrior aut Boreae penetrabile frigus adurat.
keener or of-Boreas penetrating the-cold should-scorch.
Multum adeo, rastris glebas qui frangit inertis
Much indeed, with-mattocks the-clods who breaks sluggish
vimineasque trahit crates, iuvat arva, neque illum
and-of-wicker drags hurdles, helps the-fields, nor him
flava Ceres alto nequiquam spectat Olympo;
yellow Ceres from-high in-vain beholds Olympus;
et qui, proscisso quae suscitat aequore terga,
and who, on-the-plowed which he-raises plain ridges,
rursus in obliquum verso perrumpit aratro
again on the-slant with-turned breaks-through plow
exercetque frequens tellurem atque imperat arvis.
and-works frequent the-soil and commands the-fields.
Umida solstitia atque hiemes orate serenas,
Wet solstices and winters pray-for clear,

agricolae: hiberno laetissima pulvere farra,
farmers: from-winter's gladdest dust the-spelt,
laetus ager; nullo tantum se Mysia cultu
glad the-field; under-no so-much herself Mysia tilling
iactat et ipsa suas mirentur Gargara messes.
vaunts and herself her-own would-marvel Gargara harvests.
Quid dicam, iacto qui semine comminus arva
Why should-I-tell, the-thrown who seed hand-to-hand the-fields
insequitur cumulosque ruit male pinguis arenae,
attacks and-the-heaps levels badly rich of-sand,
deinde satis fluvium inducit rivosque sequentis
then on-the-sown the-river leads-in and-the-channels following
et, cum exustus ager morientibus aestuat herbis,
and, when parched the-field with-dying swelters blades,
ecce supercilio clivosi tramitis undam
behold from-the-brow of-the-sloping path the-water
elicit? Illa cadens raucum per levia murmur
draws-forth? It falling a-hoarse over smooth murmur
saxa ciet, scatebrisque arentia temperat arva.
stones rouses, and-with-its-gushes the-parched tempers fields.
Quid qui, ne gravidis procumbat culmus aristis,
Why-tell-of-him who, lest with-heavy should-lie-flat the-stalk ears,
luxuriem segetum tenera depascit in herba,
the-luxuriance of-the-crop tender grazes-down in blade,
cum primum sulcos aequant sata, quique paludis
when first the-furrows match the-crops, and-who of-the-marsh
conlectum umorem bibula deducit arena?
collected moisture with-thirsty draws-off sand?
Praesertim incertis si mensibus amnis abundans
Especially in-uncertain if months the-river overflowing

exit et obducto late tenet omnia limo,
goes-out and with-spread widely holds all-things mud,
unde cavae tepido sudant umore lacunae.
whence the-hollow with-warm sweat moisture pools.

I.2 · LABOR AND THE FARMER'S TOOLS

Before Jupiter the earth bore freely; he willed that farming be hard, so that need would sharpen men's wits, and arts were found one by one: relentless labor conquered all. Weeds, birds, and blight demand constant work. The poet lists the farmer's tools, the making of the plow, the leveling of the threshing floor against mice, moles, toads, and ants, and the nut tree's blossom as a sign of the harvest; even chosen seed degenerates unless picked by hand each year, as all things slip backward.

Nec tamen, haec cum sint hominumque boumque labores
Nor however, these-things though have of-men and-of-oxen the-labors
versando terram experti, nihil improbus anser
in-turning the-earth tested, not-at-all the-greedy goose
Strymoniaeque grues et amaris intiba fibris
and-Strymonian cranes and with-bitter endive fibers
officiunt aut umbra nocet. Pater ipse colendi
hinder or the-shade harms. The-Father himself of-tilling
haud facilem esse viam voluit, primusque per artem
not easy to-be the-way willed, and-first by art
movit agros curis acuens mortalia corda,
stirred the-fields with-cares sharpening mortal hearts,
nec torpere gravi passus sua regna veterno.
nor to-grow-torpid in-heavy suffering his realm lethargy.
Ante Iovem nulli subigebant arva coloni;
Before Jupiter no subdued the-fields farmers;

ne signare quidem aut partiri limite campum
not to-mark even or to-divide with-a-boundary the-plain
fas erat: in medium quaerebant, ipsaque tellus
right it-was: for the-common-stock they-sought, and-herself the-earth
omnia liberius nullo poscente ferebat.
all-things more-freely with-none asking bore.
Ille malum virus serpentibus addidit atris
He the-evil poison to-serpents added black
praedarique lupos iussit pontumque moveri
and-to-plunder the-wolves bade and-the-sea to-be-stirred
mellaque decussit foliis ignemque removit,
and-the-honey shook-off from-the-leaves and-fire removed,
et passim rivis currentia vina repressit,
and everywhere in-streams running wine checked,
ut varias usus meditando extunderet artes
that various experience by-thinking might-hammer-out arts
paulatim et sulcis frumenti quaereret herbam.
little-by-little and in-furrows of-grain might-seek the-blade.
Tunc alnos primum fluvii sensere cavatas;
Then alders first the-rivers felt hollowed;
navita tum stellis numeros et nomina fecit
the-sailor then for-the-stars numbers and names made
Pleiadas, Hyadas, claramque Lycaonis Arcton;
the-Pleiads, the-Hyads, and-the-bright of-Lycaon Bear;
tum laqueis captare feras et fallere visco
then with-snares to-catch wild-beasts and to-deceive with-birdlime
inventum et magnos canibus circumdare saltus;
was-found and great with-hounds to-surround glades;
atque alius latum funda iam verberat amnem,
and one the-broad with-a-casting-net now lashes river,

alta petens alius pelago trahit umida lina;
the-deep seeking another in-the-sea drags wet lines;
tum ferri rigor atque argutae lamina serrae,
then of-iron the-hardness and of-the-shrill the-blade saw,
nam primi cuneis scindebant fissile lignum,
for the-first with-wedges were-cleaving splittable wood,
tum variae venere artes. Labor omnia vicit
then various came arts. Labor all-things conquered
improbus et duris urgens in rebus egestas.
relentless and hard pressing in circumstances want.
Prima Ceres ferro mortalis vertere terram
First Ceres with-iron mortals to-turn the-earth
instituit, cum iam glandes atque arbuta sacrae
taught, when now the-acorns and arbutus-berries of-the-sacred
deficerent silvae et victum Dodona negaret.
were-failing woods and food Dodona was-denying.
Mox et frumentis labor additus, ut mala culmos
Soon also to-the-grain toil was-added, that evil the-stalks
esset robigo, segnisque horreret in arvis
should-eat mildew, and-sluggish should-bristle in the-fields
carduus: intereunt segetes, subit aspera silva,
the-thistle: perish the-crops, comes-up a-rough forest,
lappaeque tribulique, interque nitentia culta
and-burrs and-caltrops, and-among the-shining tilth
infelix lolium et steriles dominantur avenae.
unfruitful darnel and barren hold-sway wild-oats.
Quod nisi et adsiduis herbam insectabere rastris,
But if-not both with-constant the-weeds you-shall-harry mattocks,
et sonitu terrebis aves, et ruris opaci
and with-noise shall-scare the-birds, and of-the-countryside dark

falce premes umbras, votisque vocaveris imbrem,
with-the-hook shall-check the-shades, and-with-prayers shall-call the-rain,
heu magnum alterius frustra spectabis acervum,
alas the-great of-another in-vain you-will-gaze-at heap,
concussaque famem in silvis solabere quercu.
and-with-shaken hunger in the-woods you-will-solace oak.
Dicendum et, quae sint duris agrestibus arma
It-must-be-told also, what are for-the-hardy rustics the-weapons
quis sine nec potuere seri nec surgere messes:
which without neither could to-be-sown nor to-rise the-harvests:
vomis et inflexi primum grave robur aratri
the-share and of-the-curved first the-heavy oak plow
tardaque Eleusinae matris volventia plaustra
and-the-slow of-Eleusinian mother rolling wagons
tribulaque traheaeque et iniquo pondere rastri;
and-threshing-sledges and-drags and of-unfair weight hoes;
virgea praeterea Celei vilisque supellex,
of-wicker besides of-Celeus and-cheap ware,
arbuteae crates et mystica vannus Iacchi.
arbutus hurdles and the-mystic winnowing-fan of-Iacchus.
Omnia quae multo ante memor provisa repones,
All-things which long before mindful provided you-will-store-up,
si te digna manet divini gloria ruris.
if you worthy awaits of-the-divine glory countryside.
Continuo in silvis magna vi flexa domatur
At-once in the-woods with-great force bent is-tamed
in burim et curvi formam accipit ulmus aratri.
into a-plow-beam and of-the-curved the-shape takes the-elm plow.
Huic a stirpe pedes temo protentus in octo,
To-this from the-stock feet the-pole stretched to eight,

binae aures, duplici aptantur dentalia dorso,
two ears, with-double are-fitted share-beams back,
caeditur et tilia ante iugo levis altaque fagus,
is-felled also the-linden before for-the-yoke light and-the-high beech,
stivaque, quae currus a tergo torqueat imos,
and-the-handle, which the-car from behind may-turn the-bottom,
et suspensa focis explorat robora fumus.
and hung over-the-hearths tests the-timbers smoke.
Possum multa tibi veterum praecepta referre,
I-can many to-you of-the-ancients precepts to-relate,
ni refugis tenuisque piget cognoscere curas.
unless you-shrink-back and-slight it-irks-you to-learn cares.
Area cum primis ingenti aequanda cylindro
The-threshing-floor among the-first with-huge must-be-leveled roller
et vertenda manu et creta solidanda tenaci,
and must-be-turned by-hand and with-chalk must-be-made-solid binding,
ne subeant herbae neu pulvere victa fatiscat,
lest come-up weeds or-lest by-dust overcome it-crack,
tum variae inludant pestes: saepe exiguus mus
then various may-mock pests: often the-tiny mouse
sub terris posuitque domos atque horrea fecit,
under the-earth both-has-set-up houses and granaries has-made,
aut oculis capti fodere cubilia talpae,
or of-eyes deprived have-dug chambers moles,
inventusque cavis bufo et quae plurima terrae
and-is-found in-holes the-toad and which very-many the-earth
monstra ferunt, populatque ingentem farris acervum
monsters bears, and-plunders a-huge of-spelt heap
curculio atque inopi metuens formica senectae.
the-weevil and against-a-needy fearing the-ant old-age.

Contemplator item, cum nux se plurima silvis
Watch likewise, when the-nut-tree itself very-much in-the-woods
induet in florem et ramos curvabit olentis.
shall-clothe in blossom and the-boughs shall-bend fragrant.
Si superant fetus, pariter frumenta sequentur,
If abound the-fruits, alike the-grain will-follow,
magnaque cum magno veniet tritura calore;
and-great with great will-come the-threshing heat;
at si luxuria foliorum exuberat umbra,
but if with-luxuriance of-leaves superabounds shade,
nequiquam pinguis palea teret area culmos.
in-vain rich with-chaff shall-thresh the-floor stalks.
Semina vidi equidem multos medicare serentes,
Seeds I-have-seen indeed many to-treat sowing,
et nitro prius et nigra perfundere amurca,
both with-soda first and with-black to-drench lees-of-oil,
grandior ut fetus siliquis fallacibus esset,
larger that the-yield in-the-pods deceptive might-be,
et quamvis igni exiguo properata maderent.
and although over-a-fire small hastened they-might-be-soft.
Vidi lecta diu et multo spectata labore
I-have-seen-them chosen long and with-much examined labor
degenerare tamen, ni vis humana quotannis
to-degenerate however, unless the-force human yearly
maxima quaeque manu legeret. Sic omnia fatis
the-largest each by-hand should-pick. So all-things by-the-fates
in peius ruere ac retro sublapsa referri,
to the-worse rush and backward slipping are-borne,
non aliter quam qui adverso vix flumine lembum
not otherwise than he-who against scarcely the-stream his-skiff

remigiis subigit, si bracchia forte remisit,
with-oars forces, if his-arms by-chance he-has-relaxed,
atque illum in praeceps prono rapit alveus amni.
and him into headlong by-the-sloping sweeps the-channel river.

I.3 · THE STARS AND THE SEASONS

The farmer must watch the stars as a sailor does. The poet gives the times for sowing barley, flax, beans, wheat, and vetch by the equinox and the rising and setting of constellations, describes the five zones of heaven, the path of the sun through the zodiac, and the two poles, and lists the work for rainy days and holidays and the lucky and unlucky days of the moon.

Praeterea tam sunt Arcturi sidera nobis
Besides as are of-Arcturus the-stars by-us
Haedorumque dies servandi et lucidus Anguis,
and-of-the-Kids the-days to-be-watched and the-shining Snake,
quam quibus in patriam ventosa per aequora vectis
as by-those-who into their-fatherland windy over seas carried
pontus et ostriferi fauces temptantur Abydi.
the-Pontus and of-oyster-bearing the-jaws are-tried Abydos.
Libra die somnique pares ubi fecerit horas,
The-Scales of-day and-of-sleep equal when shall-have-made the-hours,
et medium luci atque umbris iam dividit orbem:
and in-the-middle for-light and for-shades now divides the-globe:
exercete, viri, tauros, serite hordea campis
work, men, the-bulls, sow barley on-the-plains
usque sub extremum brumae intractabilis imbrem;
right up-to the-last of-the-winter-solstice unmanageable rain;
nec non et lini segetem et Cereale papaver
nor not also of-flax the-crop and Cerealian the-poppy

tempus humo tegere et iamdudum incumbere aratris,
it-is-time in-the-ground to-cover and long-since to-lean-on the-plows,
dum sicca tellure licet, dum nubila pendent.
while with-dry the-earth it-is-allowed, while the-clouds hang.
Vere fabis satio; tum te quoque, medica, putres
In-spring for-beans the-sowing; then you also, Median-clover, crumbling
accipiunt sulci, et milio venit annua cura,
receive the-furrows, and for-the-millet comes the-yearly care,
candidus auratis aperit cum cornibus annum
white with-gilded opens when horns the-year
Taurus, et averso cedens Canis occidit astro.
the-Bull, and to-the-turned yielding the-Dog sets star.
At si triticeam in messem robustaque farra
But if wheaten for the-harvest and-sturdy spelt
exercebis humum, solisque instabis aristis,
you-shall-work the-ground, and-on-alone shall-press grain-ears,
ante tibi Eoae Atlantides abscondantur
before for-you the-morning daughters-of-Atlas should-be-hidden
Gnosiaque ardentis decedat stella Coronae,
and-the-Cnosian of-the-blazing should-depart star Crown,
debita quam sulcis committas semina quamque
due than to-the-furrows you-commit the-seeds and-than
invitae properes anni spem credere terrae.
to-the-unwilling you-hasten of-the-year the-hope to-entrust earth.
Multi ante occasum Maiae coepere; sed illos
Many before the-setting of-Maia have-begun; but them
exspectata seges vanis elusit avenis.
the-awaited crop with-empty has-mocked oat-husks.
Si vero viciamque seres vilemque phaselum,
If however both-vetch you-shall-sow and-the-cheap kidney-bean,

nec Pelusiacae curam aspernabere lentis,
nor of-Pelusian the-care shall-spurn lentil,
haud obscura cadens mittet tibi signa Bootes:
not obscure setting will-send to-you signs Bootes:
incipe et ad medias sementem extende pruinas.
begin and to the-middle the-sowing extend frosts.
Idcirco certis dimensum partibus orbem
For-this-reason in-fixed measured parts the-globe
per duodena regit mundi sol aureus astra.
through the-twelve rules of-the-heavens the-sun golden stars.
Quinque tenent caelum zonae: quarum una corusco
Five hold the-sky zones: of-which one with-flashing
semper sole rubens et torrida semper ab igni;
always sun glowing and scorched always by fire;
quam circum extremae dextra laevaque trahuntur
which around the-farthest on-the-right and-on-the-left are-drawn
caeruleae, glacie concretae atque imbribus atris;
dark-blue, with-ice congealed and with-rains black;
has inter mediamque duae mortalibus aegris
these between and-the-middle two to-mortals sick
munere concessae divom, et via secta per ambas,
by-the-gift granted of-the-gods, and a-path cut through both,
obliquus qua se signorum verteret ordo.
slanting where itself of-the-signs might-turn the-order.
Mundus, ut ad Scythiam Riphaeasque arduus arces
The-world, as to Scythia and-the-Riphaean steep heights
consurgit, premitur Libyae devexus in Austros.
rises, is-pressed of-Libya sloping into the-south-winds.
Hic vertex nobis semper sublimis; at illum
This pole for-us always aloft; but that

sub pedibus Styx atra videt Manesque profundi.
under their-feet Styx black sees and-the-Shades deep.
Maximus hic flexu sinuoso elabitur Anguis
Mightiest here with-a-twist winding glides-out the-Snake
circum perque duas in morem fluminis Arctos,
around and-through the-two in the-manner of-a-river Bears,
Arctos Oceani metuentes aequore tingui.
the-Bears of-Ocean fearing in-the-surface to-be-dipped.
Illic, ut perhibent, aut intempesta silet nox
There, as they-say, either unseasonable is-silent night
semper et obtenta densentur nocte tenebrae,
always and with-spread-over thicken night the-shadows,
aut redit a nobis Aurora diemque reducit;
or returns from us Dawn and-the-day brings-back;
nosque ubi primus equis Oriens adflavit anhelis,
and-us when first with-his-horses the-East has-breathed-upon panting,
illis sera rubens accendit lumina Vesper.
for-them late reddening kindles lights Vesper.
Hinc tempestates dubio praediscere caelo
Hence storms in-a-doubtful to-learn-beforehand sky
possumus, hinc messisque diem tempusque serendi,
we-are-able, hence both-of-harvest the-day and-the-time of-sowing,
et quando infidum remis impellere marmor
and when the-treacherous with-oars to-drive the-marble-sea
conveniat, quando armatas deducere classis,
it-is-fitting, when armed to-launch fleets,
aut tempestivam silvis evertere pinum.
or seasonable in-the-woods to-fell the-pine.
Nec frustra signorum obitus speculamur et ortus
Nor in-vain of-the-signs the-settings we-watch and the-risings

temporibusque parem diversis quattuor annum:
and-in-its-seasons equal different four the-year:
frigidus agricolam siquando continet imber,
cold the-farmer if-ever confines rain,
multa, forent quae mox caelo properanda sereno,
many-things, would-be which soon in-sky to-be-hastened clear,
maturare datur; durum procudit arator
to-ripen it-is-given; the-hard forges the-plowman
vomeris obtusi dentem, cavat arbore lintres,
of-the-share blunted the-tooth, hollows from-a-tree troughs,
aut pecori signum aut numeros impressit acervis.
or on-the-flock a-mark or numbers has-stamped on-the-heaps.
Exacuunt alii vallos furcasque bicornis,
Sharpen others stakes and-forks two-horned,
atque Amerina parant lentae retinacula viti.
and Amerian prepare for-the-pliant bands vine.
Nunc facilis rubea texatur fiscina virga,
Now easy of-bramble let-be-woven the-basket twig,
nunc torrete igni fruges, nunc frangite saxo.
now parch with-fire the-grain, now grind with-stone.
Quippe etiam festis quaedam exercere diebus
Indeed even on-festal certain-things to-do days
fas et iura sinunt: rivos deducere nulla
right and laws allow: the-channels to-lead-down no
religio vetuit, segeti praetendere saepem,
scruple has-forbidden, to-the-crop to-put-before a-hedge,
insidias avibus moliri, incendere vepres,
snares for-birds to-contrive, to-burn brambles,
balantumque gregem fluvio mersare salubri.
and-of-the-bleating the-flock in-the-river to-plunge wholesome.

Saepe oleo tardi costas agitator aselli
Often with-oil of-the-slow the-ribs driver ass
vilibus aut onerat pomis, lapidemque revertens
with-cheap or loads fruits, and-a-stone returning
incusum aut atrae massam picis urbe reportat.
dented or of-black a-lump pitch from-the-city carries-back.
Ipsa dies alios alio dedit ordine luna
Herself days some in-other has-given order the-Moon
felicis operum. Quintam fuge: pallidus Orcus
lucky for-works. The-fifth shun: pale Orcus
Eumenidesque satae; tum partu Terra nefando
and-the-Eumenides were-born; then in-birth the-Earth unspeakable
Coeumque Iapetumque creat saevumque Typhoea
and-Coeus and-Iapetus creates and-fierce Typhoeus
et coniuratos caelum rescindere fratres.
and the-sworn heaven to-tear-down brothers.
Ter sunt conati imponere Pelio Ossam
Thrice they-have tried to-pile on-Pelion Ossa
scilicet atque Ossae frondosum involvere Olympum;
of-course and on-Ossa leafy to-roll Olympus;
ter pater exstructos disiecit fulmine montis.
thrice the-father heaped-up scattered with-thunderbolt mountains.
Septima post decimam felix et ponere vitem
The-seventh after the-tenth lucky both to-plant the-vine
et prensos domitare boves et licia telae
and caught to-tame oxen and the-leashes to-the-web
addere. Nona fugae melior, contraria furtis.
to-add. The-ninth for-flight better, hostile to-thefts.

Some tasks go best at night or at dawn; in winter the farmer feasts and rests, or sets snares for cranes and hunts deer. The poet describes the storms he has seen break on the ripe harvest, when the father hurls his thunderbolts, and bids the farmer watch the months and stars and worship the gods, above all Ceres in spring, before the harvest. He begins the signs of the weather: winds, birds, and frogs that foretell rain.

Multa adeo gelida melius se nocte dedere,
Many-things indeed in-the-cool better themselves night have-yielded,
aut cum sole novo terras inrorat Eous.
or when with-sun new the-lands bedews the-Morning-Star.
Nocte leves melius stipulae, nocte arida prata
At-night the-light better stubbles, at-night the-dry meadows
tondentur, noctis lentus non deficit umor. 290
are-mown, of-the-night the-clinging not fails moisture.
Et quidam seros hiberni ad luminis ignis
And a-certain-man late of-a-winter by lamp fire
pervigilat, ferroque faces inspicat acuto;
keeps-awake, and-with-iron torches splits sharp;
interea longum cantu solata laborem
meanwhile the-long with-song solacing toil
arguto coniunx percurrit pectine telas,
with-shrill his-wife runs-through comb webs,
aut dulcis musti Vulcano decoquit umorem 295
or of-sweet must with-Vulcan boils-down the-moisture
et foliis undam trepidi despumat aeni.
and with-leaves the-froth of-the-trembling skims kettle.
At rubicunda Ceres medio succiditur aestu,
But ruddy Ceres in-the-middle is-cut-down heat,

et medio tostas aestu terit area fruges.
and in-the-middle the-parched heat threshes the-floor grain.
Nudus ara, sere nudus; hiems ignava colono.
Naked plow, sow naked; winter idle for-the-farmer.
Frigoribus parto agricolae plerumque fruuntur,
In-the-cold the-gotten farmers for-the-most-part enjoy,
mutuaque inter se laeti convivia curant.
and-mutual among themselves glad feasts arrange.
Invitat genialis hiems curasque resolvit,
Invites genial winter and-cares loosens,
ceu pressae cum iam portum tetigere carinae
as laden when now port have-touched ships
puppibus et laeti nautae imposuere coronas.
on-the-sterns and glad sailors have-placed garlands.
Sed tamen et quernas glandes tum stringere tempus
But however both oaken acorns then to-strip it-is-time
et lauri bacas oleamque cruentaque myrta,
and of-the-laurel berries and-the-olive and-blood-red myrtle,
tum gruibus pedicas et retia ponere cervis
then for-cranes snares and nets to-set for-stags
auritosque sequi lepores, tum figere dammas
and-long-eared to-chase hares, then to-pierce does
stuppea torquentem Balearis verbera fundae,
hempen whirling of-the-Balearic lashes sling,
quom nix alta iacet, glaciem quom flumina trudunt.
when snow deep lies, ice when the-rivers thrust.
Quid tempestates autumni et sidera dicam,
Why storms of-autumn and stars should-I-tell,
atque, ubi iam breviorque dies et mollior aestas,
and, when now both-shorter the-day and softer the-summer,

quae vigilanda viris; vel cum ruit imbriferum ver,
what-things must-be-watched by-men; or when rushes rainy spring,
spicea iam campis cum messis inhorruit et cum
of-ears already on-the-plains when the-harvest has-bristled and when
frumenta in viridi stipula lactentia turgent?
the-grain in green stalk milky swells?
Saepe ego, cum flavis messorem induceret arvis
Often I, when into-the-yellow the-reaper was-bringing fields
agricola et fragili iam stringeret hordea culmo,
the-farmer and from-the-brittle already was-stripping barley stalk,
omnia ventorum concurrere proelia vidi,
all of-the-winds to-clash battles have-seen,
quae gravidam late segetem ab radicibus imis
which the-heavy widely crop from roots deepest
sublimem expulsam eruerent, ita turbine nigro
aloft driven-out might-tear-up, so with-whirlwind black
ferret hiemps culmumque levem stipulasque volantis.
would-carry the-storm both-the-stalk light and-the-stubble flying.
Saepe etiam immensum caelo venit agmen aquarum,
Often also a-boundless from-the-sky comes column of-waters,
et foedam glomerant tempestatem imbribus atris
and a-foul gather storm with-rains black
collectae ex alto nubes; ruit arduus aether,
gathered from on-high clouds; rushes-down steep the-heaven,
et pluvia ingenti sata laeta boumque labores
and with-rain huge the-sown glad and-of-the-oxen the-labors
diluit; implentur fossae et cava flumina crescunt
washes-away; are-filled the-ditches and hollow rivers swell
cum sonitu fervetque fretis spirantibus aequor.
with sound and-boils with-its-straits panting the-sea.

Ipse pater media nimborum in nocte corusca
Himself the-father the-middle of-the-storm-clouds in night flashing
fulmina molitur dextra; quo maxuma motu
the-thunderbolts wields right-hand; at-which greatest motion
terra tremit; fugere ferae et mortalia corda
the-earth trembles; have-fled the-beasts and mortal hearts
per gentes humilis stravit pavor: ille flagranti
through the-nations lowly has-laid-low fear: he with-blazing
aut Athon aut Rhodopen aut alta Ceraunia telo
either Athos or Rhodope or the-high Ceraunian-peaks with-bolt
deicit; ingeminant austri et densissimus imber;
hurls-down; redouble the-south-winds and densest the-rain;
nunc nemora ingenti vento, nunc litora plangunt.
now the-groves with-huge wind, now the-shores wail.
Hoc metuens caeli menses et sidera serva,
This fearing of-the-sky the-months and the-stars observe,
frigida Saturni sese quo stella receptet;
the-cold of-Saturn itself whither star may-withdraw;
quos ignis caelo Cyllenius erret in orbis.
what the-fire in-the-sky Cyllenian may-wander into orbits.
In primis venerare deos, atque annua magnae
Among the-first worship the-gods, and yearly to-great
sacra refer Cereri laetis operatus in herbis
rites render Ceres glad sacrificing on grasses
extremae sub casum hiemis, iam vere sereno.
of-the-last at the-fall winter, now in-spring clear.
Tum pingues agni et tum mollissima vina,
Then fat are-the-lambs and then mellowest the-wines,
tum somni dulces densaeque in montibus umbrae.
then sleep sweet and-dense on the-mountains shades.

Cuncta tibi Cererem pubes agrestis adoret:
All for-you Ceres the-youth rustic let-adore:
cui tu lacte favos et miti dilue baccho,
for-whom you with-milk honeycombs and with-mellow mix wine,
terque novas circum felix eat hostia fruges,
and-thrice the-new around lucky let-go the-victim crops,
omnis quam chorus et socii comitentur ovantes,
all which the-company and comrades let-escort rejoicing,
et Cererem clamore vocent in tecta; neque ante
and Ceres with-shouting let-them-call into their-roofs; nor before
falcem maturis quisquam supponat aristis,
the-sickle to-the-ripe let-anyone put-under ears,
quam Cereri torta redimitus tempora quercu
than to-Ceres with-twisted wreathed his-temples oak
det motus incompositos et carmina dicat.
he-gives movements artless and songs sing.
Atque haec ut certis possemus discere signis,
And these that by-sure we-might learn signs,
aestusque pluviasque et agentis frigora ventos,
and-heats and-rains and driving cold winds,
ipse pater statuit, quid menstrua luna moneret,
himself the-father ordained, what the-monthly moon should-warn,
quo signo caderent austri, quid saepe videntes
at-what sign should-fall the-south-winds, what often seeing
agricolae propius stabulis armenta tenerent.
the-farmers nearer to-the-stalls their-herds should-keep.
Continuo ventis surgentibus aut freta ponti
At-once with-the-winds rising either the-straits of-the-sea
incipiunt agitata tumescere et aridus altis
begin stirred to-swell and a-dry from-the-high

montibus audiri fragor, aut resonantia longe
mountains to-be-heard crash, or resounding far
litora misceri et nemorum increbrescere murmur.
the-shores to-be-confounded and of-the-groves to-grow-frequent the-murmur.
Iam sibi tum curvis male temperat unda carinis,
Already for-itself then to-the-curved badly holds-back the-wave keels,
cum medio celeres revolant ex aequore mergi
when mid swift fly-back out-of the-sea divers
clamoremque ferunt ad litora, cumque marinae
and-a-clamor bring to the-shores, and-when marine
in sicco ludunt fulicae, notasque paludes
on the-dry play coots, and-familiar the-marshes
deserit atque altam supra volat ardea nubem.
abandons and high above flies the-heron cloud.
Saepe etiam stellas vento impendente videbis
Often also stars with-wind impending you-will-see
praecipites caelo labi, noctisque per umbram
headlong from-the-sky to-glide, and-of-the-night through the-shade
flammarum longos a tergo albescere tractus;
of-flames long from behind to-whiten trails;
saepe levem paleam et frondes volitare caducas,
often light chaff and leaves to-flit fallen,
aut summa nantis in aqua colludere plumas.
or the-surface floating on water to-play-together feathers.
At Boreae de parte trucis cum fulminat, et cum
But of-Boreas from the-quarter fierce when it-lightens, and when
Eurique Zephyrique tonat domus: omnia plenis
both-of-Eurus and-of-Zephyr thunders the-house: all with-full
rura natant fossis, atque omnis navita ponto
the-fields swim ditches, and every sailor on-the-sea

umida vela legit. Numquam inprudentibus imber
wet sails furls. Never the-unforeseeing rain
obfuit: aut illum surgentem vallibus imis
has-harmed: either it rising from-the-valleys lowest
aëriae fugere grues, aut bucula caelum
airy have-fled the-cranes, or the-heifer heaven
suspiciens patulis captavit naribus auras,
looking-up-at with-wide has-caught nostrils the-breezes,
aut arguta lacus circumvolitavit hirundo
or shrill the-lakes has-flitted-around the-swallow
et veterem in limo ranae cecinere querelam.
and old in the-mud the-frogs have-croaked complaint.
Saepius et tectis penetralibus extulit ova
Oftener also from-the-roofed inner-chambers has-carried-out her-eggs
angustum formica terens iter, et bibit ingens
a-narrow the-ant wearing path, and has-drunk the-huge
arcus, et e pastu decedens agmine magno
rainbow, and from pasture departing in-column great
corvorum increpuit densis exercitus alis.
of-crows has-clamored with-thick army wings.
Iam variae pelagi volucres et quae Asia circum
Already the-various of-the-sea birds and which the-Asian around
dulcibus in stagnis rimantur prata Caystri,
sweet in pools search the-meadows of-Cayster,
certatim largos umeris infundere rores:
eagerly abundant on-their-shoulders to-pour spray:
nunc caput obiectare fretis, nunc currere in undas
now the-head to-throw-against the-straits, now to-run into the-waves
et studio incassum videas gestire lavandi.
and with-eagerness vainly you-might-see to-exult of-bathing.

Tum cornix plena pluviam vocat improba voce
Then the-crow with-full the-rain calls wicked voice
et sola in sicca secum spatiatur arena.
and alone on the-dry with-herself stalks sand.
Ne nocturna quidem carpentes pensa puellae
Not night-time even plucking tasks the-girls
nescivere hiemem, testa cum ardente viderent
have-not-known the-storm, in-the-lamp when burning they-saw
scintillare oleum et putris concrescere fungos.
to-sputter the-oil and crumbling to-gather snuff.

I.5 · SIGNS AND THE DEATH OF CAESAR

More signs foretell fair weather, as the birds rejoice and Nisus pursues Scylla. The moon and the sun give their warnings; the sun warns of hidden wars and pitied Rome when Caesar died, amid portents of every kind, and so Philippi saw Roman armies clash again, where a farmer will one day plow up rusted javelins and bones. The poet prays to the gods of Rome to let the young Caesar save a world gone mad with war.

Nec minus ex imbri soles et aperta serena
Nor less after rain suns and open clear-skies
prospicere et certis poteris cognoscere signis:
to-foresee and by-sure you-shall-be-able to-know signs:
nam neque tum stellis acies obtusa videtur,
for neither then for-the-stars the-edge blunted seems,
nec fratris radiis obnoxia surgere Luna,
nor to-her-brother's rays beholden to-rise the-Moon,
tenuia nec lanae per caelum vellera ferri;
thin nor of-wool through the-sky fleeces to-be-borne;

non tepidum ad solem pinnas in litore pandunt
not the-warm to sun their-wings on the-shore spread
dilectae Thetidi alcyones, non ore solutos
dear to-Thetis the-halcyons, not with-snout loosened
immundi meminere sues iactare maniplos.
unclean remember the-swine to-toss bundles.
At nebulae magis ima petunt campoque recumbunt,
But the-mists rather the-low seek and-on-the-plain lie,
solis et occasum servans de culmine summo
of-the-sun and the-setting watching from roof the-top
nequiquam seros exercet noctua cantus.
in-vain late plies the-owl songs.
Apparet liquido sublimis in aëre Nisus,
Appears liquid high in air Nisus,
et pro purpureo poenas dat Scylla capillo:
and for the-purple penalty pays Scylla lock:
quacumque illa levem fugiens secat aethera pinnis,
wherever she the-light fleeing cleaves air with-wings,
ecce inimicus atrox magno stridore per auras
behold enemy fierce with-great whirring through the-breezes
insequitur Nisus; qua se fert Nisus ad auras,
pursues Nisus; where himself bears Nisus to the-breezes,
illa levem fugiens raptim secat aethera pennis.
she the-light fleeing swiftly cleaves air with-wings.
Tum liquidas corvi presso ter gutture voces
Then clear the-ravens with-pressed thrice throat cries
aut quater ingeminant, et saepe cubilibus altis
or four-times redouble, and often in-their-roosts high
nescio qua praeter solitum dulcedine laeti
I-know-not by-what beyond the-wont sweetness glad

inter se in foliis strepitant; iuvat imbribus actis
among themselves in the-leaves clamor; it-pleases with-the-rains past
progeniem parvam dulcisque revisere nidos:
their-offspring little and-sweet to-revisit nests:
haud equidem credo, quia sit divinitus illis
not indeed I-believe, that there-is from-heaven in-them
ingenium aut rerum fato prudentia maior;
ingenuity or of-things by-fate foresight greater;
verum ubi tempestas et caeli mobilis umor
but when the-weather and of-the-sky the-changeable moisture
mutavere vias et Iuppiter uvidus austris
have-changed their-ways and Jupiter wet with-the-south-winds
denset erant quae rara modo, et quae densa relaxat,
thickens were which thin just-now, and which dense loosens,
vertuntur species animorum, et pectora motus
are-turned the-aspects of-their-minds, and their-breasts motions
nunc alios, alios dum nubila ventus agebat,
now other, other while the-clouds the-wind was-driving,
concipiunt: hinc ille avium concentus in agris
conceive: hence that of-the-birds chorus in the-fields
et laetae pecudes et ovantes gutture corvi.
and glad the-cattle and exulting in-throat the-ravens.
Si vero solem ad rapidum lunasque sequentes
If however the-sun to swift and-the-moons following
ordine respicies, numquam te crastina fallet
in-order you-shall-regard, never you tomorrow's will-deceive
hora, neque insidiis noctis capiere serenae.
hour, nor by-the-snares of-the-night will-you-be-caught clear.
Luna, revertentes cum primum colligit ignis,
The-Moon, returning when first she-gathers fires,

si nigrum obscuro comprenderit aera cornu,
if dark in-dim shall-have-enclosed air horn,
maximus agricolis pelagoque parabitur imber:
greatest for-the-farmers and-for-the-sea shall-be-prepared rain:
at si virgineum suffuderit ore ruborem,
but if a-maidenly shall-have-suffused on-her-face blush,
ventus erit; vento semper rubet aurea Phoebe.
wind there-will-be; at-wind always blushes golden Phoebe.
Sin ortu quarto (namque is certissimus auctor)
But-if at-rising fourth (for this most-sure guide)
pura neque obtusis per caelum cornibus ibit,
clear and-not with-blunted through the-sky horns she-shall-go,
totus et ille dies et qui nascentur ab illo
whole both that day and those-which shall-be-born from it
exactum ad mensem pluvia ventisque carebunt,
the-completed to month of-rain and-winds shall-be-free,
votaque servati solvent in litore nautae
and-their-vows saved shall-pay on the-shore sailors
Glauco et Panopeae et Inoo Melicertae.
to-Glaucus and to-Panopea and to-Ino's Melicertes.
Sol quoque et exoriens et cum se condet in undas,
The-Sun also both rising and when himself he-hides in the-waves,
signa dabit; solem certissima signa sequuntur,
signs will-give; the-sun surest signs follow,
et quae mane refert et quae surgentibus astris.
both which at-morning he-brings-back and which at-rising stars.
Ille ubi nascentem maculis variaverit ortum
He when his-newborn with-spots shall-have-mottled rising
conditus in nubem medioque refugerit orbe,
hidden in a-cloud and-in-the-middle shall-have-shrunk disk,

suspecti tibi sint imbres; namque urget ab alto
suspected by-you let-be rains; for presses from the-deep
arboribusque satisque notus pecorique sinister.
both-to-trees and-to-crops the-south-wind and-to-the-flock baleful.
Aut ubi sub lucem densa inter nubila sese
Or when at dawn thick among clouds themselves
diversi rumpent radii, aut ubi pallida surget
scattered shall-break-forth the-rays, or when pale shall-rise
Tithoni croceum linquens Aurora cubile,
of-Tithonus the-saffron leaving Aurora couch,
heu male tum mitis defendet pampinus uvas:
alas badly then the-mellow will-defend the-vine-leaf grapes:
tam multa in tectis crepitans salit horrida grando.
so many on the-roofs rattling leaps rough hail.
Hoc etiam, emenso cum iam decedit Olympo,
This also, with-traversed when now he-departs Olympus,
profuerit meminisse magis; nam saepe videmus
it-will-profit to-remember more; for often we-see
ipsius in voltu varios errare colores:
of-himself on the-face various to-wander colors:
caeruleus pluviam denuntiat, igneus Euros;
dark-blue rain announces, fiery east-winds;
sin maculae incipient rutilo immiscerier igni,
but-if spots shall-begin with-the-ruddy to-be-mingled fire,
omnia tum pariter vento nimbisque videbis
all-things then alike with-wind and-storm-clouds you-will-see
fervere. Non illa quisquam me nocte per altum
to-seethe. Not on-that anyone me night over the-deep
ire neque a terra moveat convellere funem.
to-go nor from the-land should-move to-pluck-up the-rope.

At si, cum referetque diem condetque relatum,
But if, when he-shall-both-bring-back the-day and-shall-hide the-brought-back,
lucidus orbis erit, frustra terrebere nimbis,
bright the-disk shall-be, in-vain you-will-be-frightened by-storm-clouds,
et claro silvas cernes aquilone moveri.
and with-clear the-woods you-will-see north-wind to-be-moved.
Denique quid vesper serus vehat, unde serenas
At-last what evening late may-bring, whence clear
ventus agat nubes, quid cogitet umidus auster,
the-wind may-drive clouds, what may-be-plotting the-wet south-wind,
sol tibi signa dabit. Solem quis dicere falsum
the-sun to-you signs will-give. The-sun who to-call false
audeat? Ille etiam caecos instare tumultus
would-dare? He even hidden to-threaten tumults
saepe monet fraudemque et operta tumescere bella.
often warns and-treachery and secret to-swell wars.
Ille etiam extincto miseratus Caesare Romam,
He also with-extinguished pitying Caesar Rome,
cum caput obscura nitidum ferrugine texit,
when his-head with-dark shining rust he-covered,
impiaque aeternam timuerunt saecula noctem.
and-the-impious eternal feared ages night.
Tempore quamquam illo tellus quoque et aequora ponti
At-time although that the-earth too and the-levels of-the-sea
obscenaeque canes importunaeque volucres
and-ill-omened dogs and-ill-boding birds
signa dabant. Quotiens Cyclopum effervere in agros
signs were-giving. How-often of-the-Cyclopes to-boil-over into the-fields
vidimus undantem ruptis fornacibus Aetnam,
have-we-seen surging from-burst furnaces Aetna,

flammarumque globos liquefactaque volvere saxa!
and-of-flames balls and-molten to-roll rocks!
Armorum sonitum toto Germania caelo
Of-arms the-clash in-the-whole Germany sky
audiit, insolitis tremuerunt motibus Alpes.
heard, with-unwonted trembled movements the-Alps.
Vox quoque per lucos volgo exaudita silentis
A-voice also through the-groves commonly was-heard silent
ingens, et simulacra modis pallentia miris
huge, and phantoms in-ways pale wondrous
visa sub obscurum noctis, pecudesque locutae,
were-seen at the-dusk of-night, and-cattle spoke,
infandum, sistunt amnes terraeque dehiscunt,
unspeakable, stand-still the-rivers and-the-earth gapes,
et maestum inlacrimat templis ebur aeraque sudant.
and sorrowful weeps in-the-temples ivory and-bronzes sweat.
Proluit insano contorquens vertice silvas
Swept-away with-mad whirling eddy the-woods
fluviorum rex Eridanus, camposque per omnes
of-the-rivers the-king Eridanus, and-the-plains through all
cum stabulis armenta tulit. Nec tempore eodem
with the-stalls the-herds he-carried. Nor in-time the-same
tristibus aut extis fibrae apparere minaces
in-gloomy or entrails fibers to-appear threatening
aut puteis manare cruor cessavit, et altae
or from-wells to-flow blood ceased, and high
per noctem resonare lupis ululantibus urbes.
through the-night to-resound with-wolves howling cities.
Non alias caelo ceciderunt plura sereno
Not at-other-times from-the-sky fell more clear

fulgura, nec diri totiens arsere cometae.
lightnings, nor dire so-often blazed comets.
Ergo inter sese paribus concurrere telis
So among themselves with-equal to-clash weapons
Romanas acies iterum videre Philippi;
the-Roman battle-lines a-second-time saw Philippi;
nec fuit indignum superis, bis sanguine nostro
nor was-it unworthy to-the-gods-above, twice with-blood our
Emathiam et latos Haemi pinguescere campos.
Emathia and the-broad of-Haemus to-grow-fat plains.
Scilicet et tempus veniet, cum finibus illis
Of-course also a-time will-come, when in-borders those
agricola incurvo terram molitus aratro
the-farmer with-the-curved the-earth working plow
exesa inveniet scabra robigine pila,
eaten will-find with-scaly rust javelins,
aut gravibus rastris galeas pulsabit inanis,
or with-heavy mattocks helmets will-strike empty,
grandiaque effossis mirabitur ossa sepulchris.
and-huge in-dug-up will-marvel-at bones graves.
Di patrii indigetes et Romule Vestaque mater,
Gods of-the-fatherland native and Romulus and-Vesta mother,
quae Tuscum Tiberim et Romana Palatia servas,
who the-Tuscan Tiber and the-Roman Palatine guard,
hunc saltem everso iuvenem succurrere saeclo
this at-least the-overturned young-man to-succor age
ne prohibete! Satis iam pridem sanguine nostro
do-not hinder! Enough already long-since with-blood our
Laomedonteae luimus periuria Troiae;
of-Laomedon we-have-atoned-for the-perjuries Troy;

iam pridem nobis caeli te regia, Caesar,
already long-since to-us of-heaven you the-court, Caesar,
invidet, atque hominum queritur curare triumphos;
grudges, and of-men complains to-care-for triumphs;
quippe ubi fas versum atque nefas: tot bella per orbem,
seeing-that where right is-turned and wrong: so-many wars throughout the-world,
tam multae scelerum facies; non ullus aratro
so many of-crimes faces; not any to-the-plow
dignus honos, squalent abductis arva colonis,
worthy honor, lie-waste with-carried-off the-fields their-tillers,
et curvae rigidum falces conflantur in ensem.
and curved the-rigid sickles are-forged into sword.
Hinc movet Euphrates, illinc Germania bellum;
Here moves Euphrates, there Germany war;
vicinae ruptis inter se legibus urbes
neighboring with-broken between themselves laws cities
arma ferunt; saevit toto Mars impius orbe:
arms bear; rages in-the-whole Mars impious world:
ut cum carceribus sese effudere quadrigae,
as when from-the-barriers themselves have-poured-out the-four-horse-chariots,
addunt in spatia, et frustra retinacula tendens
they-add-speed on the-laps, and in-vain the-reins straining
fertur equis auriga, neque audit currus habenas.
is-carried by-the-horses the-charioteer, nor heeds the-car the-reins.

II.1 · HOW TREES ARE BORN

The poet invokes Bacchus and Maecenas. Trees grow in several ways: some of their own accord, some from seed, some from the root; others are propagated by layering, cuttings, or grafting. Wild trees improve with culture, while a tree from seed grows slowly and its fruit degenerates; each kind has its best method, and grafting and budding are described, by which a trunk soon bears fruit not its own.

Hactenus arvorum cultus et sidera caeli;
Thus-far of-the-fields the-tilling and the-stars of-the-sky;
nunc te, Bacche, canam, nec non silvestria tecum
now you, Bacchus, I-will-sing, nor not woodland with-you
virgulta et prolem tarde crescentis olivae.
the-thickets and the-offspring of-the-slowly growing olive.
Huc, pater O Lenaee, tuis hic omnia plena
Hither, father O Lenaeus, with-your here all-things are-full
muneribus, tibi pampineo gravidus autumno
gifts, for-you with-vine-leafed laden autumn
floret ager, spumat plenis vindemia labris,
blossoms the-field, foams with-full the-vintage vats,
huc, pater O Lenaee, veni, nudataque musto
hither, father O Lenaeus, come, and-bared in-the-must
tingue novo mecum dereptis crura cothurnis.
dip new with-me with-stripped-off your-shins buskins.
Principio arboribus varia est natura creandis.
In-the-beginning for-trees various is the-nature to-be-produced.
Namque aliae nullis hominum cogentibus ipsae
For some with-no men compelling of-themselves

sponte sua veniunt camposque et flumina late
by-will their-own come and-the-plains and the-rivers widely
curva tenent, ut molle siler lentaeque genestae,
winding hold, as the-soft osier and-pliant broom,
populus et glauca canentia fronde salicta;
the-poplar and with-gray whitening leafage willow-beds;
pars autem posito surgunt de semine, ut altae
part however planted spring from seed, as tall
castaneae, nemorumque Iovi quae maxima frondet
chestnuts, and-of-the-groves for-Jupiter which greatest is-in-leaf
aesculus atque habitae Grais oracula quercus.
the-durmast-oak and held by-the-Greeks oracles oaks.
Pullulat ab radice aliis densissima silva,
Sprouts from the-root for-others densest a-forest,
ut cerasis ulmisque; etiam Parnasia laurus
as for-cherries and-elms; also the-Parnassian laurel
parva sub ingenti matris se subicit umbra.
little under huge of-its-mother itself sets-beneath shade.
Hos natura modos primum dedit, his genus omne
These nature ways first gave, by-these the-race whole
silvarum fruticumque viret nemorumque sacrorum.
of-forests and-of-shrubs grows-green and-of-groves sacred.
Sunt aliae, quas ipse vias sibi repperit usus.
There-are others, which itself ways for-itself has-found experience.
Hic plantas tenero abscindens de corpore matrum
This-one plants the-tender cutting-off from body of-their-mothers
deposuit sulcis, hic stirpes obruit arvo
has-set in-furrows, this-one stocks buries in-the-field
quadrifidasque sudes et acuto robore vallos.
and-four-cleft stakes and with-sharpened wood poles.

Silvarumque aliae pressos propaginis arcus
And-of-trees some pressed-down of-the-layer arches
exspectant et viva sua plantaria terra;
await and living their-own nurseries in-the-earth;
nil radicis egent aliae, summumque putator
nothing of-root need others, and-the-top the-pruner
haut dubitat terrae referens mandare cacumen.
not hesitates to-the-earth returning to-entrust shoot.
Quin et caudicibus sectis, mirabile dictu,
Nay also from-trunks cut, wonderful to-tell,
truditur e sicco radix oleagina ligno.
is-thrust from the-dry the-root olive wood.
Et saepe alterius ramos impune videmus
And often of-one the-branches harmlessly we-see
vertere in alterius, mutatamque insita mala
to-turn into of-another, and-changed engrafted apples
ferre pirum, et prunis lapidosa rubescere corna.
to-bear the-pear, and on-the-plums stony to-redden cornels.
Quare agite o proprios generatim discite cultus,
Wherefore come O the-proper by-kinds learn culture,
agricolae, fructusque feros mollite colendo,
farmers, and-the-fruits wild soften by-tilling,
neu segnes iaceant terrae. Iuvat Ismara baccho
nor-let idle lie the-lands. It-pleases Ismarus with-the-vine
conserere atque olea magnum vestire Taburnum.
to-plant and with-the-olive great to-clothe Taburnus.
Tuque ades inceptumque una decurre laborem,
And-you be-present and-the-begun together run-through labor,
O decus, O famae merito pars maxima nostrae,
O glory, O of-fame deservedly the-part greatest my,

Maecenas, pelagoque volans dare vela patenti.
Maecenas, and-on-the-sea flying to-give sails open.
Non ego cuncta meis amplecti versibus opto,
Not I all-things in-my to-embrace verses wish,
non, mihi si linguae centum sint oraque centum,
not, for-me if tongues a-hundred were and-mouths a-hundred,
ferrea vox. Ades et primi lege litoris oram;
an-iron voice. Be-present and of-the-first skirt shore edge;
in manibus terrae; non hic te carmine ficto
in hands are-the-lands; not here you with-song feigned
atque per ambages et longa exorsa tenebo.
and through windings and long preambles I-will-hold.
Sponte sua quae se tollunt in luminis oras,
By-will their-own which themselves lift into of-light the-borders,
infecunda quidem, sed laeta et fortia surgunt;
unfruitful indeed, but glad and strong rise;
quippe solo natura subest. Tamen haec quoque, siquis
for in-the-soil nature lies-beneath. However these too, if-anyone
inserat aut scrobibus mandet mutata subactis,
should-graft or to-trenches should-entrust changed worked,
exuerint silvestrem animum, cultuque frequenti
will-have-put-off their-woodland spirit, and-by-tilling frequent
in quascumque voles artes haud tarda sequentur.
into whatever you-shall-wish arts not slow they-will-follow.
Nec non et sterilis quae stirpibus exit ab imis,
Nor not also the-barren which the-stocks comes-out from lowest,
hoc faciat, vacuos si sit digesta per agros:
this would-do, empty if it-were planted-out over fields:
nunc altae frondes et rami matris opacant
now the-high leaves and the-branches of-the-mother shade

crescentique adimunt fetus uruntque ferentem.
and-to-it-growing take-away the-fruits and-burn it-bearing.
Iam quae seminibus iactis se sustulit arbos,
Now which with-seeds thrown itself has-raised the-tree,
tarda venit seris factura nepotibus umbram,
slow comes for-late going-to-make descendants shade,
pomaque degenerant sucos oblita priores,
and-the-fruits degenerate their-juices forgetting former,
et turpis avibus praedam fert uva racemos.
and foul for-the-birds a-prey bears the-vine clusters.
Scilicet omnibus est labor impendendus, et omnes
Of-course on-all is labor to-be-spent, and all
cogendae in sulcum ac multa mercede domandae.
to-be-forced into the-furrow and with-much cost to-be-tamed.
Sed truncis oleae melius, propagine vites
But by-trunks olives better, by-layer vines
respondent, solido Paphiae de robore myrtus;
answer, solid of-Paphos from wood myrtles;
plantis et durae coryli nascuntur et ingens
from-slips both hard hazels are-born and huge
fraxinus Herculeaeque arbos umbrosa coronae
the-ash and-of-the-Herculean the-tree shady crown
Chaoniique patris glandes, etiam ardua palma
and-of-the-Chaonian father the-acorns, also the-lofty palm
nascitur et casus abies visura marinos.
is-born and the-mishaps the-fir going-to-see of-the-sea.
Inseritur vero et nucis arbutus horrida fetu,
Is-engrafted however both of-the-nut the-arbutus rough with-the-fruit,
et steriles platani malos gessere valentes;
and barren plane-trees apples have-borne strong;

castaneae fagus ornusque incanuit albo
with-the-chestnut the-beech and-the-mountain-ash has-grown-white with-white
flore piri, glandemque sues fregere sub ulmis.
blossom of-the-pear, and-acorns swine have-cracked under elms.
Nec modus inserere atque oculos imponere simplex.
Nor the-way to-graft and buds to-insert single.
Nam qua se medio trudunt de cortice gemmae
For where themselves middle thrust from bark buds
et tenuis rumpunt tunicas, angustus in ipso
and thin burst coats, a-narrow in very
fit nodo sinus: huc aliena ex arbore germen
is-made knot slit: hither alien from tree a-bud
includunt udoque docent inolescere libro.
they-enclose and-in-the-moist teach to-grow-into bark.
Aut rursum enodes trunci resecantur, et alte
Or again knotless trunks are-cut, and deep
finditur in solidum cuneis via, deinde feraces
is-cleft into the-solid with-wedges a-path, then fruitful
plantae immittuntur: nec longum tempus, et ingens
slips are-let-in: nor long the-time, and huge
exsilit ad caelum ramis felicibus arbos
leaps-up to heaven with-branches fruitful the-tree
miraturque novas frondes et non sua poma.
and-marvels-at new leaves and not its-own fruits.

Trees and vines come in countless varieties, and each land bears its own: Indian ebony, Sabaean incense, the Median apple that drives out poison. No land rivals Italy, with its crops and olives, its war horses and sacrificial bulls, its constant spring free of tigers and snakes, its cities, lakes, and harbors, its metals and its hardy peoples and generals. The poet hails it as the great mother of crops and of men.

Praeterea genus haud unum nec fortibus ulmis
Besides the-kind not one nor for-strong elms
nec salici lotoque neque Idaeis cyparissis,
nor for-the-willow and-the-lotus nor for-Idaean cypresses,
nec pingues unam in faciem nascuntur olivae,
nor rich one into form are-born olives,
orchades et radii et amara pausia baca
orchades and radii and bitter pausia in-berry
pomaque et Alcinoi silvae, nec surculus idem
and-the-fruits and of-Alcinous the-orchards, nor the-shoot the-same
Crustumiis Syriisque piris gravibusque volemis.
for-Crustumian and-Syrian pears and-heavy volema-pears.
Non eadem arboribus pendet vindemia nostris,
Not the-same on-trees hangs vintage our,
quam Methymnaeo carpit de palmite Lesbos;
which Methymnean plucks from vine-branch Lesbos;
sunt Thasiae vites, sunt et Mareotides albae,
there-are Thasian vines, there-are also Mareotic white,
pinguibus hae terris habiles, levioribus illae,
on-rich these soils suited, on-lighter those,
et passo psithia utilior tenuisque Lageos
and for-raisin-wine the-psithian more-useful and-thin Lageos

temptatura pedes olim vincturaque linguam,
going-to-try the-feet some-day and-going-to-bind the-tongue,
purpureae preciaeque, et quo te carmine dicam,
purple and-early, and with-what you song shall-I-tell,
Rhaetica? Nec cellis ideo contende Falernis.
Rhaetian? Nor with-the-cellars therefore vie Falernian.
Sunt et Amineae vites, firmissima vina,
There-are also Aminean vines, sturdiest wines,
Tmolius adsurgit quibus et rex ipse Phanaeus;
the-Tmolian rises-in-honor to-which and the-king himself Phanaean;
Argitisque minor; cui non certaverit ulla
and-the-Argitis lesser; with-which not could-vie any
aut tantum fluere aut totidem durare per annos.
either so-much to-flow or as-many to-last through years.
Non ego te, dis et mensis accepta secundis,
Not I you, to-the-gods and to-the-tables welcome second,
transierim, Rhodia, et tumidis, bumaste, racemis.
would-pass-over, Rhodian, and with-swollen, bumastus, clusters.
Sed neque quam multae species, nec nomina quae sint,
But neither how many the-species, nor the-names what are,
est numerus; neque enim numero comprendere refert;
is a-number; nor indeed in-number to-comprise it-matters;
quem qui scire velit, Libyci velit aequoris idem
which who to-know should-wish, of-the-Libyan would-wish sea the-same
discere quam multae zephyro turbentur arenae,
to-learn how many by-the-zephyr are-tossed sands,
aut ubi navigiis violentior incidit Eurus,
or when on-ships more-violent falls the-east-wind,
nosse quot Ionii veniant ad litora fluctus.
to-know how-many Ionian come to the-shores waves.

Nec vero terrae ferre omnes omnia possunt.
Nor indeed lands to-bear all all-things can.
Fluminibus salices crassisque paludibus alni
By-rivers willows and-in-thick marshes alders
nascuntur, steriles saxosis montibus orni;
are-born, barren on-rocky mountains ash-trees;
litora myrtetis laetissima; denique apertos
the-shores with-myrtle-groves gladdest; at-last open
Bacchus amat colles, aquilonem et frigora taxi.
Bacchus loves hills, the-north-wind and the-cold yews.
Aspice et extremis domitum cultoribus orbem
Look also by-the-farthest tamed cultivators the-world
Eoasque domos Arabum pictosque Gelonos:
and-the-Eastern homes of-the-Arabs and-painted the-Geloni:
divisae arboribus patriae. Sola India nigrum
divided for-trees are-the-fatherlands. Alone India black
fert ebenum, solis est turea virga Sabaeis.
bears ebony, to-alone is incense the-twig the-Sabaeans.
Quid tibi odorato referam sudantia ligno
Why to-you from-fragrant should-I-tell sweating wood
balsamaque et bacas semper frondentis acanthi?
balsams and berries of-the-ever leafy acanthus?
Quid nemora Aethiopum molli canentia lana,
Why the-groves of-the-Ethiopians with-soft white wool,
velleraque ut foliis depectant tenuia Seres;
and-fleeces how from-the-leaves comb-off thin the-Seres;
aut quos Oceano propior gerit India lucos,
or what to-Ocean nearer bears India groves,
extremi sinus orbis, ubi aera vincere summum
the-outermost bend of-the-world, where the-air to-surmount the-topmost

arboris haud ullae iactu potuere sagittae?
of-the-tree not any by-shot have-been-able arrows?
Et gens illa quidem sumptis non tarda pharetris.
And a-race that indeed with-taken-up not slow quivers.
Media fert tristis sucos tardumque saporem
Media bears bitter juices and-lingering taste
felicis mali, quo non praesentius ullum,
of-the-happy apple, than-which not more-prompt any,
pocula siquando saevae infecere novercae,
cups if-ever cruel have-tainted stepmothers,
auxilium venit ac membris agit atra venena.
help comes and from-the-limbs drives black poisons.
Ipsa ingens arbos faciemque simillima lauro;
Itself a-huge tree and-in-appearance most-like to-the-laurel;
et, si non alium late iactaret odorem,
and, if not another widely it-flung scent,
laurus erat: folia haud ullis labentia ventis;
a-laurel it-would-be: its-leaves not by-any falling winds;
flos ad prima tenax; animas et olentia Medi
the-flower to the-utmost clinging; their-breaths and smelling the-Medes
ora fovent illo et senibus medicantur anhelis.
mouths warm with-it and the-old cure asthmatic.
Sed neque Medorum silvae ditissima terra
But neither of-the-Medes the-forests richest land
nec pulcher Ganges atque auro turbidus Hermus
nor fair Ganges and with-gold turbid Hermus
laudibus Italiae certent, non Bactra neque Indi
with-the-praises of-Italy may-vie, not Bactra nor the-Indians
totaque turiferis Panchaia pinguis arenis.
and-whole with-incense-bearing Panchaia rich sands.

Haec loca non tauri spirantes naribus ignem
These places not bulls breathing from-their-nostrils fire
invertere satis immanis dentibus hydri,
have-turned for-the-sown of-the-monstrous teeth hydra,
nec galeis densisque virum seges horruit hastis;
nor with-helmets and-thick of-men the-crop has-bristled spears;
sed gravidae fruges et Bacchi Massicus umor
but heavy grain and of-Bacchus the-Massic moisture
implevere; tenent oleae armentaque laeta.
have-filled; hold-them the-olives and-the-herds glad.
Hinc bellator equus campo sese arduus infert;
Hence the-warrior horse into-the-plain himself proud bears;
hinc albi, Clitumne, greges et maxima taurus
hence the-white, Clitumnus, flocks and the-greatest bull
victima, saepe tuo perfusi flumine sacro,
victim, often in-your bathed stream sacred,
Romanos ad templa deum duxere triumphos.
Roman to the-temples of-the-gods have-led triumphs.
Hic ver adsiduum atque alienis mensibus aestas:
Here spring constant and in-alien months summer:
bis gravidae pecudes, bis pomis utilis arbos.
twice pregnant the-cattle, twice for-fruits useful the-tree.
At rabidae tigres absunt et saeva leonum
But raging tigers are-absent and the-savage of-lions
semina, nec miseros fallunt aconita legentis,
seed, nor the-wretched deceive the-aconites gatherers,
nec rapit immensos orbis per humum, neque tanto
nor sweeps boundless coils over the-ground, nor in-so-great
squameus in spiram tractu se colligit anguis.
scaly into a-coil a-trail itself gathers the-snake.

Adde tot egregias urbes operumque laborem,
Add so-many famous cities and-of-works the-toil,
tot congesta manu praeruptis oppida saxis
so-many piled by-hand on-steep towns rocks
fluminaque antiquos supter labentia muros.
and-rivers ancient beneath gliding walls.
An mare quod supra memorem, quodque adluit infra?
Or the-sea which above should-I-mention, and-which washes below?
Anne lacus tantos? Te, Lari maxume, teque,
Or the-lakes so-great? You, Larius greatest, and-you,
fluctibus et fremitu adsurgens Benace marino?
with-waves and roar swelling Benacus marine?
An memorem portus Lucrinoque addita claustra
Or should-I-mention the-harbors and-to-the-Lucrine added barriers
atque indignatum magnis stridoribus aequor,
and indignant with-great roarings the-sea,
Iulia qua ponto longe sonat unda refuso
the-Julian where with-the-sea far sounds the-wave poured-back
Tyrrhenusque fretis immittitur aestus Avernis?
and-the-Tyrrhenian into-the-straits is-let-in tide Avernian?
Haec eadem argenti rivos aerisque metalla
This same of-silver streams and-of-bronze ores
ostendit venis atque auro plurima fluxit.
has-shown in-its-veins and with-gold most-abundant has-flowed.
Haec genus acre virum Marsos pubemque Sabellam
This a-race fierce of-men the-Marsi and-the-youth Sabellian
adsuetumque malo Ligurem Volscosque verutos
and-inured to-hardship the-Ligurian and-the-Volsci spear-armed
extulit, haec Decios Marios magnosque Camillos,
has-brought-forth, this the-Decii the-Marii and-great the-Camilli,

Scipiadas duros bello et te, maxime Caesar,
the-Scipios hard in-war and you, greatest Caesar,
qui nunc extremis Asiae iam victor in oris
who now the-farthest of-Asia already victor on coasts
imbellem avertis Romanis arcibus Indum.
the-unwarlike turn-away from-the-Roman citadels Indian.
Salve, magna parens frugum, Saturnia tellus,
Hail, great parent of-crops, Saturnian land,
magna virum: tibi res antiquae laudis et artem
great of-men: for-you themes of-ancient glory and art
ingredior sanctos ausus recludere fontis,
I-enter sacred having-dared to-unseal the-springs,
Ascraeumque cano Romana per oppida carmen.
and-the-Ascraean I-sing Roman through the-towns song.

II.3 · KINDS OF SOIL

Each soil suits a crop: thin hills for olives, rich moist ground for vines, the pastures of Tarentum and Mantua for herds, black crumbling earth and cleared forest for grain; gravel and tufa feed only bees and snakes, and the soil that breathes out moisture serves every use, as at Capua. The poet teaches how to test soil: loose or dense by a refilled pit, salt by strained water, rich by its stickiness, and cold by the pines, yews, and ivy it grows.

Nunc locus arvorum ingeniis, quae robora cuique,
Now the-place for-the-fields' characters, what strengths for-each,
quis color, et quae sit rebus natura ferendis.
what color, and what is for-things the-nature to-be-borne.
Difficiles primum terrae collesque maligni,
Difficult first the-lands and-hills grudging,

tenuis ubi argilla et dumosis calculus arvis,
thin where clay and on-bushy pebbles fields,
Palladia gaudent silva vivacis olivae.
in-Palladian rejoice the-forest of-the-long-lived olive.
Indicio est tractu surgens oleaster eodem
For-a-sign is in-the-tract rising the-wild-olive same
plurimus et strati bacis silvestribus agri.
most-abundant and strewn with-berries woodland the-fields.
At quae pinguis humus dulcique uligine laeta,
But which rich soil and-in-sweet moisture glad,
quique frequens herbis et fertilis ubere campus,
and-which crowded with-grasses and fertile in-richness plain,
qualem saepe cava montis convalle solemus
such-as often in-a-hollow of-a-mountain valley we-are-wont
despicere; huc summis liquuntur rupibus amnes
to-look-down-on; hither from-the-topmost flow rocks streams
felicemque trahunt limum, quique editus austro
and-fertile draw silt, and-which raised to-the-south
et filicem curvis invisam pascit aratris:
and the-fern to-curved hateful feeds plows:
hic tibi praevalidas olim multoque fluentis
this for-you very-strong one-day and-with-much flowing
sufficiet Baccho vitis, hic fertilis uvae,
will-furnish Bacchus vines, this fertile in-grape,
hic laticis, qualem pateris libamus et auro,
this in-liquor, such-as from-bowls we-pour and from-gold,
inflavit cum pinguis ebur Tyrrhenus ad aras,
has-blown when the-fat ivory the-Tyrrhenian at the-altars,
lancibus et pandis fumantia reddimus exta.
in-platters and curved steaming we-offer entrails.

Sin armenta magis studium vitulosque tueri
But-if herds rather (your)-zeal and-calves to-guard
aut ovium fetus aut urentis culta capellas,
or of-sheep the-young or scorching the-tilth she-goats,
saltus et saturi petito longinqua Tarenti,
the-glades and of-teeming seek the-distant Tarentum,
et qualem infelix amisit Mantua campum
and such-as unhappy has-lost Mantua plain
pascentem niveos herboso flumine cycnos:
feeding snowy with-grassy stream swans:
non liquidi gregibus fontes, non gramina deerunt;
not clear for-the-flocks springs, not grasses will-be-lacking;
et quantum longis carpent armenta diebus,
and as-much-as in-long shall-crop the-herds days,
exigua tantum gelidus ros nocte reponet.
in-short so-much the-cool dew night will-restore.
Nigra fere et presso pinguis sub vomere terra,
Black generally and pressed rich under share land,
et cui putre solum, namque hoc imitamur arando,
and for-which crumbling the-soil, for this we-imitate by-plowing,
optima frumentis; non ullo ex aequore cernes
best for-grain; not any from plain you-will-see
plura domum tardis decedere plaustra iuvencis.
more homeward with-slow depart wagons bullocks.
Aut unde iratus silvam devexit arator
Or whence angry the-forest has-carried-off the-plowman
et nemora evertit multos ignava per annos,
and the-groves has-overturned many idle through years,
antiquasque domos avium cum stirpibus imis
and-the-ancient homes of-the-birds with stocks lowest

eruit; illae altum nidis petiere relictis,
has-torn-up; they the-sky with-nests have-sought left,
at rudis enituit inpulso vomere campus.
but raw has-shone with-the-driven share plain.
Nam ieiuna quidem clivosi glarea ruris
For hungry indeed of-the-sloping gravel countryside
vix humilis apibus casias roremque ministrat;
scarcely the-lowly for-the-bees cassias and-rosemary supplies;
et tofus scaber et nigris exesa chelydris
and the-tufa rough and by-black eaten water-snakes
creta negant alios aeque serpentibus agros
chalk deny other equally to-serpents fields
dulcem ferre cibum et curvas praebere latebras.
sweet to-bear food and winding to-afford hiding-places.
Quae tenuem exhalat nebulam fumosque volucris,
Which thin breathes-out mist and-smoke flying,
et bibit umorem et, cum volt, ex se ipsa remittit,
and drinks the-moisture and, when it-wishes, from itself itself sends-back,
quaeque suo semper viridi se gramine vestit,
and-which with-its-own always green itself grass clothes,
nec scabie et salsa laedit robigine ferrum:
nor with-scurf and with-salty harms rust iron:
illa tibi laetis intexet vitibus ulmos,
that for-you with-glad will-intertwine vines elms,
illa ferax oleo est, illam experiere colendo
that productive of-oil is, that you-will-find by-tilling
et facilem pecori et patientem vomeris unci.
both easy for-the-flock and enduring of-the-share hooked.
Talem dives arat Capua et vicina Vesevo
Such rich plows Capua and neighboring to-Vesuvian

ora iugo et vacuis Clanius non aequos Acerris.
the-coast ridge and to-empty Clanius not kindly Acerrae.
Nunc quo quamque modo possis cognoscere dicam.
Now in-what each way you-can to-recognize I-will-tell.
Rara sit an supra morem si densa requires,
Thin whether-it-be or beyond the-wont if dense you-shall-ask,
altera frumentis quoniam favet, altera Baccho,
the-one to-grain since favors, the-other to-Bacchus,
densa magis Cereri, rarissima quaeque Lyaeo,
dense rather to-Ceres, thinnest each to-Lyaeus,
ante locum capies oculis alteque iubebis
beforehand a-place you-will-choose with-the-eyes and-deep shall-bid
in solido puteum demitti omnemque repones
in solid a-pit to-be-sunk and-all you-shall-put-back
rursus humum et pedibus summas aequabis arenas.
again the-soil and with-feet the-top shall-level sands.
Si deerunt, rarum pecorique et vitibus almis
If they-shall-be-lacking, thin both-for-the-flock and for-vines kindly
aptius uber erit; sin in sua posse negabunt
more-suited rich-land it-will-be; but-if into their-own to-be-able shall-refuse
ire loca et scrobibus superabit terra repletis,
to-go places and with-the-trenches shall-rise the-earth filled,
spissus ager: glebas cunctantis crassaque terga
dense the-field: clods lingering and-thick ridges
exspecta et validis terram proscinde iuvencis.
expect and with-strong the-earth break-up bullocks.
Salsa autem tellus et quae perhibetur amara,
Salt however land and which is-called bitter,
frugibus infelix, ea nec mansuescit arando,
for-crops unlucky, it neither grows-gentle by-plowing,

nec Baccho genus aut pomis sua nomina servat,
nor for-Bacchus the-breed or for-fruits their-own names keeps,
tale dabit specimen: tu spisso vimine qualos
such will-give a-sample: you of-thick wicker baskets
colaque prelorum fumosis deripe tectis;
and-strainers of-the-wine-presses from-smoky snatch roofs;
huc ager ille malus dulcesque a fontibus undae
hither field that evil and-sweet from springs waters
ad plenum calcentur: aqua eluctabitur omnis
to the-full let-be-trodden: the-water will-struggle-out all
scilicet et grandes ibunt per vimina guttae;
of-course and big will-go through the-osiers drops;
at sapor indicium faciet manifestus, et ora
but the-taste a-proof will-make plain, and the-mouths
tristia temptantum sensu torquebit amaror.
glum of-the-testers by-the-sense will-twist the-bitterness.
Pinguis item quae sit tellus, hoc denique pacto
Rich likewise which is land, this at-last way
discimus: haut umquam manibus iactata fatiscit,
we-learn: not ever in-the-hands tossed it-crumbles,
sed picis in morem ad digitos lentescit habendo.
but of-pitch in the-manner to the-fingers grows-sticky in-handling.
Umida maioris herbas alit, ipsaque iusto
Moist larger grasses nourishes, and-itself than-right
laetior. Ah nimium ne sit mihi fertilis illa
more-luxuriant. Ah too not may-it-be for-me fertile that
nec se praevalidam primis ostendat aristis!
nor itself over-strong in-first may-it-show ears!
Quae gravis est ipso tacitam se pondere prodit,
Which heavy is by-its-very silent itself weight betrays,

quaeque levis. Promptum est oculis praediscere nigram,
and-which light. Easy it-is for-the-eyes to-learn-beforehand black,
et quisquis color. At sceleratum exquirere frigus
and whatever color. But wicked to-find-out the-cold
difficile est: piceae tantum taxique nocentes
difficult is: pitch-pines only and-yews harmful
interdum aut hederae pandunt vestigia nigrae.
sometimes or ivies reveal traces black.

II.4 · PLANTING THE VINEYARD

Trenches are dug and baked by the winds before planting, and young vines set facing as they faced in the nursery. On rich ground vines are planted close, on slopes in rows squared like a legion; the vine needs a shallow furrow, though the oak roots as deep as it rises. The poet warns against vineyards facing the sunset, hazels, blunt iron, grafting the wild olive, which outlives the shepherds' fires, and planting in the north wind, and praises spring, when the world began.

His animadversis terram multo ante memento
With-these-things noted the-earth long before remember
excoquere et magnos scrobibus concidere montis,
to-bake and great with-trenches to-cut-up mountains,
ante supinatas Aquiloni ostendere glebas,
before upturned to-the-north-wind to-expose the-clods,
quam laetum infodias vitis genus. Optima putri
than the-glad you-plant of-the-vine race. Best with-crumbling
arva solo: id venti curant gelidaeque pruinae
fields soil: this the-winds attend-to and-cool frosts
et labefacta movens robustus iugera fossor.
and loosened stirring the-sturdy acres digger.

Ac siquos haud ulla viros vigilantia fugit,
And if-any not any men watchfulness escapes,
ante locum similem exquirunt, ubi prima paretur
beforehand a-place like seek-out, where first may-be-prepared
arboribus seges et quo mox digesta feratur,
for-the-trees a-nursery and whither soon planted-out it-may-be-carried,
mutatam ignorent subito ne semina matrem.
the-changed may-not-know suddenly lest the-seedlings mother.
Quin etiam caeli regionem in cortice signant,
Nay even of-the-sky the-quarter on the-bark they-mark,
ut quo quaeque modo steterit, qua parte calores
so-that in-what each way it-stood, on-what side the-heats
Austrinos tulerit, quae terga obverterit axi,
southern it-bore, which back it-turned to-the-pole,
restituant: adeo in teneris consuescere multum est.
they-may-restore: so-much in the-tender to-be-accustomed much is.
Collibus an plano melius sit ponere vitem,
On-hills or on-the-level better whether-it-be to-plant the-vine,
quaere prius. Si pinguis agros metabere campi,
ask first. If of-rich fields you-shall-measure plain,
densa sere; in denso non segnior ubere Bacchus;
thick sow; in thick not slower richness Bacchus;
sin tumulis adclive solum collisque supinos,
but-if on-mounds sloping soil and-hills upturned,
indulge ordinibus; nec setius omnis in unguem
indulge the-rows; nor less every to a-nail
arboribus positis secto via limite quadret,
with-trees set with-cut the-path line let-square,
ut saepe ingenti bello cum longa cohortis
as often in-great war when long the-cohorts

explicuit legio, et campo stetit agmen aperto,
has-deployed the-legion, and on-the-plain has-stood the-column open,
directaeque acies, ac late fluctuat omnis
and-drawn-up the-lines, and widely ripples all
aere renidenti tellus, necdum horrida miscent
with-bronze gleaming the-earth, nor-yet bristling mingle
proelia, sed dubius mediis Mars errat in armis.
battles, but doubtful mid Mars wanders in arms.
Omnia sint paribus numeris dimensa viarum;
All-things let-be with-equal numbers measured of-paths;
non animum modo uti pascat prospectus inanem,
not the-mind only that may-feed the-prospect empty,
sed quia non aliter vires dabit omnibus aequas
but because not otherwise strength will-give to-all equal
terra, nec in vacuum poterunt se extendere rami.
the-earth, nor into the-void will-be-able themselves to-stretch the-branches.
Forsitan et scrobibus quae sint fastigia quaeras
Perhaps also for-the-trenches what are the-depths you-may-ask
ausim vel tenui vitem committere sulco.
I-would-dare even to-a-shallow the-vine to-commit furrow.
Altior ac penitus terrae defigitur arbos,
Deeper and far-within in-the-earth is-fixed the-tree,
aesculus in primis, quae quantum vertice ad auras
the-durmast-oak among the-first, which as-far-as with-its-top to the-breezes
aetherias, tantum radice in Tartara tendit.
of-heaven, so-far with-its-root toward Tartarus stretches.
Ergo non hiemes illam, non flabra neque imbres
So not winters it, not blasts nor rains
convellunt; inmota manet, multosque nepotes,
uproot; unmoved it-remains, and-many descendants,

multa virum volvens durando saecula vincit.
many of-men rolling by-enduring ages it-outlasts.
Tum fortis late ramos et bracchia pandens
Then strong widely its-boughs and arms spreading
huc illuc media ipsa ingentem sustinet umbram.
hither thither in-the-middle itself a-huge sustains shade.
Neve tibi ad solem vergant vineta cadentem,
Nor-let for-you to the-sun slope the-vineyards setting,
neve inter vitis corylum sere, neve flagella
nor among the-vines the-hazel sow, nor the-shoots
summa pete aut summa defringe ex arbore plantas,
topmost seek or topmost break-off from tree slips,
tantus amor terrae, neu ferro laede retuso
so-great the-love of-the-earth, nor with-iron hurt blunted
semina, neve olea silvestris insere truncos:
the-sets, nor of-the-olive wild engraft the-trunks:
nam saepe incautis pastoribus excidit ignis,
for often from-careless shepherds falls fire,
qui furtim pingui primum sub cortice tectus
which stealthily rich first under bark hidden
robora comprendit, frondesque elapsus in altas
the-wood seizes, and-the-leaves gliding into high
ingentem caelo sonitum dedit; inde secutus
a-huge to-the-sky noise has-given; thence following
per ramos victor perque alta cacumina regnat,
through the-branches victor and-through the-high tops reigns,
et totum involvit flammis nemus et ruit atram
and the-whole wraps in-flames grove and hurls black
ad caelum picea crassus caligine nubem,
to the-sky with-pitchy dense darkness a-cloud,

praesertim si tempestas a vertice silvis
especially if a-storm from above on-the-woods
incubuit, glomeratque ferens incendia ventus.
has-swooped, and-rolls bearing the-conflagration the-wind.
Hoc ubi, non a stirpe valent caesaeque reverti
This when-it-happens, not from the-stock they-avail and-cut-down to-return
possunt atque ima similes revirescere terra.
can and from-the-lowest like to-grow-green-again earth.
Infelix superat foliis oleaster amaris.
The-unlucky survives with-leaves wild-olive bitter.
Nec tibi tam prudens quisquam persuadeat auctor
Nor you so wise anyone let-persuade adviser
tellurem Borea rigidam spirante moveri.
the-earth with-Boreas stiff blowing to-be-stirred.
Rura gelu tum claudit hiemps, nec semine iacto
The-countryside with-frost then shuts winter, nor with-the-seed thrown
concretam patitur radicem adfigere terrae.
the-congealed suffers its-root to-fix to-the-earth.
Optima vinetis satio, cum vere rubenti
Best for-vineyards the-sowing, when in-spring blushing
candida venit avis longis invisa colubris,
white comes the-bird to-long hateful snakes,
prima vel autumni sub frigora, cum rapidus Sol
the-first or of-autumn toward the-frosts, when the-swift Sun
nondum hiemem contingit equis, iam praeterit aestas.
not-yet the-winter touches with-his-horses, already passes summer.
Ver adeo frondi nemorum, ver utile silvis;
Spring indeed for-the-foliage of-the-groves, spring useful for-the-woods;
vere tument terrae et genitalia semina poscunt.
in-spring swell the-lands and generative seeds demand.

Tum pater omnipotens fecundis imbribus aether
Then the-father almighty with-fruitful showers ether
coniugis in gremium laetae descendit, et omnis
of-his-wife into the-lap glad descends, and all
magnus alit magno commixtus corpore fetus.
great nourishes with-great mingled body the-offspring.
Avia tum resonant avibus virgulta canoris,
Pathless then resound with-birds the-thickets tuneful,
et Venerem certis repetunt armenta diebus;
and Venus on-fixed seek-again the-herds days;
parturit almus ager, zephyrique tepentibus auris
brings-forth the-kindly field, and-of-the-zephyr with-warming breezes
laxant arva sinus; superat tener omnibus umor;
loosen the-fields their-bosoms; abounds tender in-all moisture;
inque novos soles audent se germina tuto
and-to new suns dare themselves the-sprouts safely
credere, nec metuit surgentis pampinus Austros
to-trust, nor fears the-rising the-vine-shoot south-winds
aut actum caelo magnis Aquilonibus imbrem,
or driven from-the-sky by-great north-winds rain,
sed trudit gemmas et frondes explicat omnis.
but thrusts-out buds and leaves unfolds all.
Non alios prima crescentis origine mundi
Not other at-the-first of-the-growing origin world
inluxisse dies aliumve habuisse tenorem
to-have-dawned days or-other to-have-held course
crediderim: ver illud erat, ver magnus agebat
I-would-believe: spring that was, spring great was-keeping
orbis, et hibernis parcebant flatibus Euri,
the-world, and wintry spared blasts the-east-winds,

cum primae lucem pecudes hausere, virumque
when first the-light the-cattle drank, and-of-men
terrea progenies duris caput extulit arvis,
the-earthy offspring from-hard its-head raised fields,
immissaeque ferae silvis et sidera caelo.
and-let-loose the-beasts in-the-woods and the-stars in-the-sky.
Nec res hunc tenerae possent perferre laborem,
Nor things this tender could endure labor,
si non tanta quies iret frigusque caloremque
if not so-great a-rest should-go and-cold and-heat
inter, et exciperet caeli indulgentia terras.
between, and should-receive of-the-sky the-indulgence the-lands.

II.5 · TENDING THE VINE

The new vine is set with manure and stones, the soil hoed, and stakes provided. Young shoots are spared until they embrace the elms, then pruned hard; hedges keep out the cattle, whose bite poisons the vine, and that is why the goat is sacrificed to Bacchus. The vine's work never ends through the year, while the olive needs little care.

Quod superest, quaecumque premes virgulta per agros,
What remains, whatever you-shall-plant sets through the-fields,
sparge fimo pingui, et multa memor occule terra,
sprinkle with-dung rich, and with-much mindful cover earth,
aut lapidem bibulum aut squalentis infode conchas;
or stone porous or rough bury shells;
inter enim labentur aquae, tenuisque subibit
between indeed will-glide the-waters, and-thin will-steal-in
halitus, atque animos tollent sata. Iamque reperti,
vapor, and spirits will-raise the-plants. And-already have-been-found,

qui saxo super atque ingentis pondere testae
who with-a-stone over and of-a-huge with-the-weight potsherd
urgerent: hoc effusos munimen ad imbres,
might-press: this poured-out defense against rains,
hoc, ubi hiulca siti findit canis aestifer arva.
this, when gaping with-thirst splits the-dog heat-bringing the-fields.
Seminibus positis superest diducere terram
With-the-sets placed it-remains to-draw-apart the-earth
saepius ad capita et duros iactare bidentis,
oftener at the-heads and hard to-wield two-pronged-hoes,
aut presso exercere solum sub vomere et ipsa
or pressed to-work the-soil under share and very
flectere luctantis inter vineta iuvencos;
to-turn struggling among the-vineyards bullocks;
tum levis calamos et rasae hastilia virgae
then smooth reeds and of-peeled shafts rods
fraxineasque aptare sudes furcasque valentis,
and-ash to-fit stakes and-forks strong,
viribus eniti quarum et contemnere ventos
by-the-strength to-climb of-which and to-scorn the-winds
adsuescant summasque sequi tabulata per ulmos.
they-may-grow-used and-the-topmost to-follow stories through elms.
Ac dum prima novis adolescit frondibus aetas,
And while the-first with-new is-growing leaves age,
parcendum teneris, et dum se laetus ad auras
there-must-be-sparing of-the-tender, and while itself glad to the-breezes
palmes agit laxis per purum immissus habenis,
the-shoot drives with-loosened through the-clear sent reins,
ipsa acie nondum falcis temptanda, sed uncis
itself with-the-edge not-yet of-the-hook must-be-tried, but with-hooked

carpendae manibus frondes interque legendae.
must-be-plucked fingers the-leaves and-here-and-there must-be-picked.
Inde ubi iam validis amplexae stirpibus ulmos
Then when now with-strong having-embraced stems the-elms
exierint, tum stringe comas, tum bracchia tonde,
they-shall-have-gone-out, then strip the-tresses, then the-arms clip,
ante reformidant ferrum, tum denique dura
before they-dread the-iron, then at-last hard
exerce imperia et ramos compesce fluentis.
exercise rule and the-branches check flowing.
Texendae saepes etiam et pecus omne tenendum,
Must-be-woven hedges also and the-flock all to-be-kept-off,
praecipue dum frons tenera inprudensque laborum;
especially while the-leafage tender and-ignorant of-hardships;
cui super indignas hiemes solemque potentem
on-which besides unworthy winters and-sun powerful
silvestres uri adsidue capreaeque sequaces
woodland buffaloes constantly and-roes pursuing
inludunt, pascuntur oves avidaeque iuvencae.
make-sport, browse sheep and-greedy heifers.
Frigora nec tantum cana concreta pruina
The-colds nor so-much with-white congealed hoarfrost
aut gravis incumbens scopulis arentibus aestas,
or heavy brooding on-crags parched summer,
quantum illi nocuere greges durique venenum
as-much-as to-it have-harmed the-flocks and-of-hard the-poison
dentis et admorso signata in stirpe cicatrix.
tooth and the-gnawed marked on stem the-scar.
Non aliam ob culpam Baccho caper omnibus aris
Not other for fault to-Bacchus the-goat at-all altars

caeditur et veteres ineunt proscaenia ludi,
is-sacrificed and old enter the-stages plays,
praemiaque ingeniis pagos et compita circum
and-prizes for-wits the-villages and crossroads around
Thesidae posuere, atque inter pocula laeti
the-sons-of-Theseus have-set, and among cups glad
mollibus in pratis unctos saluere per utres.
soft in meadows oiled have-leapt over skins.
Nec non Ausonii Troia gens missa coloni
Nor not the-Ausonian from-Troy race sent farmers
versibus incomptis ludunt risuque soluto,
in-verses rough sport and-in-laughter unbridled,
oraque corticibus sumunt horrenda cavatis,
and-faces from-bark put-on frightful hollowed,
et te, Bacche, vocant per carmina laeta, tibique
and you, Bacchus, invoke through songs glad, and-to-you
oscilla ex alta suspendunt mollia pinu.
masks from high hang soft pine.
Hinc omnis largo pubescit vinea fetu,
Hence every with-abundant ripens vineyard yield,
complentur vallesque cavae saltusque profundi
are-filled both-the-valleys hollow and-the-glades deep
et quocumque deus circum caput egit honestum.
and wherever the-god around his-head has-turned comely.
Ergo rite suum Baccho dicemus honorem
So duly his-own to-Bacchus we-will-tell honor
carminibus patriis, lancesque et liba feremus,
in-songs ancestral, and-dishes and cakes we-will-bring,
et ductus cornu stabit sacer hircus ad aram,
and led by-the-horn shall-stand sacred the-goat at the-altar,

pinguiaque in veribus torrebimus exta colurnis.
and-the-fat on spits we-will-roast entrails hazel.
Est etiam ille labor curandis vitibus alter,
There-is also that labor in-tending vines another,
cui numquam exhausti satis est: namque omne quotannis
of-which never exhausted enough is: for all yearly
terque quaterque solum scindendum glebaque versis
both-thrice and-four-times the-soil must-be-split and-the-clod with-turned
aeternum frangenda bidentibus, omne levandum
forever must-be-broken hoes, all must-be-lightened
fronde nemus. Redit agricolis labor actus in orbem,
of-leaves the-grove. Returns to-the-farmers labor driven in a-circle,
atque in se sua per vestigia volvitur annus.
and on itself its-own over footsteps is-rolled the-year.
Ac iam olim, seras posuit cum vinea frondes,
And already at-the-time, its-last has-shed when the-vineyard leaves,
frigidus et silvis Aquilo decussit honorem,
cold and from-the-woods the-north-wind has-shaken-down the-glory,
iam tum acer curas venientem extendit in annum
already then keen his-cares coming extends into the-year
rusticus, et curvo Saturni dente relictam
the-rustic, and with-curved of-Saturn the-tooth the-left
persequitur vitem attondens fingitque putando.
pursues the-vine clipping and-shapes-it by-pruning.
Primus humum fodito, primus devecta cremato
First the-ground dig, first the-carried-off burn
sarmenta, et vallos primus sub tecta referto;
cuttings, and the-poles first under shelter bring-back;
postremus metito. Bis vitibus ingruit umbra,
last reap. Twice on-the-vines falls-on shade,

bis segetem densis obducunt sentibus herbae;
twice the-crop with-thick overgrow briers weeds;
durus uterque labor: laudato ingentia rura,
hard each labor: praise huge estates,
exiguum colito. Nec non etiam aspera rusci
a-small-one cultivate. Nor not also rough of-butcher's-broom
vimina per silvam et ripis fluvialis arundo
stems through the-wood and on-the-banks the-river reed
caeditur, incultique exercet cura salicti.
is-cut, and-of-the-untilled exercises the-care willow-bed.
Iam vinctae vites, iam falcem arbusta reponunt,
Now bound the-vines, now the-sickle the-orchards lay-aside,
iam canit effectos extremus vinitor antes:
now sings his-finished the-last vinedresser rows:
sollicitanda tamen tellus pulvisque movendus,
must-be-vexed however the-earth and-the-dust must-be-stirred,
et iam maturis metuendus Iuppiter uvis.
and now for-the-ripe to-be-feared Jupiter grapes.
Contra non ulla est oleis cultura; neque illae
On-the-other-hand not any is for-olives tillage; nor they
procurvam exspectant falcem rastrosque tenacis,
the-curved await sickle and-the-hoes tenacious,
cum semel haeserunt arvis aurasque tulerunt;
when once they-have-clung to-the-fields and-the-breezes have-borne;
ipsa satis tellus, cum dente recluditur unco,
itself enough the-earth, when with-tooth it-is-opened hooked,
sufficit umorem et gravidas, cum vomere, fruges.
supplies moisture and heavy, when with-the-share, fruits.
Hoc pinguem et placitam Paci nutritor olivam.
By-this the-rich and dear to-Peace rear olive.

Fruit trees, willows, broom, and forests serve men freely, while Bacchus' gifts have caused crimes. The poet praises the farmer, at peace without palaces or luxuries; he would know nature's causes, or else love the countryside, for fortunate is he who knows the country gods, untouched by ambition and greed. The farmer's year brings plenty and festivals: such was the life of the early Sabines, of Remus and his brother, and of golden Saturn.

Poma quoque, ut primum truncos sensere valentis
Fruit-trees also, as first trunks they-have-felt strong
et viris habuere suas, ad sidera raptim
and strength have-had their-own, to the-stars swiftly
vi propria nituntur opisque haud indiga nostrae.
by-force their-own strive and-of-help not needing our.
Nec minus interea fetu nemus omne gravescit,
Nor less meanwhile with-fruit the-grove all grows-heavy,
sanguineisque inculta rubent aviaria bacis.
and-with-blood-red untilled redden the-haunts-of-birds berries.
Tondentur cytisi, taedas silva alta ministrat,
Are-cropped the-clovers, pine-torches the-forest high supplies,
pascunturque ignes nocturni et lumina fundunt.
and-are-fed the-fires nightly and light pour-forth.
Et dubitant homines serere atque impendere curam?
And do-hesitate men to-plant and to-bestow care?
Quid maiora sequar? Salices humilesque genistae
Why greater-things should-I-pursue? Willows and-lowly brooms
aut illae pecori frondem aut pastoribus umbras
either they for-the-flock leafage or for-the-shepherds shades
sufficiunt saepemque satis et pabula melli.
supply and-a-hedge for-the-sown and food for-honey.

Et iuvat undantem buxo spectare Cytorum
And it-pleases waving with-box to-behold Cytorus
Naryciaeque picis lucos, iuvat arva videre
and-of-Narycian pitch the-groves, it-pleases fields to-see
non rastris, hominum non ulli obnoxia curae.
not to-hoes, of-men not to-any beholden care.
Ipsae Caucaseo steriles in vertice silvae,
Even Caucasian barren on summit the-forests,
quas animosi Euri adsidue franguntque feruntque,
which spirited east-winds constantly both-break and-carry,
dant alios aliae fetus, dant utile lignum
give others other produce, give useful wood
navigiis pinus, domibus cedrumque cupressosque.
for-ships pines, for-houses both-cedar and-cypresses.
Hinc radios trivere rotis, hinc tympana plaustris
Hence spokes have-turned for-wheels, hence drums for-wagons
agricolae, et pandas ratibus posuere carinas.
the-farmers, and curved for-boats have-set keels.
Viminibus salices, fecundae frondibus ulmi,
In-osiers willows, fruitful in-leaves elms,
at myrtus validis hastilibus et bona bello
but the-myrtle in-stout spear-shafts and good for-war
cornus, Ituraeos taxi torquentur in arcus.
the-cornel, Ituraean yews are-bent into bows.
Nec tiliae leves aut torno rasile buxum
Nor lindens smooth or by-the-lathe polished boxwood
non formam accipiunt ferroque cavantur acuto.
not shape receive and-with-iron are-hollowed sharp.
Nec non et torrentem undam levis innatat alnus
Nor not also the-rushing wave light swims the-alder

missa Pado; nec non et apes examina condunt
sent on-the-Po; nor not also bees their-swarms hide
corticibusque cavis vitiosaeque ilicis alvo.
both-in-barks hollow and-of-the-decayed holm-oak in-the-belly.
Quid memorandum aeque Baccheia dona tulerunt?
What worth-recording equally Bacchic gifts have-brought?
Bacchus et ad culpam causas dedit; ille furentis
Bacchus also for crime causes has-given; he the-raging
Centauros leto domuit, Rhoetumque Pholumque
Centaurs by-death subdued, and-Rhoetus and-Pholus
et magno Hylaeum Lapithis cratere minantem.
and with-great Hylaeus the-Lapiths bowl threatening.
O fortunatos nimium, sua si bona norint,
O fortunate too-much, their-own if good-things they-knew,
agricolas, quibus ipsa procul discordibus armis
farmers, for-whom herself far from-discordant arms
fundit humo facilem victum iustissima tellus.
pours-forth from-the-ground easy livelihood most-just the-earth.
Si non ingentem foribus domus alta superbis
If not a-huge from-its-doors the-house high proud
mane salutantum totis vomit aedibus undam,
in-the-morning of-callers from-all vomits halls wave,
nec varios inhiant pulchra testudine postes,
nor at-various they-gape with-beautiful tortoise-shell doorposts,
inlusasque auro vestes Ephyreiaque aera,
and-at-tricked with-gold garments and-Corinthian bronzes,
alba neque Assyrio fucatur lana veneno,
white nor with-Assyrian is-dyed wool poison,
nec casia liquidi corrumpitur usus olivi:
nor by-cassia of-the-clear is-spoiled the-use olive-oil:

at secura quies et nescia fallere vita,
but carefree repose and not-knowing-how to-deceive a-life,
dives opum variarum, at latis otia fundis,
rich in-resources various, but in-broad leisure estates,
speluncae vivique lacus et frigida Tempe
caves and-living lakes and cool Tempe
mugitusque boum mollesque sub arbore somni,
and-the-lowing of-oxen and-soft under a-tree sleep,
non absunt; illic saltus ac lustra ferarum,
not are-absent; there glades and lairs of-wild-beasts,
et patiens operum exiguoque adsueta iuventus
and enduring of-toil and-to-little accustomed youth
sacra deum sanctique patres; extrema per illos
worship of-the-gods and-holy fathers; last among them
Iustitia excedens terris vestigia fecit.
Justice departing from-the-earth footprints made.
Me vero primum dulces ante omnia Musae,
Me truly first sweet before all-things the-Muses,
quarum sacra fero ingenti percussus amore,
whose rites I-bear by-great struck love,
accipiant, caelique vias et sidera monstrent,
may-receive, and-of-heaven the-paths and the-stars may-show,
defectus solis varios lunaeque labores;
the-eclipses of-the-sun various and-of-the-moon the-labors;
unde tremor terris, qua vi maria alta tumescant
whence the-trembling for-the-lands, by-what force the-seas deep swell
obicibus ruptis rursusque in se ipsa residant,
with-barriers broken and-again into themselves themselves settle,
quid tantum Oceano properent se tinguere soles
why so-much in-Ocean hasten themselves to-dip the-suns

hiberni, vel quae tardis mora noctibus obstet.
of-winter, or what to-the-slow delay nights stands-in-the-way.
Sin has ne possim naturae accedere partis
But-if these lest I-be-able of-nature to-approach parts
frigidus obstiterit circum praecordia sanguis:
cold shall-have-stood-in-the-way around my-heart blood:
rura mihi et rigui placeant in vallibus amnes,
the-countryside for-me and watering may-please in valleys streams,
flumina amem silvasque inglorius. O ubi campi
rivers may-I-love and-woods inglorious. O where are-the-plains
Spercheosque et virginibus bacchata Lacaenis
and-the-Spercheus and by-maidens reveled-over Spartan
Taygeta! O qui me gelidis convallibus Haemi
Taygetus! O who me in-cool valleys of-Haemus
sistat, et ingenti ramorum protegat umbra!
may-set, and with-huge of-branches may-shield shade!
Felix, qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas,
Happy, who has-been-able of-things to-know the-causes,
atque metus omnis et inexorabile fatum
and fears all and inexorable fate
subiecit pedibus strepitumque Acherontis avari.
has-put-under his-feet and-the-roar of-Acheron greedy.
Fortunatus et ille, deos qui novit agrestis,
Fortunate also he, the-gods who has-known rustic,
Panaque Silvanumque senem nymphasque sorores.
and-Pan and-Silvanus old and-the-nymphs sisters.
Illum non populi fasces, non purpura regum
Him not of-the-people the-fasces, not the-purple of-kings
flexit et infidos agitans discordia fratres
has-bent and faithless driving discord brothers

aut coniurato descendens Dacus ab Histro,
or the-leagued descending the-Dacian from the-Danube,
non res Romanae perituraque regna, neque ille
not the-affairs Roman and-doomed-to-perish kingdoms, nor he
aut doluit miserans inopem aut invidit habenti.
either has-grieved pitying the-needy or has-envied the-possessor.
Quos rami fructus, quos ipsa volentia rura
What the-branches fruits, what itself willing the-countryside
sponte tulere sua, carpsit, nec ferrea iura
by-will their-own have-borne, he-has-plucked, nor iron laws
insanumque forum aut populi tabularia vidit.
and-the-mad forum or of-the-people the-records has-seen.
Sollicitant alii remis freta caeca, ruuntque
Vex others with-oars seas dark, and-rush
in ferrum, penetrant aulas et limina regum;
upon the-sword, penetrate courts and thresholds of-kings;
hic petit excidiis urbem miserosque Penatis,
this-one seeks with-destruction a-city and-wretched Household-gods,
ut gemma bibat et Sarrano dormiat ostro;
that from-a-gem he-may-drink and on-Tyrian may-sleep purple;
condit opes alius defossoque incubat auro;
hides his-wealth another and-on-buried broods gold;
hic stupet attonitus rostris; hunc plausus hiantem
this-one is-stunned astounded at-the-rostra; him the-applause gaping
per cuneos geminatus enim plebisque patrumque
through the-tiers redoubled indeed of-the-commons and-of-the-fathers
corripuit; gaudent perfusi sanguine fratrum,
has-seized; they-rejoice drenched with-the-blood of-brothers,
exsilioque domos et dulcia limina mutant
and-for-exile homes and sweet thresholds exchange

atque alio patriam quaerunt sub sole iacentem.
and another a-fatherland seek under sun lying.
Agricola incurvo terram dimovit aratro:
The-farmer with-the-curved the-earth has-cleft plow:
hinc anni labor, hinc patriam parvosque penates
hence of-the-year the-labor, hence his-fatherland and-little household-gods
sustinet, hinc armenta boum meritosque iuvencos.
he-sustains, hence the-herds of-oxen and-deserving bullocks.
Nec requies, quin aut pomis exuberet annus
Nor is-there-rest, but either with-fruits abounds the-year
aut fetu pecorum aut Cerealis mergite culmi,
or with-the-young of-cattle or of-Ceres in-the-sheaf stalk,
proventuque oneret sulcos atque horrea vincat.
and-with-increase loads the-furrows and the-granaries overcomes.
Venit hiemps: teritur Sicyonia baca trapetis,
Comes winter: is-crushed the-Sicyonian berry in-presses,
glande sues laeti redeunt, dant arbuta silvae;
with-acorns the-swine glad return, give arbutus-berries the-woods;
et varios ponit fetus autumnus, et alte
and various lays-down fruits autumn, and high
mitis in apricis coquitur vindemia saxis.
mellow on sunny is-baked the-vintage rocks.
Interea dulces pendent circum oscula nati,
Meanwhile sweet hang about his-kisses children,
casta pudicitiam servat domus, ubera vaccae
the-chaste chastity keeps house, their-udders the-cows
lactea demittunt, pinguesque in gramine laeto
milky let-down, and-fat on grass glad
inter se adversis luctantur cornibus haedi.
among themselves with-opposing struggle horns kids.

Ipse dies agitat festos fususque per herbam,
Himself days keeps festal and-stretched over the-grass,
ignis ubi in medio et socii cratera coronant,
the-fire where in the-middle and comrades the-bowl wreathe,
te libans, Lenaee, vocat, pecorisque magistris
you pouring-libation, Lenaeus, he-calls, and-for-the-flock's masters
velocis iaculi certamina ponit in ulmo,
of-the-swift javelin contests sets on an-elm,
corporaque agresti nudant praedura palaestrae.
and-their-bodies for-rustic bare very-hard wrestling.
Hanc olim veteres vitam coluere Sabini,
This once old life cultivated the-Sabines,
hanc Remus et frater, sic fortis Etruria crevit
this Remus and his-brother, so strong Etruria grew
scilicet et rerum facta est pulcherrima Roma,
of-course and of-things made is the-loveliest Rome,
septemque una sibi muro circumdedit arces.
and-seven alone for-herself with-a-wall has-surrounded citadels.

Ante etiam sceptrum Dictaei regis et ante
Before also the-scepter of-the-Dictaean king and before
impia quam caesis gens est epulata iuvencis,
impious than with-slain a-race has feasted bullocks,
aureus hanc vitam in terris Saturnus agebat;
golden this life on earth Saturn was-leading;
necdum etiam audierant inflari classica, necdum
nor-yet even had-they-heard to-be-blown war-trumpets, nor-yet
impositos duris crepitare incudibus enses.
laid-on hard to-clang anvils swords.
Sed nos immensum spatiis confecimus aequor,
But we a-boundless in-lengths have-traversed plain,
et iam tempus equum fumantia solvere colla.
and now it-is-time of-the-horses the-steaming to-loose necks.

III.1 · THE TEMPLE AND THE BREEDING OF HERDS

The poet will sing of Pales and the herds, and vows a marble temple at Mantua with Caesar at its center and games in his honor. He turns to breeding: the best cow is grim, with a huge neck and long flanks, bred between four and ten, and the herd renewed every year; the colt of noble stock shows his spirit and shape early, like Pollux's Cyllarus, the horses of Mars and Achilles, and Saturn in a horse's form.

Te quoque, magna Pales, et te memorande canemus
You also, great Pales, and you worthy-to-be-remembered we-will-sing
pastor ab Amphryso, vos, silvae amnesque Lycaei.
shepherd from Amphrysus, you, woods and-streams of-Lycaeus.
Cetera quae vacuas tenuissent carmine mentes,
The-other-themes which idle would-have-held with-song minds,
omnia iam vulgata: quis aut Eurysthea durum
all already are-hackneyed: who either Eurystheus harsh
aut inlaudati nescit Busiridis aras?
or of-the-unpraised knows-not Busiris the-altars?
Cui non dictus Hylas puer et Latonia Delos
By-whom not told-of Hylas the-boy and Latonian Delos
Hippodameque umeroque Pelops insignis eburno,
and-Hippodamia and-for-his-shoulder Pelops famous ivory,
acer equis? Temptanda via est, qua me quoque possim
keen with-horses? To-be-tried a-way is, by-which me too I-may-be-able
tollere humo victorque virum volitare per ora.
to-lift from-the-ground and-victor of-men to-fly through the-mouths.
Primus ego in patriam mecum, modo vita supersit,
First I into my-fatherland with-me, only life remain,

Aonio rediens deducam vertice musas;
from-the-Aonian returning I-will-lead-down summit muses;
primus Idumaeas referam tibi, Mantua, palmas,
first Idumaean I-will-bring-back to-you, Mantua, palms,
et viridi in campo templum de marmore ponam
and green on the-plain a-temple of marble I-will-set
propter aquam, tardis ingens ubi flexibus errat
by the-water, with-slow vast where windings wanders
Mincius et tenera praetexit arundine ripas.
Mincius and with-tender fringes reed the-banks.
In medio mihi Caesar erit templumque tenebit:
In the-middle for-me Caesar shall-be and-the-temple shall-hold:
illi victor ego et Tyrio conspectus in ostro
for-him victor I and Tyrian conspicuous in purple
centum quadriiugos agitabo ad flumina currus.
a-hundred four-horse will-drive by the-stream chariots.
Cuncta mihi Alpheum linquens lucosque Molorchi
All for-me the-Alpheus leaving and-the-groves of-Molorchus
cursibus et crudo decernet Graecia caestu.
in-races and with-raw-hide shall-contend Greece gauntlet.
Ipse caput tonsae foliis ornatus olivae
Myself my-head of-shorn with-the-leaves adorned olive
dona feram. Iam nunc solemnis ducere pompas
gifts will-bring. Already now solemn to-lead processions
ad delubra iuvat caesosque videre iuvencos
to the-shrines it-pleases and-slain to-see bullocks
vel scaena ut versis discedat frontibus utque
or the-stage how with-turned may-part fronts and-how
purpurea intexti tollant aulaea Britanni.
purple woven-in may-raise the-curtains Britons.

In foribus pugnam ex auro solidoque elephanto
On the-doors the-fight from gold and-solid ivory
Gangaridum faciam victorisque arma Quirini,
of-the-Gangarides I-will-make and-of-the-victorious the-arms Quirinus,
atque hic undantem bello magnumque fluentem
and here surging with-war and-greatly flowing
Nilum ac navali surgentis aere columnas.
the-Nile and with-naval rising bronze columns.
Addam urbes Asiae domitas pulsumque Niphaten
I-will-add the-cities of-Asia tamed and-routed Niphates
fidentemque fuga Parthum versisque sagittis
and-trusting in-flight the-Parthian and-turned arrows
et duo rapta manu diverso ex hoste tropaea
and two snatched by-hand different from foe trophies
bisque triumphatas utroque ab litore gentes.
and-twice triumphed-over either from shore the-nations.
Stabunt et Parii lapides, spirantia signa,
Shall-stand also Parian stones, breathing statues,
Assaraci proles demissaeque ab Iove gentis
of-Assaracus the-offspring and-of-the-descended from Jupiter race
nomina Trosque parens et Troiae Cynthius auctor.
the-names and-Tros the-parent and of-Troy the-Cynthian founder.
Invidia infelix furias amnemque severum
Envy unhappy the-Furies and-the-river stern
Cocyti metuet tortosque Ixionis anguis
of-Cocytus shall-fear and-the-twisted of-Ixion snakes
immanemque rotam et non exsuperabile saxum.
and-the-monstrous wheel and not to-be-overcome the-stone.
Interea dryadum silvas saltusque sequamur
Meanwhile of-the-dryads the-woods and-glades let-us-follow

intactos, tua, Maecenas, haud mollia iussa.
untouched, your, Maecenas, not soft commands.
Te sine nil altum mens incohat: en age segnis
You without nothing lofty the-mind begins: look come sluggish
rumpe moras; vocat ingenti clamore Cithaeron
break delays; calls with-huge clamor Cithaeron
Taygetique canes domitrixque Epidaurus equorum,
and-of-Taygetus the-hounds and-tamer Epidaurus of-horses,
et vox adsensu nemorum ingeminata remugit.
and the-voice by-the-assent of-the-groves redoubled re-echoes.
Mox tamen ardentis accingar dicere pugnas
Soon however the-burning I-will-gird-myself to-tell battles
Caesaris et nomen fama tot ferre per annos,
of-Caesar and his-name by-fame so-many to-bear through years,
Tithoni prima quot abest ab origine Caesar.
of-Tithonus first as-many-as is-distant from origin Caesar.
Seu quis Olympiacae miratus praemia palmae
Whether anyone of-the-Olympic marveling-at the-prizes palm
pascit equos seu quis fortis ad aratra iuvencos,
breeds horses or-whether anyone strong for the-plows bullocks,
corpora praecipue matrum legat. Optima torvae
the-bodies especially of-the-mothers let-him-choose. Best of-grim
forma bovis, cui turpe caput, cui plurima cervix,
the-form cow, whose ugly head, whose very-great neck,
et crurum tenus a mento palearia pendent;
and of-the-legs as-far-as from the-chin the-dewlaps hang;
tum longo nullus lateri modus; omnia magna,
then to-long no to-the-side limit; all-things great,
pes etiam; et camuris hirtae sub cornibus aures.
the-foot even; and crooked shaggy under horns ears.

Nec mihi displiceat maculis insignis et albo,
Nor to-me would-displease with-spots marked and with-white,
aut iuga detractans interdumque aspera cornu
or the-yokes refusing and-sometimes fierce with-horn
et faciem tauro propior, quaeque ardua tota
and in-face to-a-bull nearer, and-which tall wholly
et gradiens ima verrit vestigia cauda.
and in-walking the-lowest sweeps footprints with-tail.
Aetas Lucinam iustosque pati hymenaeos
The-age Lucina and-lawful to-endure wedlock
desinit ante decem, post quattuor incipit annos;
ceases before ten, after four begins years;
cetera nec feturae habilis nec fortis aratris.
the-rest neither for-breeding fit nor strong for-plows.
Interea, superat gregibus dum laeta iuventas,
Meanwhile, abounds in-the-herds while glad youth,
solve mares; mitte in Venerem pecuaria primus,
loose the-males; send into Love the-cattle first,
atque aliam ex alia generando suffice prolem.
and other from other by-breeding supply offspring.
Optima quaeque dies miseris mortalibus aevi
Best each day for-wretched mortals of-life
prima fugit: subeunt morbi tristisque senectus
first flees: come-up diseases and-gloomy old-age
et labor, et durae rapit inclementia mortis.
and toil, and of-harsh carries-off the-mercilessness death.
Semper erunt, quarum mutari corpora malis:
Always there-will-be, whose to-be-changed bodies you-would-prefer:
semper enim refice ac, ne post amissa requiras,
always indeed renew and, lest afterward the-lost you-may-miss,

ante veni et subolem armento sortire quotannis.
beforehand come and offspring for-the-herd choose yearly.
Nec non et pecori est idem dilectus equino.
Nor not also for-the-flock is the-same choice equine.
Tu modo, quos in spem statues submittere gentis,
You only, whom for the-hope you-shall-decide to-rear of-the-race,
praecipuum iam inde a teneris impende laborem.
special already thence from the-tender bestow labor.
Continuo pecoris generosi pullus in arvis
At-once of-the-stock noble the-foal in the-fields
altius ingreditur, et mollia crura reponit;
higher steps, and supple legs sets-down;
primus et ire viam et fluvios temptare minaces
first both to-go the-way and rivers to-try threatening
audet et ignoto sese committere ponti,
dares and to-an-unknown himself to-commit bridge,
nec vanos horret strepitus. Illi ardua cervix
nor idle dreads noises. To-him lofty the-neck
argutumque caput, brevis alvus obesaque terga,
and-clean-cut the-head, short the-belly and-plump the-back,
luxuriatque toris animosum pectus. Honesti
and-luxuriates with-muscles the-spirited chest. Handsome-are
spadices glaucique, color deterrimus albis
bays and-grays, the-color worst for-whites
et gilvo. Tum, siqua sonum procul arma dedere,
and dun. Then, if-any a-sound afar arms have-given,
stare loco nescit, micat auribus et tremit artus,
to-stand in-place he-knows-not, quivers with-his-ears and trembles in-limbs,
collectumque premens volvit sub naribus ignem.
and-gathered pressing rolls under his-nostrils fire.

Densa iuba, et dextro iactata recumbit in armo;
Thick the-mane, and the-right tossed lies on shoulder;
at duplex agitur per lumbos spina, cavatque
but double runs along his-loins the-spine, and-hollows
tellurem et solido graviter sonat ungula cornu.
the-earth and with-solid heavily rings the-hoof horn.
Talis Amyclaei domitus Pollucis habenis
Such of-Amyclaean tamed Pollux by-the-reins
Cyllarus et, quorum Grai meminere poetae,
Cyllarus and, whom the-Greek remember poets,
Martis equi biiuges et magni currus Achillei.
of-Mars the-horses yoked-in-pair and of-great the-car Achilles.
Talis et ipse iubam cervice effundit equina
Such also himself his-mane over-his-neck pours horse's
coniugis adventu pernix Saturnus, et altum
of-his-wife at-the-coming swift Saturn, and high
Pelion hinnitu fugiens implevit acuto.
Pelion with-neighing fleeing filled shrill.

III.2 · SIRES, DAMS, AND CALVES

Old or sickly stallions are retired. The sire is fattened before mating and the mares kept lean; pregnant dams are spared heavy work and the gadfly, with which Juno tormented the Inachian heifer. Calves are branded, trained early to the yoke with collars and carts, and fed generously, not stripped of their mothers' milk.

Hunc quoque, ubi aut morbo gravis aut iam segnior annis
Him also, when either by-disease heavy or now sluggish with-years
deficit, abde domo, nec turpi ignosce senectae,
he-fails, hide at-home, nor shameful pardon old-age,

frigidus in Venerem senior, frustraque laborem
cold toward Love the-older, and-in-vain the-toil
ingratum trahit, et siquando ad proelia ventum est,
thankless he-drags, and if-ever to battles come it-has,
ut quondam in stipulis magnus sine viribus ignis
as once in stubble great without strength a-fire
incassum furit. Ergo animos aevumque notabis
vainly rages. So their-spirits and-age you-will-note
praecipue; hinc alias artis prolemque parentum,
especially; hence the-other merits and-the-offspring of-the-parents,
et quis cuique dolor victo, quae gloria palmae.
and what to-each grief in-defeat, what glory of-the-palm.
Nonne vides, cum praecipiti certamine campum
Do-you-not see, when in-headlong contest the-plain
corripuere, ruuntque effusi carcere currus,
they-have-seized, and-rush poured-out from-the-barrier the-chariots,
cum spes arrectae iuvenum, exsultantiaque haurit
when the-hopes are-roused of-the-young-men, and-the-exulting drains
corda pavor pulsans? Illi instant verbere torto
hearts fear throbbing? They press with-the-lash twisted
et proni dant lora, volat vi fervidus axis;
and bending-forward give the-reins, flies with-force glowing the-axle;
iamque humiles, iamque elati sublime videntur
and-now low, and-now lifted aloft they-seem
aera per vacuum ferri atque adsurgere in auras;
the-air through empty to-be-borne and to-rise into the-breezes;
nec mora nec requies; at fulvae nimbus arenae
nor delay nor rest; but of-yellow a-cloud sand
tollitur, umescunt spumis flatuque sequentum:
is-raised, they-are-wet with-the-foam and-breath of-the-followers:

tantus amor laudum, tantae est victoria curae.
so-great the-love of-praise, so-much is victory a-care.
Primus Erichthonius currus et quattuor ausus
First Erichthonius chariots and four dared
iungere equos rapidusque rotis insistere victor.
to-yoke horses and-swift on-the-wheels to-stand victor.
Frena Pelethronii Lapithae gyrosque dedere
The-bridles the-Pelethronian Lapiths and-the-wheelings gave
impositi dorso, atque equitem docuere sub armis
mounted on-the-back, and the-rider taught under arms
insultare solo et gressus glomerare superbos.
to-leap on-the-ground and his-steps to-gather proud.
Aequus uterque labor, aeque iuvenemque magistri
Equal each labor, equally and-a-young-one the-trainers
exquirunt calidumque animis et cursibus acrem;
seek-out and-hot in-spirit and in-the-races keen;
quamvis saepe fuga versos ille egerit hostis,
although often in-flight turned he may-have-driven foes,
et patriam Epirum referat fortisque Mycenas,
and his-fatherland Epirus may-claim and-strong Mycenae,
Neptunique ipsa deducat origine gentem.
and-of-Neptune from-the-very may-derive origin his-race.
His animadversis instant sub tempus, et omnis
With-these-things noted they-press-on toward the-time, and all
impendunt curas denso distendere pingui
spend their-cares with-thick to-distend fat
quem legere ducem et pecori dixere maritum;
him-whom they-have-chosen as-leader and for-the-herd have-named husband;
florentisque secant herbas fluviosque ministrant
and-flowering cut grasses and-streams supply

farraque, ne blando nequeat superesse labori
and-grain, lest to-the-pleasant he-be-unable to-be-equal toil
invalidique patrum referant ieiunia nati.
and-weakly of-the-fathers reflect the-hunger the-sons.
Ipsa autem macie tenuant armenta volentes,
The-very however with-leanness thin the-herds willingly,
atque ubi concubitus primos iam nota voluptas
and when couplings first already known pleasure
sollicitat, frondesque negant et fontibus arcent.
excites, both-leaves they-deny and from-the-springs keep-them.
Saepe etiam cursu quatiunt et sole fatigant,
Often also with-running they-shake-them and with-sun tire,
cum graviter tunsis gemit area frugibus, et cum
when heavily with-threshed groans the-floor grain, and when
surgentem ad Zephyrum paleae iactantur inanes.
rising toward Zephyr the-chaff is-tossed empty.
Hoc faciunt, nimio ne luxu obtusior usus
This they-do, with-too-much lest luxury duller the-use
sit genitali arvo et sulcos oblimet inertis,
be in-the-generative field and the-furrows clog sluggish,
sed rapiat sitiens Venerem interiusque recondat.
but it-may-seize thirsting Love and-deeper-within store.
Rursus cura patrum cadere et succedere matrum
In-turn the-care of-the-sires to-fall and to-succeed of-the-mothers
incipit. Exactis gravidae cum mensibus errant,
begins. With-completed pregnant when the-months they-wander,
non illas gravibus quisquam iuga ducere plaustris,
not them with-heavy anyone yokes to-draw wagons,
non saltu superare viam sit passus et acri
not by-a-leap to-cross the-road would-have suffered and with-sharp

carpere prata fuga fluviosque innare rapacis.
to-scour the-meadows flight and-rivers to-swim-in rapacious.
Saltibus in vacuis pascunt et plena secundum
Glades in empty they-graze-them and full along
flumina, muscus ubi et viridissima gramine ripa,
rivers, moss where and greenest with-grass the-bank,
speluncaeque tegant et saxea procubet umbra.
and-caves may-shelter and rocky may-stretch-out shade.
Est lucos Silari circa ilicibusque virentem
There-is the-groves of-Silarus around and-with-holm-oaks green
plurimus Alburnum volitans, cui nomen asilo
abundant Alburnus flitting, to-which the-name asilus
Romanum est, oestrum Grai vertere vocantes,
Roman is, oestrus the-Greeks have-turned calling-it,
asper, acerba sonans, quo tota exterrita silvis
fierce, sharply buzzing, by-which all terrified from-the-woods
diffugiunt armenta, furit mugitibus aether
scatter the-herds, raves with-lowings the-air
concussus silvaeque et sicci ripa Tanagri.
shaken and-the-woods and of-the-dry the-bank Tanager.
Hoc quondam monstro horribilis exercuit iras
With-this once monster horrible vented her-wrath
Inachiae Iuno pestem meditata iuvencae.
on-the-Inachian Juno a-plague having-devised heifer.
Hunc quoque, nam mediis fervoribus acrior instat,
This too, for in-the-middle heats fiercer it-presses,
arcebis gravido pecori, armentaque pasces
you-will-keep-off from-the-pregnant flock, and-the-herds you-will-graze
sole recens orto aut noctem ducentibus astris.
with-the-sun freshly risen or the-night with-bringing-on stars.

Post partum cura in vitulos traducitur omnis,
After the-birth the-care to the-calves is-transferred all,
continuoque notas et nomina gentis inurunt,
and-straightway marks and names of-the-stock they-brand,
et quos aut pecori malint submittere habendo
and which either for-the-flock they-prefer to-rear for-keeping
aut aris servare sacros aut scindere terram
or for-the-altars to-keep sacred or to-cleave the-earth
et campum horrentem fractis invertere glebis.
and the-plain bristling with-broken to-turn clods.
Cetera pascuntur viridis armenta per herbas.
The-rest graze the-green the-herds over grasses.
Tu quos ad studium atque usum formabis agrestem,
You those-which to pursuit and use you-will-shape rustic,
iam vitulos hortare viamque insiste domandi,
already as-calves urge and-the-way enter-on of-taming,
dum faciles animi iuvenum, dum mobilis aetas.
while docile the-spirits of-the-young, while pliable the-age.
Ac primum laxos tenui de vimine circlos
And first loose slender of osier collars
cervici subnecte; dehinc, ubi libera colla
to-the-neck tie-on; then, when free the-necks
servitio adsuerint, ipsis e torquibus aptos
to-servitude have-grown-used, the-very from collars fitted
iunge pares, et coge gradum conferre iuvencos;
yoke matched, and compel their-step to-join bullocks;
atque illis iam saepe rotae ducantur inanes
and by-them already often wheels let-be-drawn empty
per terram, et summo vestigia pulvere signent;
over the-earth, and on-the-top footprints dust let-them-mark;

post valido nitens sub pondere faginus axis
afterward with-strong straining under weight the-beechen axle
instrepat, et iunctos temo trahat aereus orbes.
let-creak, and joined the-pole let-draw bronze wheels.
Interea pubi indomitae non gramina tantum
Meanwhile for-the-youth untamed not grasses only
nec vescas salicum frondes ulvamque palustrem,
nor thin of-willows the-leaves and-sedge marshy,
set frumenta manu carpes sata; nec tibi fetae
but grain by-hand you-will-pluck sown; nor for-you having-calved
more patrum nivea implebunt mulctraria vaccae,
by-the-custom of-the-fathers snowy will-fill milking-pails the-cows,
sed tota in dulcis consument ubera natos.
but all on the-sweet will-spend their-udders young.

III.3 · TRAINING HORSES AND THE POWER OF LOVE

Horses for war or racing are trained from foalhood to arms, noise, and the bit, and to gallop like the north wind over the plains. Nothing weakens strength so much as love: bulls fight for a heifer, and the loser trains in exile and returns to the fight. All creatures rush into love's frenzy, a youth swims the stormy straits by night, and mares rage above all, dripping the hippomanes.

Sin ad bella magis studium turmasque ferocis,
But-if for wars rather your-zeal and-squadrons fierce,
aut Alphea rotis praelabi flumina Pisae
or Alphean on-wheels to-glide-past the-streams of-Pisa
et Iovis in luco currus agitare volantis,
and of-Jupiter in the-grove chariots to-drive flying,
primus equi labor est, animos atque arma videre
the-first of-the-horse task is, the-spirit and arms to-see

bellantum lituosque pati tractuque gementem
of-warriors and-trumpets to-endure and-in-dragging groaning
ferre rotam et stabulo frenos audire sonantis;
to-bear the-wheel and in-the-stall bridles to-hear jingling;
tum magis atque magis blandis gaudere magistri
then more and more in-the-coaxing to-rejoice of-his-trainer
laudibus et plausae sonitum cervicis amare.
praises and of-his-patted the-sound neck to-love.
Atque haec iam primo depulsus ab ubere matris
And these-things already first weaned from the-udder of-his-mother
audeat, inque vicem det mollibus ora capistris
let-him-dare, and-in turn give to-soft his-mouth halters
invalidus etiamque tremens, etiam inscius aevi.
weak and-still trembling, still ignorant of-life.
At tribus exactis ubi quarta accesserit aestas,
But with-three completed when the-fourth shall-have-come summer,
carpere mox gyrum incipiat gradibusque sonare
to-take soon the-ring let-him-begin and-with-steps to-ring
compositis, sinuetque alterna volumina crurum,
measured, and-let-him-bend alternate the-curves of-his-legs,
sitque laboranti similis; tum cursibus auras
and-let-him-be to-one-laboring like; then in-races the-breezes
tum vocet, ac per aperta volans ceu liber habenis
then let-him-challenge, and over open flying as-if free from-reins
aequora vix summa vestigia ponat arena;
plains scarcely on-the-top his-footprints let-him-set sand;
qualis Hyperboreis Aquilo cum densus ab oris
such-as Hyperborean the-north-wind when dense from coasts
incubuit, Scythiaeque hiemes atque arida differt
has-swooped, and-of-Scythia the-storms and dry scatters

nubila: tum segetes altae campique natantes
clouds: then the-crops tall and-the-plains swimming
lenibus horrescunt flabris, summaeque sonorem
with-gentle bristle gusts, and-the-topmost a-sound
dant silvae, longique urgent ad litora fluctus;
give the-woods, and-long press to the-shores the-waves;
ille volat simul arva fuga simul aequora verrens.
he flies at-once the-fields in-his-flight at-once the-seas sweeping.
Hinc vel ad Elei metas et maxima campi
Hence either at of-Elis the-goals and the-greatest of-the-field
sudabit spatia et spumas aget ore cruentas,
he-will-sweat laps and foam will-drive from-his-mouth bloody,
Belgica vel molli melius feret esseda collo.
Belgian or with-supple better will-draw chariots neck.
Tum demum crassa magnum farragine corpus
Then at-last with-thick a-great mash body
crescere iam domitis sinito: namque ante domandum
to-grow now tamed allow: for before taming
ingentis tollent animos, prensique negabunt
huge they-will-raise spirits, and-caught will-refuse
verbera lenta pati et duris parere lupatis.
the-lashes pliant to-endure and to-hard to-obey curb-bits.
Sed non ulla magis viris industria firmat,
But not any more the-strength diligence strengthens,
quam Venerem et caeci stimulos avertere amoris,
than Love and of-blind the-goads to-avert passion,
sive bovum sive est cui gratior usus equorum.
whether of-oxen or-whether there-is to-whom more-welcome the-use of-horses.
Atque ideo tauros procul atque in sola relegant
And therefore the-bulls far-off and into lonely they-banish

pascua post montem oppositum et trans flumina lata,
pastures behind a-mountain opposite and across rivers broad,
aut intus clausos satura ad praesaepia servant.
or within shut-up full at stalls keep.
Carpit enim viris paulatim uritque videndo
Wears-away indeed his-strength little-by-little and-burns by-the-sight
femina, nec nemorum patitur meminisse nec herbae
the-female, nor of-the-groves suffers to-remember nor of-the-grass
dulcibus illa quidem inlecebris, et saepe superbos
by-sweet she indeed allurements, and often proud
cornibus inter se subigit decernere amantis.
with-horns among themselves compels to-decide lovers.
Pascitur in magna Sila formosa iuvenca:
Grazes in great Sila a-beautiful heifer:
illi alternantes multa vi proelia miscent
they in-turn with-much force battles join
vulneribus crebris, lavit ater corpora sanguis,
with-wounds frequent, washes black their-bodies blood,
versaque in obnixos urgentur cornua vasto
and-turned against the-straining are-pressed the-horns vast
cum gemitu, reboant silvaeque et longus Olympus.
with groaning, re-echo both-the-woods and long Olympus.
Nec mos bellantis una stabulare, sed alter
Nor the-custom for-the-warriors together to-stall, but one
victus abit, longeque ignotis exsulat oris,
beaten departs, and-far on-unknown is-exiled shores,
multa gemens ignominiam plagasque superbi
much groaning-over the-disgrace and-the-blows of-the-proud
victoris, tum quos amisit inultus amores,
victor, then which he-has-lost unavenged loves,

et stabula aspectans regnis excessit avitis.
and the-stalls looking-back-at from-his-realms has-departed ancestral.
Ergo omni cura viris exercet, et inter
So with-all care his-strength he-exercises, and among
dura iacet pernix instrato saxa cubili
hard lies untiring on-unstrewn rocks bed
frondibus hirsutis et carice pastus acuta,
on-leaves shaggy and on-sedge fed sharp,
et temptat sese, atque irasci in cornua discit
and tries himself, and to-be-angry into his-horns learns
arboris obnixus trunco, ventosque lacessit
of-a-tree butting-against the-trunk, and-the-winds provokes
ictibus, et sparsa ad pugnam proludit arena.
with-blows, and with-scattered for the-fight preludes sand.
Post ubi conlectum robur viresque refectae,
After when gathered his-vigor and-strength restored,
signa movet, praecepsque oblitum fertur in hostem:
the-standards he-moves, and-headlong forgetful is-borne upon foe:
fluctus uti, medio coepit cum albescere ponto,
a-wave as, in-the-middle it-has-begun when to-whiten sea,
longius ex altoque sinum trahit, utque volutus
farther out-of and-the-deep its-curve draws, and-as rolled
ad terras immane sonat per saxa neque ipso
to the-land hugely roars among the-rocks nor than-the-very
monte minor procumbit, at ima exaestuat unda
mountain smaller falls, but the-lowest seethes water
vorticibus nigramque alte subiectat arenam.
with-whirlpools and-black aloft throws-up sand.
Omne adeo genus in terris hominumque ferarumque,
Every indeed race on the-earth both-of-men and-of-beasts,

et genus aequoreum, pecudes pictaeque volucres,
and the-race of-the-sea, cattle and-painted birds,
in furias ignemque ruunt: amor omnibus idem.
into the-frenzy and-fire rush: love for-all the-same.
Tempore non alio catulorum oblita leaena
At-time not other her-cubs forgetting the-lioness
saevior erravit campis, nec funera vulgo
more-savage has-roamed over-the-plains, nor deaths commonly
tam multa informes ursi stragemque dedere
so many shapeless bears and-slaughter have-dealt
per silvas; tum saevus aper, tum pessima tigris:
through the-woods; then savage the-boar, then worst the-tigress:
heu male tum Libyae solis erratur in agris.
alas badly then of-Libya lonely there-is-wandering in fields.
Nonne vides, ut tota tremor pertemptet equorum
Do-you-not see, how wholly a-tremor runs-through of-horses
corpora, si tantum notas odor attulit auras?
the-bodies, if only familiar the-scent has-brought breezes?
Ac neque eos iam frena virum neque verbera saeva,
And neither them now the-bridles of-men nor lashes cruel,
non scopuli rupesque cavae atque obiecta retardant
not cliffs and-rocks hollow and opposed hold-back
flumina correptosque unda torquentia montis.
rivers and-swept-away by-the-wave whirling mountains.
Ipse ruit dentesque Sabellicus exacuit sus,
Himself rushes and-his-tusks the-Sabellian whets boar,
et pede prosubigit terram, fricat arbore costas,
and with-foot digs-up the-earth, rubs on-a-tree his-ribs,
atque hinc atque illinc umeros ad volnera durat.
and on-this-side and on-that his-shoulders against wounds hardens.

Quid iuvenis, magnum cui versat in ossibus ignem
What of-the-youth, great in-whom stirs in his-bones fire
durus amor? Nempe abruptis turbata procellis
hard love? Surely by-sudden troubled storms
nocte natat caeca serus freta; quem super ingens
in-the-night swims dark late the-straits; whom above huge
porta tonat caeli, et scopulis inlisa reclamant
the-gate thunders of-heaven, and on-the-rocks dashed cry-out
aequora; nec miseri possunt revocare parentes
the-seas; nor wretched can to-recall parents
nec moritura super crudeli funere virgo.
nor going-to-die above-(him) by-cruel death the-maiden.
Quid lynces Bacchi variae et genus acre luporum
What of-lynxes of-Bacchus spotted and the-race fierce of-wolves
atque canum? Quid quae imbelles dant proelia cervi?
and of-dogs? What which unwarlike give battles stags?
Scilicet ante omnis furor est insignis equarum;
Of-course before all the-frenzy is remarkable of-mares;
et mentem Venus ipsa dedit, quo tempore Glauci
and their-mind Venus herself gave, at-what time of-Glaucus
Potniades malis membra absumpsere quadrigae.
the-Potnian with-their-jaws his-limbs devoured four-horse-team.
Illas ducit amor trans Gargara transque sonantem
Them leads love across Gargarus and-across the-resounding
Ascanium; superant montis et flumina tranant.
Ascanius; they-cross mountains and rivers swim.
Continuoque avidis ubi subdita flamma medullis,
And-straightway into-the-greedy when put-under the-flame marrow,
vere magis, quia vere calor redit ossibus: illae
in-spring more, because in-spring the-heat returns to-the-bones: they

ore omnes versae in Zephyrum stant rupibus altis
with-mouth all turned toward the-Zephyr stand on-rocks high
exceptantque levis auras, et saepe sine ullis
and-catch light breezes, and often without any
coniugiis vento gravidae, mirabile dictu,
matings by-the-wind made-pregnant, wonderful to-tell,
saxa per et scopulos et depressas convallis
rocks over and crags and low valleys
diffugiunt, non, Eure, tuos, neque solis ad ortus,
scatter, not, Eurus, your, nor of-the-sun toward the-risings,
in Borean Caurumque, aut unde nigerrimus Auster
toward Boreas and-Caurus, or whence blackest the-south-wind
nascitur et pluvio contristat frigore caelum.
is-born and with-rainy saddens cold the-sky.
Hic demum, hippomanes vero quod nomine dicunt
Here at-last, hippomanes by-a-true which name call
pastores, lentum destillat ab inguine virus,
shepherds, a-sticky drips from the-groin a-slime,
hippomanes, quod saepe malae legere novercae
hippomanes, which often wicked have-gathered stepmothers
miscueruntque herbas et non innoxia verba.
and-have-mixed herbs and not harmless words.

Invoking Pales, the poet turns to sheep and goats: in winter they need straw, leafy fodder, water, and sunny stalls, and repay the care with wool, milk, and hair; in summer they graze at dawn and dusk and seek shade at noon. He sets beside them the African herdsman, who drives his flocks across the desert with all he owns, and the frozen north of Scythia, where the herds stay stalled, the people live underground, and they butcher stags stuck in the snow.

Sed fugit interea, fugit inreparabile tempus,
But flies meanwhile, flies irretrievable time,
singula dum capti circumvectamur amore.
single-things while captivated we-ride-around by-love.
Hoc satis armentis: superat pars altera curae,
This enough for-the-herds: remains the-part other of-our-care,
lanigeros agitare greges hirtasque capellas.
wool-bearing to-drive flocks and-shaggy she-goats.
Hic labor, hinc laudem fortes sperate coloni.
Here is-labor, hence praise strong hope-for farmers.
Nec sum animi dubius, verbis ea vincere magnum
Nor am-I in-mind doubtful, with-words these-things to-master great
quam sit et angustis hunc addere rebus honorem;
how it-is and to-narrow this to-add themes honor;
sed me Parnasi deserta per ardua dulcis
but me of-Parnassus lonely over heights sweet
raptat amor; iuvat ire iugis, qua nulla priorum
sweeps love; it-pleases to-go on-ridges, where no of-earlier-men
Castaliam molli devertitur orbita clivo.
to-Castalia with-gentle turns-aside track slope.
Nunc, veneranda Pales, magno nunc ore sonandum.
Now, revered Pales, with-great now voice must-be-sounded.

Incipiens stabulis edico in mollibus herbam
Beginning the-folds I-ordain in soft the-fodder
carpere ovis, dum mox frondosa reducitur aestas,
to-crop the-sheep, until soon leafy is-brought-back summer,
et multa duram stipula filicumque maniplis
and with-much the-hard straw and-of-ferns with-bundles
sternere subter humum, glacies ne frigida laedat
to-strew beneath ground, ice lest cold should-harm
molle pecus, scabiemque ferat turpisque podagras.
the-tender flock, and-scab should-bring and-foul gout.
Post hinc digressus iubeo frondentia capris
Next hence passing-on I-bid leafy for-the-she-goats
arbuta sufficere et fluvios praebere recentis,
arbutus to-supply and streams to-offer fresh,
et stabula a ventis hiberno opponere soli
and the-stalls from the-winds to-the-winter to-face sun
ad medium conversa diem, cum frigidus olim
toward the-middle turned day, when cold now-at-last
iam cadit extremoque inrorat Aquarius anno.
already sets and-at-the-end bedews Aquarius year.
Haec quoque non cura nobis leviore tuendae,
These also not with-care by-us lighter to-be-tended,
nec minor usus erit, quamvis Milesia magno
nor less the-use will-be, although Milesian for-great
vellera mutentur Tyrios incocta rubores:
fleeces are-exchanged Tyrian steeped-in reds:
densior hinc suboles, hinc largi copia lactis;
thicker hence the-offspring, hence of-abundant the-plenty milk;
quam magis exhausto spumaverit ubere mulctra,
by-how-much more from-the-drained shall-have-foamed udder the-pail,

laeta magis pressis manabunt flumina mammis.
glad more from-pressed will-flow the-streams teats.
Nec minus interea barbas incanaque menta
Nor less meanwhile the-beards and-hoary chins
Cinyphii tondent hirci saetasque comantis
of-the-Cinyphian they-shear he-goat and-the-bristles flowing
usum in castrorum et miseris velamina nautis.
the-use for of-camps and for-wretched coverings sailors.
Pascuntur vero silvas et summa Lycaei
They-feed indeed on-the-woods and the-heights of-Lycaeus
horrentisque rubos et amantis ardua dumos;
and-bristling brambles and loving heights thickets;
atque ipsae memores redeunt in tecta, suosque
and themselves mindful return to their-roofs, and-their-own
ducunt, et gravido superant vix ubere limen.
lead, and with-heavy pass scarcely udder the-threshold.
Ergo omni studio glaciem ventosque nivalis,
So with-all zeal ice and-winds snowy,
quo minor est illis curae mortalis egestas,
by-as-much-as lesser is to-them for-care of-mortals need,
avertes, victumque feres et virgea laetus
you-will-ward-off, and-food will-bring and of-twigs glad
pabula, nec tota claudes faenilia bruma.
fodder, nor in-all will-shut the-hay-lofts winter.
At vero Zephyris cum laeta vocantibus aestas,
But indeed with-the-Zephyrs when glad calling summer,
in saltus utrumque gregem atque in pascua mittes.
into the-glades each flock and into pastures you-will-send.
Luciferi primo cum sidere frigida rura
Of-Lucifer at-the-first when star the-cool countryside

carpamus, dum mane novum, dum gramina canent,
let-us-crop, while the-morning new, while the-grasses are-white,
et ros in tenera pecori gratissimus herba.
and the-dew on tender to-the-flock most-welcome grass.
Inde ubi quarta sitim caeli collegerit hora
Then when the-fourth thirst of-the-sky shall-have-gathered hour
et cantu querulae rumpent arbusta cicadae,
and with-song plaintive shall-burst the-orchards cicadas,
ad puteos aut alta greges ad stagna iubebo
to wells or deep the-flocks to pools I-will-bid
currentem ilignis potare canalibus undam;
running from-holm-oak to-drink troughs water;
aestibus et mediis umbrosam exquirere vallem,
in-heats and middle a-shady to-seek-out valley,
sicubi magna Iovis antiquo robore quercus
if-anywhere great of-Jupiter with-ancient trunk an-oak
ingentis tendat ramos, aut sicubi nigrum
huge may-stretch boughs, or if-anywhere dark
ilicibus crebris sacra nemus accubet umbra;
with-holm-oaks thick with-sacred a-grove may-lie shade;
tum tenuis dare rursus aquas, et pascere rursus
then thin to-give again waters, and to-graze again
solis ad occasum, cum frigidus aera vesper
of-the-sun toward the-setting, when cool the-air evening
temperat, et saltus reficit iam roscida luna,
tempers, and the-glades refreshes now dewy the-moon,
litoraque alcyonem resonant, acalanthida dumi.
and-the-shores the-halcyon resound, the-goldfinch the-thickets.
Quid tibi pastores Libyae, quid pascua versu
Why to-you the-shepherds of-Libya, why the-pastures in-verse

prosequar et raris habitata mapalia tectis?
should-I-pursue and with-scattered dwelt-in huts roofs?
Saepe diem noctemque et totum ex ordine mensem
Often day and-night and whole in order a-month
pascitur itque pecus longa in deserta sine ullis
grazes and-goes the-flock long into wastes without any
hospitiis: tantum campi iacet. Omnia secum
lodgings: so-much of-plain lies. All-things with-him
armentarius Afer agit, tectumque laremque
the-herdsman African drives, and-his-roof and-his-hearth
armaque Amyclaeumque canem Cressamque pharetram;
and-his-arms and-his-Amyclaean dog and-his-Cretan quiver;
non secus ac patriis acer Romanus in armis
not otherwise than ancestral keen the-Roman in arms
iniusto sub fasce viam cum carpit, et hosti
unjust under a-load the-road when he-takes, and for-the-foe
ante exspectatum positis stat in agmine castris.
before expected with-pitched stands in column camp.
At non qua Scythiae gentes Maeotiaque unda,
But not where of-Scythia the-tribes and-Maeotic the-wave,
turbidus et torquens flaventis Hister arenas,
turbid and whirling yellow the-Danube sands,
quaque redit medium Rhodope porrecta sub axem.
and-where returns middle Rhodope stretched under the-pole.
Illic clausa tenent stabulis armenta, neque ullae
There shut-up they-keep in-stalls the-herds, nor any
aut herbae campo apparent aut arbore frondes;
either grasses on-the-plain appear or on-tree leaves;
sed iacet aggeribus niveis informis et alto
but lies with-banks snowy shapeless and with-deep

terra gelu late, septemque adsurgit in ulnas.
the-land ice widely, and-seven rises to ells.
Semper hiemps, semper spirantes frigora Cauri.
Always winter, always breathing colds the-northwest-winds.
Tum sol pallentis haud umquam discutit umbras,
Then the-sun the-pallid not ever scatters shades,
nec cum invectus equis altum petit aethera, nec cum
neither when borne by-horses the-high he-seeks heaven, nor when
praecipitem Oceani rubro lavit aequore currum.
headlong in-Ocean's ruddy he-washes sea his-car.
Concrescunt subitae currenti in flumine crustae,
Congeal sudden running in river crusts,
undaque iam tergo ferratos sustinet orbis,
and-the-wave now on-its-back iron-shod sustains wheels,
puppibus illa prius, patulis nunc hospita plaustris;
for-ships it before, for-broad now hospitable wagons;
aeraque dissiliunt vulgo, vestesque rigescunt
and-bronze-vessels burst-apart commonly, and-garments stiffen
indutae, caeduntque securibus umida vina,
worn, and-they-cut with-axes the-liquid wines,
et totae solidam in glaciem vertere lacunae,
and whole solid into ice have-turned the-pools,
stiriaque impexis induruit horrida barbis.
and-the-icicle in-uncombed has-hardened rough beards.
Interea toto non setius aere ninguit:
Meanwhile in-the-whole not less air it-snows:
intereunt pecudes, stant circumfusa pruinis
perish the-cattle, stand engulfed in-frosts
corpora magna boum, confertoque agmine cervi
the-bodies great of-oxen, and-in-a-crowded herd the-stags

torpent mole nova et summis vix cornibus extant.
are-numbed by-the-mass new and with-the-tips scarcely horns stand-out.

Hos non immissis canibus, non cassibus ullis
These not by-let-loose dogs, not by-nets any

puniceaeve agitant pavidos formidine pennae,
or-of-crimson they-drive the-frightened by-the-scare feather,

sed frustra oppositum trudentis pectore montem
but in-vain the-opposed thrusting with-their-breast mountain

comminus obtruncant ferro, graviterque rudentis
hand-to-hand they-butcher with-iron, and-heavily bellowing

caedunt, et magno laeti clamore reportant.
they-slay, and with-great glad shouting carry-home.

Ipsi in defossis specubus secura sub alta
Themselves in dug-out caves carefree under deep

otia agunt terra, congestaque robora totasque
leisure they-pass the-earth, and-piled-up logs and-whole

advolvere focis ulmos ignique dedere.
have-rolled to-their-hearths elms and-to-the-fire have-given.

Hic noctem ludo ducunt, et pocula laeti
Here the-night in-play they-spend, and drafts glad

fermento atque acidis imitantur vitea sorbis.
with-ferment and with-sour imitate vine service-berries.

Talis Hyperboreo Septem subiecta trioni
Such under-the-Hyperborean the-Seven placed plow-ox

gens effrena virum Riphaeo tunditur Euro,
race unbridled of-men by-Riphaean is-beaten Eurus,

et pecudum fulvis velatur corpora saetis.
and of-cattle with-tawny is-clothed in-bodies pelts.

For wool, brushwood and burrs are kept away, rich pastures shunned, and white rams chosen, as Pan won the Moon with a white fleece. Milk is made into cheese; dogs guard against thieves and wolves; cedar smoke drives out snakes, and the Calabrian serpent haunts the marshes. Diseases are treated: scab by washing and salves, fever by bleeding, and a sick sheep is killed before the contagion spreads, for plagues have emptied whole Alpine pastures.

Si tibi lanitium curae, primum aspera silva
If to-you wool-growing is-a-care, first rough brushwood
lappaeque tribolique absint; fuge pabula laeta.
and-burrs and-caltrops let-be-absent; shun pastures rich.
Continuoque greges villis lege mollibus albos.
And-straightway flocks with-fleeces choose soft white.
Illum autem, quamvis aries sit candidus ipse,
That-one however, although the-ram be white himself,
nigra subest udo tantum cui lingua palato,
black lies-beneath moist only whose tongue palate,
reice, ne maculis infuscet vellera pullis
reject, lest with-spots be-darken the-fleeces dusky
nascentum, plenoque alium circumspice campo.
of-the-born, and-in-the-full another look-around-for field.
Munere sic niveo lanae, si credere dignum est,
By-the-gift so snowy of-wool, if to-believe worthy it-is,
Pan deus Arcadiae captam te, Luna, fefellit
Pan the-god of-Arcadia captured you, Moon, beguiled
in nemora alta vocans; nec tu aspernata vocantem.
into groves deep calling; nor you scorning him-calling.
At cui lactis amor, cytisum lotosque frequentis
But who of-milk has-love, clover and-lotus abundant

ipse manu salsasque ferat praesepibus herbas.
himself by-hand and-salted let-him-bring to-the-stalls herbs.
Hinc et amant fluvios magis et magis ubera tendunt,
Hence both they-love the-streams more and more their-udders swell,
et salis occultum referunt in lacte saporem.
and of-salt the-hidden bring-back in the-milk taste.
Multi iam excretos prohibent a matribus haedos,
Many already weaned keep-away from the-mothers kids,
primaque ferratis praefigunt ora capistris.
and-the-front-of with-iron-tipped they-fix their-mouths muzzles.
Quod surgente die mulsere horisque diurnis,
What at-rising day they-have-milked and-in-the-hours of-daytime,
nocte premunt; quod iam tenebris et sole cadente,
at-night they-press; what now at-dark and at-the-sun setting,
sub lucem exportant calathis adit oppida pastor;
at dawn they-carry-off in-baskets goes-to the-towns the-shepherd;
aut parco sale contingunt hiemique reponunt.
or with-sparing salt they-touch and-for-winter store.
Nec tibi cura canum fuerit postrema, sed una
Nor for-you the-care of-dogs let-be last, but together
velocis Spartae catulos acremque Molossum
of-swift Sparta the-whelps and-fierce Molossian
pasce sero pingui. Numquam custodibus illis
feed with-whey rich. Never with-guards those
nocturnum stabulis furem incursusque luporum
the-nightly at-the-folds thief and-the-onsets of-wolves
aut impacatos a tergo horrebis Hiberos.
or the-unpeaceful from behind you-will-dread Iberians.
Saepe etiam cursu timidos agitabis onagros,
Often also in-the-chase the-timid you-will-drive wild-asses,

et canibus leporem, canibus venabere dammas;
and with-hounds the-hare, with-hounds you-will-hunt does;
saepe volutabris pulsos silvestribus apros
often from-their-wallows driven woodland boars
latratu turbabis agens, montisque per altos
with-barking you-will-rout pursuing, and-the-mountains over high
ingentem clamore premes ad retia cervum.
a-huge with-shouting you-will-press to the-nets stag.
Disce et odoratam stabulis accendere cedrum,
Learn also fragrant in-the-stalls to-burn cedar,
galbaneoque agitare gravis nidore chelydros.
and-with-galbanum's to-drive-out noxious smell water-snakes.
Saepe sub immotis praesepibus aut mala tactu
Often under undisturbed mangers either evil to-the-touch
vipera delituit caelumque exterrita fugit,
the-viper has-lurked and-the-sky terrified has-fled,
aut tecto adsuetus coluber succedere et umbrae,
or to-shelter accustomed the-snake to-steal and to-shade,
pestis acerba boum, pecorique aspergere virus,
a-plague bitter of-oxen, and-on-the-flock to-sprinkle venom,
fovit humum. Cape saxa manu, cape robora, pastor,
has-hugged the-ground. Take stones in-hand, take cudgels, shepherd,
tollentemque minas et sibila colla tumentem
and-raising threats and his-hissing neck swelling
deice. Iamque fuga timidum caput abdidit alte,
strike-down. And-now in-flight his-timid head he-has-hidden deep,
cum medii nexus extremaeque agmina caudae
when the-middle coils and-of-the-end trailings tail
solvuntur, tardosque trahit sinus ultimus orbis.
are-loosed, and-slow drags folds the-last coil.

Est etiam ille malus Calabris in saltibus anguis,
There-is also that evil Calabrian in glades snake,
squamea convolvens sublato pectore terga
scaly rolling-up with-raised breast its-back
atque notis longam maculosus grandibus alvum,
and with-spots its-long spotted great belly,
qui, dum amnes ulli rumpuntur fontibus et dum
who, while the-streams any burst-forth from-their-springs and while
vere madent udo terrae ac pluvialibus austris,
in-spring are-wet with-moist the-lands and with-rainy south-winds,
stagna colit, ripisque habitans hic piscibus atram
the-pools haunts, and-on-the-banks dwelling here with-fish his-black
improbus ingluviem ranisque loquacibus explet;
ruthless maw and-with-frogs croaking fills;
postquam exusta palus, terraeque ardore dehiscunt,
after burned-up the-marsh, and-the-lands with-heat gape,
exsilit in siccum, et flammantia lumina torquens
he-leaps-out onto the-dry, and flaming eyes rolling
saevit agris asperque siti atque exterritus aestu.
rages in-the-fields and-fierce from-thirst and terrified by-the-heat.
Ne mihi tum mollis sub divo carpere somnos
Let-not to-me then soft under the-open-sky to-snatch sleep
neu dorso nemoris libeat iacuisse per herbas,
nor on-the-ridge of-a-wood please to-have-lain over the-grass,
cum positis novus exuviis nitidusque iuventa
when with-laid-aside new slough and-shining with-youth
volvitur aut catulos tectis aut ova relinquens
he-rolls either his-young in-the-dens or eggs leaving
arduus ad solem, et linguis micat ore trisulcis.
erect toward the-sun, and with-tongue flickers from-mouth three-forked.

Morborum quoque te causas et signa docebo.
Of-diseases also you the-causes and signs I-will-teach.
Turpis ovis temptat scabies, ubi frigidus imber
Foul the-sheep attacks the-scab, when cold rain
altius ad vivum persedit et horrida cano
deeper to the-quick has-settled and rough with-white
bruma gelu, vel cum tonsis inlautus adhaesit
winter frost, or when on-the-shorn unwashed has-clung
sudor, et hirsuti secuerunt corpora vepres.
sweat, and shaggy have-cut their-bodies brambles.
Dulcibus idcirco fluviis pecus omne magistri
In-sweet therefore streams the-flock whole the-masters
perfundunt, udisque aries in gurgite villis
bathe, and-with-wet the-ram in the-pool fleece
mersatur, missusque secundo defluit amni;
is-plunged, and-let-go with-favoring floats-down stream;
aut tonsum tristi contingunt corpus amurca,
or the-shorn with-bitter they-anoint body lees-of-oil,
et spumas miscent argenti et sulphura viva
and the-dross mix of-silver and sulfur live
Idaeasque pices et pinguis unguine ceras
and-Idaean pitch and rich with-oil wax
scillamque elleborosque gravis nigrumque bitumen.
and-squill and-hellebore strong and-black bitumen.
Non tamen ulla magis praesens fortuna laborum est,
Not however any more ready fortune of-their-toils is,
quam siquis ferro potuit rescindere summum
than if-anyone with-steel has-been-able to-cut-open the-top
ulceris os: alitur vitium vivitque tegendo,
of-the-ulcer mouth: is-nourished the-vice and-lives by-covering,

dum medicas adhibere manus ad vulnera pastor
while healing to-apply hands to the-wounds the-shepherd
abnegat, et meliora deos sedet omnia poscens.
refuses, and better-things from-the-gods sits all asking.
Quin etiam, ima dolor balantum lapsus ad ossa
Nay even, the-lowest the-pain of-the-bleating-ones having-slid to bones
cum furit atque artus depascitur arida febris,
when rages and the-limbs feeds-on parching fever,
profuit incensos aestus avertere et inter
it-has-profited the-kindled heat to-turn-aside and between
ima ferire pedis salientem sanguine venam,
the-lowest to-strike of-the-foot leaping with-blood the-vein,
Bisaltae quo more solent acerque Gelonus,
the-Bisaltae in-which manner are-wont and-the-fierce Gelonian,
cum fugit in Rhodopen atque in deserta Getarum,
when he-flees to Rhodope and into the-deserts of-the-Getae,
et lac concretum cum sanguine potat equino.
and milk curdled with blood drinks horse's.
Quam procul aut molli succedere saepius umbrae
Whom far-off either to-the-soft to-withdraw too-often shade
videris aut summas carpentem ignavius herbas,
you-shall-see or the-tops cropping too-lazily of-grass,
extremamque sequi aut medio procumbere campo
and-last to-follow or in-the-middle to-lie-down field
pascentem et serae solam decedere nocti,
grazing and to-the-late alone to-yield night,
continuo culpam ferro compesce prius quam
at-once the-fault with-the-knife check sooner than
dira per incautum serpant contagia vulgus.
dire through the-unwary should-creep contagions herd.

Non tam creber agens hiemem ruit aequore turbo,
Not so frequent driving winter rushes on-the-sea the-whirlwind,
quam multae pecudum pestes. Nec singula morbi
as many of-cattle plagues. Nor single diseases
corpora corripiunt, sed tota aestiva repente,
bodies seize, but whole summer-pastures suddenly,
spemque gregemque simul cunctamque ab origine gentem.
and-the-hope and-the-flock together and-the-whole from the-root race.
Tum sciat, aerias Alpis et Norica siquis
Then let-him-know, airy the-Alps and Noric if-anyone
castella in tumulis et Iapydis arva Timavi
forts on hills and of-Iapydian the-fields Timavus
nunc quoque post tanto videat desertaque regna
now also after so-long may-see and-deserted the-realms
pastorum et longe saltus lateque vacantis.
of-the-shepherds and far the-glades and-wide lying-empty.

III.6 · THE PLAGUE OF NORICUM

A plague once struck the herds of Noricum. Victims fell at the altar, calves died in the grass, horses and oxen wasted away; wine poured into their mouths only brought madness. The sad plowman unyokes the bullock mourning its brother; Juno's rites lacked cattle; wolves and stags forgot their nature, fish and birds died, and Tisiphone raged until the corpses had to be buried, since their fleeces and hides spread the disease.

Hic quondam morbo caeli miseranda coorta est
Here once from-disease of-the-air pitiable arisen has
tempestas totoque autumni incanduit aestu,
a-season and-in-the-whole of-autumn glowed heat,

et genus omne neci pecudum dedit, omne ferarum,
and the-race whole to-death of-cattle gave, all of-beasts,
corrupitque lacus, infecit pabula tabo.
and-corrupted the-pools, tainted the-pastures with-poison.
Nec via mortis erat simplex, sed ubi ignea venis
Nor the-way of-death was single, but when fiery into-the-veins
omnibus acta sitis miseros adduxerat artus,
all driven thirst the-wretched had-shriveled limbs,
rursus abundabat fluidus liquor omniaque in se
again overflowed a-fluid liquid and-all into itself
ossa minutatim morbo conlapsa trahebat.
the-bones bit-by-bit by-disease collapsed drew.
Saepe in honore deum medio stans hostia ad aram,
Often in the-worship of-the-gods middle standing the-victim at the-altar,
lanea dum nivea circumdatur infula vitta,
the-woolen while with-snowy is-wound fillet band,
inter cunctantis cecidit moribunda ministros.
among the-lingering fell dying attendants.
Aut siquam ferro mactaverat ante sacerdos,
Or if-any with-steel had-slain before the-priest,
inde neque impositis ardent altaria fibris,
thence neither with-the-laid-on burn the-altars entrails,
nec responsa potest consultus reddere vates,
nor responses can consulted to-render the-seer,
ac vix suppositi tinguntur sanguine cultri
and scarcely set-beneath are-stained with-blood the-knives
summaque ieiuna sanie infuscatur arena.
and-the-surface with-meager gore is-darkened sand.
Hinc laetis vituli volgo moriuntur in herbis,
Hence glad the-calves commonly die in grasses,

et dulcis animas plena ad praesepia reddunt;
and sweet their-lives full at mangers render;
hinc canibus blandis rabies venit, et quatit aegros
hence to-dogs fawning madness comes, and shakes the-sick
tussis anhela sues ac faucibus angit obesis.
a-cough panting swine and in-their-throats chokes swollen.
Labitur infelix studiorum atque immemor herbae
Sinks the-unhappy of-his-pursuits and forgetful of-the-grass
victor equus fontisque avertitur et pede terram
the-victor horse and-from-the-springs is-turned-away and with-hoof the-earth
crebra ferit; demissae aures, incertus ibidem
often strikes; drooping the-ears, fitful there
sudor et ille quidem morituris frigidus, aret
the-sweat and that indeed for-those-going-to-die cold, is-dry
pellis et ad tactum tractanti dura resistit.
the-skin and to the-touch to-the-handler hard resists.
Haec ante exitium primis dant signa diebus;
These before death in-the-first give signs days;
sin in processu coepit crudescere morbus,
but-if in progress has-begun to-grow-fierce the-disease,
tum vero ardentes oculi atque attractus ab alto
then indeed burning the-eyes and drawn from deep
spiritus, interdum gemitu gravis, imaque longo
the-breath, sometimes with-groan heavy, and-the-lowest with-long
ilia singultu tendunt, it naribus ater
flanks sobbing they-strain, goes from-the-nostrils black
sanguis, et obsessas fauces premit aspera lingua.
blood, and the-blocked throat presses rough the-tongue.
Profuit inserto latices infundere cornu
It-has-profited with-inserted liquor to-pour horn

Lenaeos; ea visa salus morientibus una;
Lenaean; that seemed salvation for-the-dying the-only;
mox erat hoc ipsum exitio, furiisque refecti
soon was this itself to-destruction, and-with-frenzy revived
ardebant, ipsique suos iam morte sub aegra,
they-were-burning, and-themselves their-own now death under sickly,
di meliora piis erroremque hostibus illum,
gods better-things to-the-pious and-madness to-(our)-foes that,
discissos nudis laniabant dentibus artus.
torn with-bare were-mangling teeth limbs.
Ecce autem duro fumans sub vomere taurus
Behold however the-hard smoking under share the-bull
concidit et mixtum spumis vomit ore cruorem
falls and mixed with-foam vomits from-his-mouth gore
extremosque ciet gemitus. It tristis arator
and-his-last utters groans. Goes sad the-plowman
maerentem abiungens fraterna morte iuvencum,
the-mourning unyoking for-his-brother's death bullock,
atque opere in medio defixa relinquit aratra.
and the-work in the-middle fixed leaves the-plow.
Non umbrae altorum nemorum, non mollia possunt
Not the-shades of-deep groves, not soft can
prata movere animum, non qui per saxa volutus
meadows to-move his-spirit, not which over rocks rolled
purior electro campum petit amnis; at ima
purer than-amber the-plain seeks the-stream; but the-lowest
solvuntur latera, atque oculos stupor urget inertis,
are-loosened flanks, and (his)-eyes stupor weighs heavy,
ad terramque fluit devexo pondere cervix.
to and-the-earth sinks with-drooping weight the-neck.

Quid labor aut benefacta iuvant? Quid vomere terras
What toil or good-services avail? What with-the-share the-lands
invertisse gravis? Atqui non Massica Bacchi
to-have-turned heavy? And-yet not the-Massic of-Bacchus
munera, non illis epulae nocuere repostae:
gifts, not to-them feasts have-harmed repeated:
frondibus et victu pascuntur simplicis herbae,
on-leaves and on-the-food they-feed of-simple grass,
pocula sunt fontes liquidi atque exercita cursu
cups are springs clear and exercised with-running
flumina, nec somnos abrumpit cura salubris.
rivers, nor their-sleep breaks care healthful.
Tempore non alio dicunt regionibus illis
At-time not other they-say in-regions those
quaesitas ad sacra boves Iunonis et uris
sought for the-rites cows of-Juno and by-buffaloes
imparibus ductos alta ad donaria currus.
uneven drawn high to offerings cars.
Ergo aegre rastris terram rimantur, et ipsis
So painfully with-hoes the-earth they-scratch, and with-their-very
unguibus infodiunt fruges, montisque per altos
nails they-dig-in the-grain, and-the-mountains over high
contenta cervice trahunt stridentia plaustra.
with-straining neck draw creaking wagons.
Non lupus insidias explorat ovilia circum
Not the-wolf ambush explores the-sheepfolds around
nec gregibus nocturnus obambulat; acrior illum
nor around-the-flocks by-night prowls; a-keener him
cura domat; timidi dammae cervique fugaces
care tames; timid does and-stags fleeing

nunc interque canes et circum tecta vagantur.
now and-among dogs and around houses wander.
Iam maris immensi prolem et genus omne natantum
Now of-the-sea boundless the-offspring and the-race all of-swimmers
litore in extremo ceu naufraga corpora fluctus
the-shore at the-farthest like shipwrecked bodies the-wave
proluit; insolitae fugiunt in flumina phocae.
washes-up; unwonted flee into the-rivers seals.
Interit et curvis frustra defensa latebris
Perishes also in-the-winding in-vain defended hiding-places
vipera et attoniti squamis adstantibus hydri.
the-viper and astonished with-scales bristling water-snakes.
Ipsis est aër avibus non aequus, et illae
To-the-very is the-air birds not kind, and they
praecipites alta vitam sub nube relinquunt.
headlong high their-life under the-cloud leave.
Praeterea nec mutari iam pabula refert,
Besides not to-be-changed now the-pastures avails,
artes nocent quaesitaeque; cessere magistri
the-arts harm and-sought-out; have-yielded the-masters
Phillyrides Chiron Amythaoniusque Melampus.
Phillyra's-son Chiron and-Amythaon's-son Melampus.
Saevit et in lucem Stygiis emissa tenebris
Rages and into the-light from-Stygian sent-forth darkness
pallida Tisiphone Morbos agit ante Metumque,
pale Tisiphone Diseases drives before-her and-Fear,
inque dies avidum surgens caput altius effert.
and-into days her-greedy rising head higher raises.
Balatu pecorum et crebris mugitibus amnes
With-the-bleating of-the-flocks and with-frequent lowings the-rivers

arentesque sonant ripae collesque supini.
and-the-dry resound banks and-the-hills sloping.
Iamque catervatim dat stragem atque aggerat ipsis
And-now in-crowds she-deals slaughter and heaps the-very
in stabulis turpi dilapsa cadavera tabo,
in stalls with-foul rotting carcasses gore,
donec humo tegere ac foveis abscondere discunt.
until in-the-ground to-cover and in-pits to-hide they-learn.
Nam neque erat coriis usus, nec viscera quisquam
For neither was of-the-hides the-use, nor the-flesh anyone
aut undis abolere potest aut vincere flamma;
either with-waters to-cleanse can or to-subdue with-flame;
ne tondere quidem morbo inluvieque peresa
not to-shear even with-disease and-filth eaten-through
vellera nec telas possunt attingere putris;
the-fleeces nor the-webs can-they to-touch rotting;
verum etiam invisos siquis temptaret amictus,
but even the-hateful if-anyone tried garments,
ardentes papulae atque immundus olentia sudor
burning blisters and foul the-reeking sweat
membra sequebatur, nec longo deinde moranti
limbs followed, nor long thereafter to-him-delaying
tempore contactos artus sacer ignis edebat.
time the-infected limbs the-accursed fire was-devouring.

IV.1 · THE BEES' HOME AND THEIR WARS

The poet turns to bees, a small theme of great glory. Their hive must be sheltered from wind, cattle, lizards, and birds, near water and flowering plants, with narrow entrances. In spring they swarm and can be settled with scented herbs and cymbals. When two kings quarrel the swarms meet in battle, which a handful of dust will end.

Protenus aerii mellis caelestia dona
Next of-airy honey the-heavenly gifts
exsequar: hanc etiam, Maecenas, adspice partem.
I-will-set-forth: this also, Maecenas, look-at part.
Admiranda tibi levium spectacula rerum
Wonderful to-you of-light shows things
magnanimosque duces totiusque ordine gentis
and-great-hearted leaders and-of-the-whole in-order nation
mores et studia et populos et proelia dicam.
the-customs and pursuits and peoples and battles I-will-tell.
In tenui labor; at tenuis non gloria, siquem
In slight the-labor; but slight not the-glory, if-anyone
numina laeva sinunt auditque vocatus Apollo.
divinities adverse allow and-hears invoked Apollo.
Principio sedes apibus statioque petenda,
In-the-beginning a-seat for-the-bees and-a-station must-be-sought,
quo neque sit ventis aditus, nam pabula venti
where neither may-be for-the-winds access, for the-food the-winds
ferre domum prohibent, neque oves haedique petulci
to-carry home forbid, nor sheep and-kids frisking
floribus insultent, aut errans bucula campo
on-the-flowers may-leap, or straying a-heifer on-the-plain

decutiat rorem, et surgentis adterat herbas.
may-shake-off the-dew, and the-rising may-trample grasses.
Absint et picti squalentia terga lacerti
Let-be-absent also painted their-scaly backs lizards
pinguibus a stabulis, meropesque aliaeque volucres
the-rich from stalls, and-bee-eaters and-other birds
et manibus Procne pectus signata cruentis;
and with-hands Procne her-breast marked bloody;
omnia nam late vastant ipsasque volantis
all for widely lay-waste and-the-very-bees flying
ore ferunt dulcem nidis immitibus escam.
in-their-mouths carry a-sweet to-their-nests cruel morsel.
At liquidi fontes et stagna virentia musco
But clear springs and pools green with-moss
adsint et tenuis fugiens per gramina rivus,
let-be-near and a-thin fleeing through the-grass brook,
palmaque vestibulum aut ingens oleaster inumbret,
and-a-palm the-entrance or huge a-wild-olive may-shade,
ut, cum prima novi ducent examina reges
so-that, when the-first the-new shall-lead swarms kings
vere suo, ludetque favis emissa iuventus,
in-spring their-own, and-shall-sport from-the-combs released the-youth,
vicina invitet decedere ripa calori,
the-neighboring may-invite to-withdraw bank from-the-heat,
obviaque hospitiis teneat frondentibus arbos.
and-in-their-way with-hospitality may-hold leafy tree.
In medium, seu stabit iners seu profluet umor,
Into the-middle, whether shall-stand still or-whether shall-flow-on the-water,
transversas salices et grandia conice saxa,
crosswise willows and great throw stones,

pontibus ut crebris possint consistere et alas
on-bridges that frequent they-may-be-able to-settle and their-wings
pandere ad aestivum solem, si forte morantis
to-spread to the-summer sun, if by-chance the-loiterers
sparserit aut praeceps Neptuno inmerserit Eurus.
shall-have-scattered or headlong in-Neptune shall-have-plunged Eurus.
Haec circum casiae virides et olentia late
These around cassias green and smelling widely
serpylla et graviter spirantis copia thymbrae
wild-thyme and heavily of-breathing an-abundance savory
floreat, inriguumque bibant violaria fontem.
let-flower, and-the-watering let-drink violet-beds spring.
Ipsa autem, seu corticibus tibi suta cavatis,
The-hives-themselves however, whether from-barks by-you sewn hollowed,
seu lento fuerint alvearia vimine texta,
or-whether of-pliant they-shall-have-been hives osier woven,
angustos habeant aditus: nam frigore mella
narrow let-them-have entrances: for by-the-cold the-honey
cogit hiemps, eademque calor liquefacta remittit.
congeals winter, and-the-same heat melted sends-back.
Utraque vis apibus pariter metuenda; neque illae
Each force for-the-bees equally to-be-feared; nor they
nequiquam in tectis certatim tenuia cera
in-vain in their-roofs eagerly the-thin with-wax
spiramenta linunt, fucoque et floribus oras
vents smear, and-with-bee-glue and with-flowers the-edges
explent, conlectumque haec ipsa ad munera gluten
fill, and-gathered these very for services glue
et visco et Phrygiae servant pice lentius Idae.
both than-birdlime and of-Phrygian keep than-pitch stickier Ida.

Saepe etiam effossis, si vera est fama, latebris
Often also in-dug-out, if true is the-report, hiding-places
sub terra fovere larem, penitusque repertae
under the-earth they-have-cherished their-home, and-deep-within have-been-found
pumicibusque cavis exesaeque arboris antro.
and-in-pumice-stones hollow and-of-a-hollowed tree in-a-cavity.
Tu tamen et levi rimosa cubilia limo
You however both with-smooth the-cracked chambers clay
ungue fovens circum, et raras superinice frondes.
smear warming around, and scant throw-on-top leaves.
Neu propius tectis taxum sine, neve rubentis
Nor nearer to-the-roofs a-yew allow, nor reddening
ure foco cancros, altae neu crede paludi,
burn in-the-fire crabs, deep nor trust a-marsh,
aut ubi odor caeni gravis aut ubi concava pulsu
or where the-smell of-mud heavy or where hollow at-a-blow
saxa sonant vocisque offensa resultat imago.
rocks resound and-of-the-voice struck rebounds the-image.
Quod superest, ubi pulsam hiemem Sol aureus egit
What remains, when the-routed winter the-Sun golden has-driven
sub terras caelumque aestiva luce reclusit,
under the-earth and-the-sky with-summer light has-unlocked,
illae continuo saltus silvasque peragrant
they at-once the-glades and-woods range
purpureosque metunt flores et flumina libant
and-purple reap flowers and the-streams sip
summa leves. Hinc nescio qua dulcedine laetae
the-surface lightly. Hence I-know-not by-what sweetness glad
progeniem nidosque fovent, hinc arte recentis
their-offspring and-nests they-cherish, hence with-art new

excudunt ceras et mella tenacia fingunt.
they-hammer-out waxen-cells and honey clinging mold.
Hinc ubi iam emissum caveis ad sidera caeli
Hence when now sent-forth from-the-hives to the-stars of-the-sky
nare per aestatem liquidam suspexeris agmen
to-swim through the-summer liquid you-shall-have-looked-up-at the-column
obscuramque trahi vento mirabere nubem,
and-dark to-be-drawn by-the-wind you-will-marvel-at a-cloud,
contemplator: aquas dulcis et frondea semper
watch: waters sweet and leafy always
tecta petunt. Huc tu iussos asperge sapores,
shelters they-seek. Hither you the-prescribed sprinkle scents,
trita melisphylla et cerinthae ignobile gramen,
bruised balm and of-honeywort the-common grass,
tinnitusque cie et Matris quate cymbala circum:
and-tinklings rouse and of-the-Mother shake the-cymbals around:
ipsae consident medicatis sedibus, ipsae
themselves they-will-settle in-the-scented seats, themselves
intima more suo sese in cunabula condent.
the-inmost in-manner their-own themselves into cradles will-hide.
Sin autem ad pugnam exierint, nam saepe duobus
But-if however to battle they-shall-have-gone-out, for often between-two
regibus incessit magno discordia motu;
kings has-arisen with-great discord upheaval;
continuoque animos vulgi et trepidantia bello
and-at-once the-spirits of-the-crowd and trembling for-war
corda licet longe praesciscere: namque morantis
hearts it-is-possible from-afar to-foresee: for the-loiterers
Martius ille aeris rauci canor increpat, et vox
the-Martial that of-bronze hoarse note rebukes, and a-voice

auditur fractos sonitus imitata tubarum;
is-heard the-broken blasts imitating of-trumpets;
tum trepidae inter se coeunt pennisque coruscant
then trembling among themselves they-gather and-with-their-wings flash
spiculaque exacuunt rostris aptantque lacertos,
and-their-stings sharpen with-their-beaks and-fit their-arms,
et circa regem atque ipsa ad praetoria densae
and around the-king and very at the-headquarters thick
miscentur magnisque vocant clamoribus hostem,
they-mingle and-with-great call with-shouts the-foe,
ergo ubi ver nactae sudum camposque patentis
so when a-spring they-have-found clear and-plains open
erumpunt portis: concurritur, aethere in alto
they-burst-out from-the-gates: there-is-a-clash, air on high
fit sonitus, magnum mixtae glomerantur in orbem,
arises a-noise, great mingled they-are-massed into ball,
praecipitesque cadunt; non densior aere grando,
and-headlong fall; not thicker in-the-air hail,
nec de concussa tantum pluit ilice glandis.
nor from shaken so-much rains holm-oak acorns.
Ipsi per medias acies insignibus alis
The-kings-themselves through the-middle lines with-shining wings
ingentis animos angusto in pectore versant,
huge spirits narrow in breast turn,
usque adeo obnixi non cedere, dum gravis aut hos
right so-far resolved not to-yield, until the-heavy either these
aut hos versa fuga victor dare terga subegit.
or those turned in-flight the-victor to-give their-backs has-compelled.

Hi motus animorum atque haec certamina tanta
These motions of-spirits and these contests so-great
pulveris exigui iactu compressa quiescent.
of-dust little with-the-throw checked will-be-quiet.

IV.2 · THE GARDENER BY THE GALAESUS AND THE NATURE OF BEES

The worse king is killed and the better left to rule, and the gold-flecked bees give the better honey. Swarming is stopped by tearing off the kings' wings; Priapus' saffron gardens invite the bees, and the keeper plants thyme by the hives. The poet passes over gardens but recalls an old Corycian by the Galaesus who made poor land rich; then Jupiter gave the bees their nature for feeding him in the Dictaean cave: they live in common, share their labors like the Cyclopes, and rest at night.

Verum ubi ductores acie revocaveris ambo,
But when the-leaders from-battle you-shall-have-recalled both,
deterior qui visus, eum, ne prodigus obsit,
the-worse who seems, him, lest wasteful he-be-a-hindrance,
dede neci; melior vacua sine regnet in aula.
give to-death; the-better empty let reign in court.
Alter erit maculis auro squalentibus ardens.
The-one will-be with-spots of-gold rough glowing.
Nam duo sunt genera: hic melior insignis et ore
For two are kinds: this better conspicuous both in-face
et rutilis clarus squamis; ille horridus alter
and with-ruddy bright scales; that rough other
desidia latamque trahens inglorius alvum.
with-sloth and-a-broad dragging inglorious belly.
Ut binae regum facies, ita corpora plebis.
As two of-the-kings the-faces, so the-bodies of-the-commons.

Namque aliae turpes horrent, ceu pulvere ab alto
For some foul bristle, as dust from deep
cum venit et sicco terram spuit ore viator
when comes and with-dry the-earth spits mouth the-traveler
aridus; elucent aliae et fulgore coruscant
parched; gleam others and with-brightness flash
ardentes auro et paribus lita corpora guttis.
blazing with-gold and with-equal smeared their-bodies drops.
Haec potior suboles, hinc caeli tempore certo
This the-better offspring, hence of-the-sky at-the-time fixed
dulcia mella premes, nec tantum dulcia quantum
sweet honey you-shall-press, nor so-much sweet as
et liquida et durum Bacchi domitura saporem.
both clear and the-harsh of-Bacchus going-to-tame taste.
At cum incerta volant caeloque examina ludunt,
But when uncertain fly and-in-the-sky the-swarms sport,
contemnuntque favos et frigida tecta relinquunt,
and-scorn the-combs and the-cold roofs leave,
instabiles animos ludo prohibebis inani.
the-unsteady spirits from-sport you-will-restrain idle.
Nec magnus prohibere labor: tu regibus alas
Nor great to-restrain the-labor: you from-the-kings the-wings
eripe; non illis quisquam cunctantibus altum
tear-away; not with-them anyone lingering high
ire iter aut castris audebit vellere signa.
to-go the-way or from-the-camp will-dare to-pluck the-standards.
Invitent croceis halantes floribus horti,
Let-invite with-saffron fragrant flowers gardens,
et custos furum atque avium cum falce saligna
and the-guard against-thieves and birds with sickle willow

Hellespontiaci servet tutela Priapi.
of-the-Hellespontine let-keep the-protection Priapus.
Ipse thymum pinosque ferens de montibus altis
Himself thyme and-pines bringing from mountains high
tecta serat late circum, cui talia curae;
the-roofs let-him-plant widely around, to-whom such-things are-a-care;
ipse labore manum duro terat, ipse feracis
himself with-labor his-hand hard let-him-wear, himself fruitful
figat humo plantas et amicos inriget imbris.
let-him-fix in-the-ground plants and friendly let-him-pour showers.
Atque equidem, extremo ni iam sub fine laborum
And indeed, last if-not now toward the-end of-my-labors
vela traham et terris festinem advertere proram,
my-sails I-were-furling and to-land were-hastening to-turn the-prow,
forsitan et, pinguis hortos quae cura colendi
perhaps also, rich gardens what care of-tilling
ornaret, canerem, biferique rosaria Paesti,
might-adorn, I-would-sing, and-of-twice-bearing the-rose-beds Paestum,
quoque modo potis gauderent intiba rivis
and-in-what way drunk would-rejoice the-endives in-streams
et virides apio ripae, tortusque per herbam
and green with-parsley the-banks, and-twisted through the-grass
cresceret in ventrem cucumis; nec sera comantem
would-grow into a-belly the-cucumber; nor the-late flowering
narcissum aut flexi tacuissem vimen acanthi
narcissus or of-the-bent would-I-have-passed-over the-stem acanthus
pallentesque hederas et amantis litora myrtos.
and-pale ivies and loving the-shores myrtles.
Namque sub Oebaliae memini me turribus arcis,
For under of-Oebalia I-remember myself the-towers citadel,

qua niger umectat flaventia culta Galaesus,
where black waters yellow tilth Galaesus,
Corycium vidisse senem, cui pauca relicti
a-Corycian to-have-seen old-man, to-whom a-few abandoned
iugera ruris erant, nec fertilis illa iuvencis
acres of-land were, nor fertile it for-bullocks
nec pecori opportuna seges nec commoda Baccho.
nor for-the-flock suitable the-soil nor favorable for-Bacchus.
Hic rarum tamen in dumis olus albaque circum
Here scattered however among the-bushes herbs and-white around
lilia verbenasque premens vescumque papaver
lilies and-vervains planting and-slender poppy
regum aequabat opes animis, seraque revertens
of-kings matched the-wealth in-his-pride, and-late returning
nocte domum dapibus mensas onerabat inemptis.
at-night home with-feasts his-tables loaded unbought.
Primus vere rosam atque autumno carpere poma,
First in-spring the-rose and in-autumn to-pluck fruits,
et cum tristis hiemps etiamnum frigore saxa
and when gloomy winter even-now with-cold the-rocks
rumperet et glacie cursus frenaret aquarum,
was-splitting and with-ice the-courses was-curbing of-the-waters,
ille comam mollis iam tondebat hyacinthi
he the-tresses of-the-soft already was-clipping hyacinth
aestatem increpitans seram Zephyrosque morantis.
the-summer chiding late and-the-Zephyrs lingering.
Ergo apibus fetis idem atque examine multo
So with-bees pregnant the-same and with-swarm many
primus abundare et spumantia cogere pressis
first to-abound and the-foaming to-gather from-pressed

mella favis: illi tiliae atque uberrima pinus,
honey combs: he-had lindens and very-rich the-pine,
quotque in flore novo pomis se fertilis arbos
and-as-many-as in blossom new with-fruits itself fertile the-tree
induerat, totidem autumno matura tenebat.
had-clothed, so-many in-autumn ripe it-held.
Ille etiam seras in versum distulit ulmos
He also late into rows transplanted elms
eduramque pirum et spinos iam pruna ferentes
and-hardy the-pear and blackthorns already plums bearing
iamque ministrantem platanum potantibus umbras.
and-already furnishing the-plane for-drinkers shade.
Verum haec ipse equidem spatiis exclusus iniquis
But these myself indeed by-limits shut-out narrow
praetereo atque aliis post me memoranda relinquo.
I-pass-over and to-others after me to-be-recorded leave.
Nunc age, naturas apibus quas Iuppiter ipse
Now come, the-natures to-the-bees which Jupiter himself
addidit, expediam, pro qua mercede canoros
added, I-will-unfold, for what reward the-tuneful
Curetum sonitus crepitantiaque aera secutae
of-the-Curetes sounds and-the-clashing bronzes having-followed
Dictaeo caeli regem pavere sub antro.
the-Dictaean of-heaven the-king they-fed under cave.
Solae communis natos, consortia tecta
Alone common children, shared the-roofs
urbis habent, magnisque agitant sub legibus aevum,
of-a-city they-have, and-great pass under laws their-life,
et patriam solae et certos novere Penatis;
and a-fatherland alone and fixed have-known Household-gods;

venturaeque hiemis memores aestate laborem
and-of-the-coming winter mindful in-summer toil
experiuntur et in medium quaesita reponunt.
they-undergo and into the-common-stock the-gotten store.
Namque aliae victu invigilant et foedere pacto
For some for-food watch and by-compact agreed
exercentur agris; pars intra saepta domorum
are-busied in-the-fields; part within the-enclosures of-the-homes
Narcissi lacrimam et lentum de cortice gluten
of-Narcissus the-tear and sticky from bark glue
prima favis ponunt fundamina, deinde tenacis
as-first for-the-combs lay foundations, then clinging
suspendunt ceras; aliae spem gentis adultos
hang-up wax-cells; others the-hope of-the-race grown
educunt fetus; aliae purissima mella
lead-forth young; others purest honey
stipant et liquido distendunt nectare cellas.
pack and with-liquid swell nectar the-cells.
Sunt quibus ad portas cecidit custodia sorti,
There-are-those to-whom at the-gates has-fallen the-guard by-lot,
inque vicem speculantur aquas et nubila caeli,
and-in turn they-watch the-waters and the-clouds of-the-sky,
aut onera accipiunt venientum, aut agmine facto
or the-loads receive of-those-coming, or in-column formed
ignavum fucos pecus a praesepibus arcent.
the-idle drones herd from the-hives drive-away.
Fervet opus, redolentque thymo fragrantia mella.
Glows the-work, and-smell of-thyme fragrant the-honey.
Ac veluti lentis Cyclopes fulmina massis
And just-as from-the-pliant the-Cyclopes thunderbolts lumps

cum properant, alii taurinis follibus auras
when hasten, some with-bull's bellows the-breezes
accipiunt redduntque, alii stridentia tingunt
take-in and-give-back, others hissing dip
aera lacu; gemit impositis incudibus Aetna;
the-bronze in-the-trough; groans with-the-set anvils Aetna;
illi inter sese magna vi bracchia tollunt
they among themselves with-great force their-arms raise
in numerum, versantque tenaci forcipe ferrum:
in rhythm, and-turn with-gripping tongs the-iron:
non aliter, si parva licet componere magnis,
not otherwise, if small-things it-is-allowed to-compare with-great,
Cecropias innatus apes amor urguet habendi
the-Cecropian inborn bees love urges of-having
munere quamque suo. Grandaevis oppida curae
in-office each its-own. To-the-aged the-towns are-a-care
et munire favos et daedala fingere tecta.
and to-fortify the-combs and cunning to-fashion the-houses.
At fessae multa referunt se nocte minores,
But weary at-late return themselves night the-younger,
crura thymo plenae; pascuntur et arbuta passim
their-legs with-thyme full; they-feed also on-arbutus everywhere
et glaucas salices casiamque crocumque rubentem
and gray willows and-cassia and-saffron red
et pinguem tiliam et ferrugineos hyacinthos.
and rich linden and rust-colored hyacinths.
Omnibus una quies operum, labor omnibus unus:
For-all one rest of-work, labor for-all one:
mane ruunt portis; nusquam mora; rursus easdem
in-the-morning they-rush from-the-gates; nowhere delay; again them

vesper ubi e pastu tandem decedere campis
evening when from pasture at-last to-depart from-the-fields
admonuit, tum tecta petunt, tum corpora curant;
has-warned, then their-roofs they-seek, then their-bodies tend;
fit sonitus mussantque oras et limina circum.
arises a-sound and-they-hum the-entrances and thresholds around.
Post ubi iam thalamis se composuere, siletur
Afterward when now in-their-chambers themselves they-have-laid, there-is-silence
in noctem, fessosque sopor suus occupat artus.
into the-night, and-the-weary sleep its-own seizes limbs.

IV.3 · THE BEES' COMMONWEALTH AND THEIR SICKNESSES

Bees keep near home when rain threatens and ballast themselves with pebbles; they are born without mating, gathered as young from leaves, and die in their labor, but the race lives on. They revere their king above all, and some say they hold a share of the divine mind. The poet gives the two harvests of honey, warns of their stinging anger, prescribes thyme smoke against pests in a hard winter, and gives the signs and remedies of sickness, among them the flower amellus.

Nec vero a stabulis pluvia impendente recedunt
Nor indeed from the-hives with-rain threatening do-they-withdraw
longius, aut credunt caelo adventantibus Euris;
farther, or trust the-sky with-approaching east-winds;
sed circum tutae sub moenibus urbis aquantur,
but around safe under the-walls of-the-city they-draw-water,
excursusque brevis temptant, et saepe lapillos,
and-sallies short try, and often pebbles,
ut cymbae instabiles fluctu iactante saburram,
as boats unsteady with-the-wave tossing ballast,

tollunt, his sese per inania nubila librant.
they-lift, with-these themselves through the-empty clouds they-poise.
Illum adeo placuisse apibus mirabere morem,
That indeed to-have-pleased the-bees you-will-marvel-at custom,
quod neque concubitu indulgent, nec corpora segnes
that neither in-coupling they-indulge, nor their-bodies sluggish
in Venerem solvunt aut fetus nixibus edunt;
in Love relax or offspring with-travail bring-forth;
verum ipsae e foliis natos, e suavibus herbis
but themselves from leaves their-young, from sweet herbs
ore legunt, ipsae regem parvosque Quirites
with-their-mouths gather, themselves a-king and-little Citizens
sufficiunt, aulasque et cerea regna refigunt.
supply, and-their-courts and waxen realms rebuild.
Saepe etiam duris errando in cotibus alas
Often also hard in-wandering on flints their-wings
adtrivere, ultroque animam sub fasce dedere:
they-have-rubbed, and-of-their-own-accord their-life under the-load have-given:
tantus amor florum et generandi gloria mellis.
so-great the-love of-flowers and of-producing the-glory of-honey.
Ergo ipsas quamvis angusti terminus aevi
So themselves although of-a-narrow the-limit life
excipiat, neque enim plus septima ducitur aestas,
receive, nor indeed more the-seventh is-prolonged summer,
at genus immortale manet, multosque per annos
yet the-race immortal remains, and-many through years
stat fortuna domus, et avi numerantur avorum.
stands the-fortune of-the-house, and the-grandsires are-counted of-grandsires.
Praeterea regem non sic Aegyptus et ingens
Besides their-king not so Egypt and huge

Lydia nec populi Parthorum aut Medus Hydaspes
Lydia nor the-peoples of-the-Parthians or the-Median Hydaspes
observant. Rege incolumi mens omnibus una est;
revere. With-the-king safe the-mind for-all one is;
amisso rupere fidem, constructaque mella
with-(him)-lost they-have-broken their-faith, and-the-built honey
diripuere ipsae et crates solvere favorum.
have-plundered themselves and the-lattices loosed of-the-combs.
Ille operum custos, illum admirantur et omnes
He of-the-works the-guardian, him they-admire and all
circumstant fremitu denso stipantque frequentes,
surround-him with-hum thick and-throng-him crowding,
et saepe adtollunt umeris, et corpora bello
and often lift-him on-their-shoulders, and their-bodies in-war
obiectant pulchramque petunt per vulnera mortem.
expose and-a-beautiful seek through wounds death.
His quidam signis atque haec exempla secuti
By-these some signs and these examples following
esse apibus partem divinae mentis et haustus
to-be in-the-bees a-part of-the-divine mind and drafts
aetherios dixere; deum namque ire per omnis
ethereal have-said; a-god for to-go through all
terrasque tractusque maris caelumque profundum;
both-lands and-tracts of-sea and-heaven deep;
hinc pecudes armenta viros, genus omne ferarum,
hence flocks herds men, the-race all of-beasts,
quemque sibi tenuis nascentem arcessere vitas;
each for-itself the-thin at-birth to-summon lives;
scilicet huc reddi deinde ac resoluta referri
of-course hither to-be-returned then and dissolved to-be-brought-back

omnia, nec morti esse locum, sed viva volare
all-things, nor for-death to-be a-place, but living to-fly
sideris in numerum atque alto succedere caelo.
of-a-star into the-number and to-high to-mount heaven.
Siquando sedem angustam servataque mella
If-ever the-dwelling narrow and-the-preserved honey
thesauris relines, prius haustu sparsus aquarum
in-the-treasure-house you-shall-unseal, first with-a-draft sprinkled of-waters
ora fove, fumosque manu praetende sequacis.
your-mouth bathe, and-smoke with-your-hand hold-out pursuing.
Bis gravidos cogunt fetus, duo tempora messis:
Twice the-heavy they-gather produce, two the-seasons of-harvest:
Taygete simul os terris ostendit honestum
Taygete as-soon-as her-face to-the-lands has-shown comely
Pleas et Oceani spretos pede reppulit amnis,
the-Pleiad and of-Ocean the-scorned with-her-foot has-spurned the-streams,
aut eadem sidus fugiens ubi piscis aquosi
or the-same the-star fleeing when of-the-fish watery
tristior hibernas caelo descendit in undas.
sadder wintry from-the-sky descends into waves.
Illis ira modum supra est, laesaeque venenum
To-them anger measure beyond is, and-hurt venom
morsibus inspirant, et spicula caeca relinquunt
into-their-bites they-breathe, and stings hidden leave
adfixae venis, animasque in vulnere ponunt.
fixed in-the-veins, and-their-lives in the-wound lay-down.
Sin duram metues hiemem parcesque futuro
But-if hard you-shall-fear the-winter and-shall-spare for-the-future
contusosque animos et res miserabere fractas:
and-their-crushed spirits and fortunes shall-pity broken:

at suffire thymo cerasque recidere inanis
yet to-fumigate with-thyme and-the-wax-cells to-cut-away empty
quis dubitet? Nam saepe favos ignotus adedit
who would-hesitate? For often the-combs unknown has-eaten
stellio et lucifugis congesta cubilia blattis;
the-newt and with-light-shunning crammed the-chambers beetles;
immunisque sedens aliena ad pabula fucus
and-dutiless sitting another's at food the-drone
aut asper crabro imparibus se immiscuit armis,
or fierce the-hornet with-unequal himself has-mixed arms,
aut dirum tiniae genus, aut invisa Minervae
or the-dire of-the-moth race, or hateful to-Minerva
laxos in foribus suspendit aranea cassis.
loose in the-doorways hangs the-spider nets.
Quo magis exhaustae fuerint, hoc acrius omnes
By-which more drained they-shall-be, by-this more-keenly all
incumbent generis lapsi sarcire ruinas,
will-bend of-the-race fallen to-repair the-ruins,
complebuntque foros et floribus horrea texent.
and-will-fill the-rows and with-flowers the-granaries will-weave.
Si vero, quoniam casus apibus quoque nostros
If indeed, since the-mishaps to-the-bees too our
vita tulit, tristi languebunt corpora morbo,
life has-brought, with-sad shall-languish their-bodies disease,
quod iam non dubiis poteris cognoscere signis,
which now by-not doubtful you-will-be-able to-know signs,
continuo est aegris alius color; horrida vultum
at-once there-is for-the-sick another color; rough the-face
deformat macies; tum corpora luce carentum
disfigures leanness; then the-bodies light of-the-lacking

exportant tectis et tristia funera ducunt;
they-carry-out from-the-roofs and sad funerals lead;
aut illae pedibus conexae ad limina pendent,
or they by-their-feet linked at the-threshold hang,
aut intus clausis cunctantur in aedibus, omnes
or within shut linger in houses, all
ignavaeque fame et contracto frigore pigrae.
both-listless with-hunger and with-contracted cold sluggish.
Tum sonus auditur gravior, tractimque susurrant,
Then a-sound is-heard deeper, and-drawlingly they-buzz,
frigidus ut quondam silvis immurmurat Auster,
cold as once in-the-woods murmurs the-south-wind,
ut mare sollicitum stridit refluentibus undis,
as the-sea troubled hisses with-ebbing waves,
aestuat ut clausis rapidus fornacibus ignis;
seethes as in-shut the-fierce furnaces fire;
hic iam galbaneos suadebo incendere odores
here now galbanum I-will-urge to-burn scents
mellaque arundineis inferre canalibus, ultro
and-honey in-reed to-bring troughs, of-your-own-accord
hortantem et fessas ad pabula nota vocantem.
encouraging and the-weary to the-food familiar calling.
Proderit et tunsum gallae admiscere saporem
It-will-help also of-pounded oak-gall to-mix the-taste
arentisque rosas aut igni pinguia multo
and-dried roses or with-fire rich much
defruta vel psithia passos de vite racemos
boiled-must or psithian dried from the-vine grapes
Cecropiumque thymum et grave olentia centaurea.
and-Cecropian thyme and strongly smelling centaury.

Est etiam flos in pratis, cui nomen amello
There-is also a-flower in the-meadows, to-which the-name amellus
fecere agricolae, facilis quaerentibus herba;
have-given the-farmers, easy for-seekers a-plant;
namque uno ingentem tollit de caespite silvam,
for one a-huge it-raises from turf forest,
aureus ipse, sed in foliis, quae plurima circum
golden itself, but on the-leaves, which very-many around
funduntur, violae sublucet purpura nigrae;
are-poured-forth, of-the-violet glimmers the-purple dark;
asper in ore sapor; tonsis in vallibus illum
harsh in the-mouth the-taste; shorn in valleys it
pastores et curva legunt prope flumina Mellae.
shepherds and the-winding gather near streams of-the-Mella.
Huius odorato radices incoque Baccho,
Of-this in-fragrant the-roots boil Bacchus,
pabulaque in foribus plenis adpone canistris.
and-food at the-doors in-full set baskets.

IV.4 · ARISTAEUS' LAMENT

If a keeper's stock dies, Egypt's art makes new bees: a two-year-old calf is beaten to death in a small, four-windowed chamber, and swarms burst from its rotting body. The poet tells how men learned it: Aristaeus, his bees lost, complains to his mother Cyrene at the river's source; the waters part to bring him down to her chamber, past the springs of the world's rivers, and she pours a libation to Ocean.

Sed siquem proles subito defecerit omnis,
But if-anyone the-brood suddenly has-failed whole,
nec, genus unde novae stirpis revocetur, habebit,
nor, the-stock whence of-a-new strain may-be-recalled, he-will-have,

tempus et Arcadii memoranda inventa magistri
it-is-time also of-the-Arcadian memorable the-discoveries master
pandere, quoque modo caesis iam saepe iuvencis
to-unfold, and-in-what way from-slain already often bullocks
insincerus apes tulerit cruor. Altius omnem
corrupt bees has-produced blood. Further-back all
expediam prima repetens ab origine famam.
I-will-unfold first going-back-to from origin the-story.
Nam qua Pellaei gens fortunata Canopi
For where of-Pellaean the-race fortunate Canopus
accolit effuso stagnantem flumine Nilum
dwells-by with-overflowing standing river the-Nile
et circum pictis vehitur sua rura phaselis,
and around in-painted rides its-own fields skiffs,
quaque pharetratae vicinia Persidis urguet,
and-where of-quivered the-neighborhood Persia presses,
omnis in hac certam regio iacit arte salutem.
all in this sure the-region lays art salvation.
Exiguus primum atque ipsos contractus in usus
Small first and the-very confined for uses
eligitur locus; hunc angustique imbrice tecti
is-chosen a-place; this both-of-narrow with-tiling roof
parietibusque premunt artis, et quattuor addunt,
and-with-walls they-press close, and four add,
quattuor a ventis obliqua luce fenestras.
four from the-winds with-slanting light windows.
Tum vitulus bima curvans iam cornua fronte
Then a-calf two-years-old curving already its-horns on-brow
quaeritur; huic geminae nares et spiritus oris
is-sought; for-this the-twin nostrils and the-breath of-the-mouth

multa reluctanti obstruitur, plagisque perempto
much struggling is-stopped-up, and-by-blows killed
tunsa per integram solvuntur viscera pellem.
pounded through the-whole are-dissolved entrails hide.
Sic positum in clauso linquunt, et ramea costis
So placed in the-shut-place they-leave-him, and branch-like under-his-ribs
subiciunt fragmenta, thymum casiasque recentis.
they-put fragments, thyme and-cassias fresh.
Hoc geritur Zephyris primum impellentibus undas,
This is-done with-the-Zephyrs first stirring the-waves,
ante novis rubeant quam prata coloribus, ante
before with-new blush than the-meadows colors, before
garrula quam tignis nidum suspendat hirundo.
chattering than on-the-rafters her-nest hangs the-swallow.
Interea teneris tepefactus in ossibus umor
Meanwhile the-tender warmed in bones the-moisture
aestuat, et visenda modis animalia miris,
seethes, and to-be-seen in-ways creatures wondrous,
trunca pedum primo, mox et stridentia pennis,
bare of-feet at-first, soon also whirring with-wings,
miscentur, tenuemque magis magis aëra carpunt,
swarm, and-the-thin more and-more air take,
donec ut aestivis effusus nubibus imber
until like from-summer poured clouds rain
erupere aut ut nervo pulsante sagittae,
they-have-burst-forth or like from-the-string twanging arrows,
prima leves ineunt siquando proelia Parthi.
the-first the-light enter if-ever battles the-Parthians.
Quis deus hanc, Musae, quis nobis extudit artem?
What god this, Muses, what for-us hammered-out art?

Unde nova ingressus hominum experientia cepit?
Whence new the-entering of-men experience took?
Pastor Aristaeus fugiens Peneia Tempe
The-shepherd Aristaeus fleeing Peneian Tempe
amissis, ut fama, apibus morboque fameque
lost, as is-the-report, his-bees both-by-disease and-by-famine
tristis ad extremi sacrum caput adstitit amnis
sad at of-the-farthest the-sacred source stood stream
multa querens atque hac adfatus voce parentem:
much complaining and with-this addressed voice his-parent:
'Mater, Cyrene mater, quae gurgitis huius
'Mother, Cyrene mother, who of-swirl this
ima tenes, quid me praeclara stirpe deorum,
the-depths hold, why me from-illustrious stock of-the-gods,
si modo, quem perhibes, pater est Thymbraeus Apollo,
if only, as you-say, my-father is Thymbraean Apollo,
invisum fatis genuisti? Aut quo tibi nostri
hateful to-the-fates have-you-borne? Or whither from-you for-us
pulsus amor? Quid me caelum sperare iubebas?
driven love? Why me heaven to-hope did-you-bid?
En etiam hunc ipsum vitae mortalis honorem,
Look even this very of-life mortal glory,
quem mihi vix frugum et pecudum custodia sollers
which for-me scarcely of-crops and of-cattle the-tending skillful
omnia temptanti extuderat, te matre relinquo.
everything trying had-hammered-out, with-you mother I-leave.
Quin age et ipsa manu felicis erue silvas,
Nay come and yourself with-your-hand fruitful root-up woods,
fer stabulis inimicum ignem atque interfice messis,
bring to-the-stalls hostile fire and destroy the-harvests,

ure sata, et validam in vitis molire bipennem,
burn the-sown, and the-strong upon the-vines wield axe,
tanta meae si te ceperunt taedia laudis.'
so-great of-my if you have-seized wearinesses glory.'
At mater sonitum thalamo sub fluminis alti
But his-mother the-sound in-her-chamber beneath of-the-river deep
sensit. Eam circum Milesia vellera Nymphae
heard. Her around Milesian fleeces the-Nymphs
carpebant hyali saturo fucata colore,
were-spinning of-glassy deep dyed color,
Drymoque Xanthoque Ligeaque Phyllodoceque,
both-Drymo and-Xantho and-Ligea and-Phyllodoce,
caesariem effusae nitidam per candida colla,
their-hair poured shining over white necks,
Nesaee Spioque Thaliaque Cymodoceque
Nesaee and-Spio and-Thalia and-Cymodoce
Cydippeque et flava Lycorias, altera virgo,
and-Cydippe and golden Lycorias, the-one a-maiden,
altera tum primos Lucinae experta labores,
the-other then the-first of-Lucina having-tried labors,
Clioque et Beroe soror, Oceanitides ambae,
and-Clio and Beroe her-sister, Ocean's-daughters both,
ambae auro, pictis incinctae pellibus ambae,
both in-gold, with-dappled girt skins both,
atque Ephyre atque Opis et Asia Deiopea
and Ephyre and Opis and Asian Deiopea
et tandem positis velox Arethusa sagittis.
and at-last with-laid-aside swift Arethusa her-arrows.
Inter quas curam Clymene narrabat inanem
Among whom the-care Clymene was-telling vain

Vulcani, Martisque dolos et dulcia furta,
of-Vulcan, and-of-Mars the-wiles and sweet thefts,
aque Chao densos divum numerabat amores.
and-from Chaos the-thick of-the-gods was-counting loves.
Carmine quo captae dum fusis mollia pensa
By-song which captivated while from-the-spindles the-soft tasks
devolvunt, iterum maternas impulit auris
they-unwind, again the-mother's struck ears
luctus Aristaei, vitreisque sedilibus omnes
the-grief of-Aristaeus, and-on-glassy seats all
opstipuere; sed ante alias Arethusa sorores
were-stunned; but before the-other Arethusa sisters
prospiciens summa flavum caput extulit unda,
looking-forth from-the-top her-golden head raised wave,
et procul: 'O gemitu non frustra exterrita tanto,
and from-afar: 'O by-groaning not in-vain alarmed so-great,
Cyrene soror, ipse tibi, tua maxima cura,
Cyrene sister, himself to-you, your greatest care,
tristis Aristaeus Penei genitoris ad undam
sad Aristaeus of-Peneus his-father at the-water
stat lacrymans, et te crudelem nomine dicit.'
stands weeping, and you cruel by-name calls.'
Huic percussa nova mentem formidine mater
To-her struck with-new in-mind dread the-mother
'duc, age, duc ad nos; fas illi limina divum
'lead, come, lead to us; it-is-lawful for-him the-thresholds of-the-gods
tangere,' ait. Simul alta iubet discedere late
to-touch,' she-says. At-once deep she-bids to-part widely
flumina, qua iuvenis gressus inferret. At illum
the-waters, where the-youth his-steps might-bring. But him

curvata in montis faciem circumstetit unda
curved into of-a-mountain the-shape stood-around the-wave
accepitque sinu vasto misitque sub amnem.
and-received in-its-bosom vast and-sent under the-river.
Iamque domum mirans genetricis et umida regna
And-now the-home marveling-at of-his-mother and wet realms
speluncisque lacus clausos lucosque sonantis
and-in-caves lakes shut-in and-groves resounding
ibat, et ingenti motu stupefactus aquarum
he-was-going, and by-the-huge motion stunned of-the-waters
omnia sub magna labentia flumina terra
all under great gliding rivers the-earth
spectabat diversa locis, Phasimque Lycumque
was-watching different in-places, both-Phasis and-Lycus
et caput, unde altus primum se erumpit Enipeus
and the-source, whence deep first itself bursts-forth Enipeus
unde pater Tiberinus, et unde Aniena fluenta
whence father Tiberinus, and whence Anio's flowings
saxosusque sonans Hypanis Mysusque Caicus,
and-rocky roaring Hypanis and-Mysian Caicus,
et gemina auratus taurino cornua vultu
and twin gilded with-bull's horns face
Eridanus, quo non alius per pinguia culta
Eridanus, than-which not another through rich tilth
in mare purpureum violentior effluit amnis.
into the-sea purple more-violent flows river.
Postquam est in thalami pendentia pumice tecta
After it-is into the-chamber's hanging with-pumice roofs
perventum et nati fletus cognovit inanis
come and of-her-son the-weeping has-learned vain

Cyrene, manibus liquidos dant ordine fontis
Cyrene, for-his-hands clear give in-order springs
germanae, tonsisque ferunt mantelia villis;
the-sisters, and-with-shorn bring napkins nap;
pars epulis onerant mensas et plena reponunt
part with-feasts load the-tables and full set
pocula; Panchaeis adolescunt ignibus arae;
cups; with-Panchaean blaze fires the-altars;
et mater 'cape Maeonii carchesia Bacchi:
and the-mother 'take of-Maeonian the-goblets Bacchus:
Oceano libemus,' ait. Simul ipsa precatur
to-Ocean let-us-pour,' she-says. At-once herself prays
Oceanumque patrem rerum Nymphasque sorores,
both-to-Ocean the-father of-things and-to-the-Nymphs sisters,
centum quae silvas, centum quae flumina servant.
a-hundred who woods, a-hundred who rivers guard.
Ter liquido ardentem perfundit nectare Vestam,
Thrice with-liquid the-burning she-bathes nectar Vesta,
ter flamma ad summum tecti subiecta reluxit.
thrice the-flame to the-top of-the-roof shot-up gleamed-back.

Cyrene sends Aristaeus to bind the seer Proteus, who changes into fire, a beast, and a river before he answers. Proteus tells him that Orpheus is punishing him for Eurydice, who, fleeing him along the river, never saw the water snake in the grass that doomed her; Orpheus mourned her in song, went down to the dead, charmed the shades, and won her back on Proserpina's terms, only to look back at her at the very edge of the light.

Omine quo firmans animum sic incipit ipsa:
With-omen which strengthening his-mind thus begins herself:
'Est in Carphatio Neptuni gurgite vates
'There-is in the-Carpathian of-Neptune swirl a-seer
caeruleus Proteus, magnum qui piscibus aequor
dark-blue Proteus, the-great who with-fishes sea
et iuncto bipedum curru metitur equorum.
and with-yoked of-two-footed car traverses horses.
Hic nunc Emathiae portus patriamque revisit
He now of-Emathia the-harbors and-his-fatherland revisits
Pallenen; hunc et nymphae veneramur et ipse
Pallene; him both we-nymphs revere and himself
grandaevus Nereus; novit namque omnia vates,
aged Nereus; knows for all-things the-seer,
quae sint, quae fuerint, quae mox ventura trahantur;
what-things are, what-things have-been, what-things soon to-come are-drawn;
quippe ita Neptuno visum est, immania cuius
for so to-Neptune seemed-good it-has, monstrous whose
armenta et turpis pascit sub gurgite phocas.
herds and ugly he-feeds under the-swirl seals.
Hic tibi, nate, prius vinclis capiundus, ut omnem
Him by-you, son, first in-chains to-be-caught, that all

expediat morbi causam, eventusque secundet.
he-may-unfold of-the-disease the-cause, and-the-outcome may-prosper.
Nam sine vi non ulla dabit praecepta, neque illum
For without force not any he-will-give precepts, nor him
orando flectes; vim duram et vincula capto
by-entreaty will-you-bend; force harsh and chains on-the-captive
tende; doli circum haec demum frangentur inanes.
strain; the-wiles against these at-last will-be-broken vain.
Ipsa ego te, medios cum sol accenderit aestus,
Myself I you, the-midday when the-sun shall-have-kindled heats,
cum sitiunt herbae et pecori iam gratior umbra est,
when thirst the-grasses and for-the-flock now more-welcome the-shade is,
in secreta senis ducam, quo fessus ab undis
into the-secret-haunts of-the-old-man will-lead, whither weary from the-waves
se recipit, facile ut somno adgrediare iacentem.
himself he-withdraws, easily that in-sleep you-may-attack him-lying.
Verum ubi correptum manibus vinclisque tenebis,
But when seized with-hands and-chains you-shall-hold-him,
tum variae eludent species atque ora ferarum.
then various will-baffle-you shapes and faces of-beasts.
Fiet enim subito sus horridus atraque tigris
He-will-become indeed suddenly a-boar bristling and-a-black tigress
squamosusque draco et fulva cervice leaena,
and-a-scaly serpent and with-tawny neck a-lioness,
aut acrem flammae sonitum dabit atque ita vinclis
or a-fierce of-flame the-roar will-give and so from-the-chains
excidet, aut in aquas tenuis dilapsus abibit.
will-slip, or into waters thin dissolved will-depart.
Sed quanto ille magis formas se vertet in omnis,
But by-how-much he the-more shapes himself shall-turn into all,

tanto, nate, magis contende tenacia vincla,
by-so-much, son, the-more strain the-gripping chains,
donec talis erit mutato corpore, qualem
until such he-shall-be with-changed body, as
videris, incepto tegeret cum lumina somno.'
you-shall-have-seen-him, with-begun he-was-covering when his-eyes sleep.'
Haec ait et liquidum ambrosiae defundit odorem,
These-things she-says and liquid of-ambrosia pours-down scent,
quo totum nati corpus perduxit; at illi
with-which whole of-her-son the-body she-anointed; but from-him
dulcis compositis spiravit crinibus aura,
sweet from-ordered breathed hair a-fragrance,
atque habilis membris venit vigor. Est specus ingens
and fit to-his-limbs came vigor. There-is a-cave huge
exesi latere in montis, quo plurima vento
of-eaten side in mountain, where very-much by-the-wind
cogitur inque sinus scindit sese unda reductos,
is-driven and-into hollows splits itself the-wave receding,
deprensis olim statio tutissima nautis;
for-caught once a-haven safest sailors;
intus se vasti Proteus tegit obice saxi.
within himself of-a-vast Proteus covers with-the-barrier rock.
Hic iuvenem in latebris aversum a lumine nympha
Here the-youth in hiding turned-away from the-light the-nymph
collocat, ipsa procul nebulis obscura resistit.
places, herself far-off in-mists dim stands-off.
Iam rapidus torrens sitientis Sirius Indos
Already scorching parching the-thirsty Sirius Indians
ardebat caelo, et medium sol igneus orbem
was-blazing in-the-sky, and the-middle the-sun fiery orbit

hauserat; arebant herbae, et cava flumina siccis
had-drained; were-dry the-grasses, and the-hollow rivers in-dry
faucibus ad limum radii tepefacta coquebant:
throats to the-mud the-rays heated were-baking:
cum Proteus consueta petens e fluctibus antra
when Proteus his-accustomed seeking from the-waves caves
ibat; eum vasti circum gens umida ponti
was-going; him of-the-vast around the-wet race sea
exsultans rorem late dispersit amarum.
exulting the-spray widely scattered salt.
Sternunt se somno diversae in litore phocae;
Spread themselves for-sleep here-and-there on the-shore the-seals;
ipse velut stabuli custos in montibus olim,
himself like of-a-stall the-keeper on the-mountains sometimes,
vesper ubi e pastu vitulos ad tecta reducit,
the-evening when from pasture the-calves to the-steadings leads-back,
auditisque lupos acuunt balatibus agni,
and-by-heard the-wolves whet bleatings lambs,
considit scopulo medius, numerumque recenset.
sits on-a-rock in-the-middle, and-the-count reviews.
Cuius Aristaeo quoniam est oblata facultas,
Of-whom to-Aristaeus since was offered the-chance,
vix defessa senem passus componere membra
scarcely the-weary old-man having-allowed to-compose limbs
cum clamore ruit magno, manicisque iacentem
with shouting rushes great, and-with-manacles him-lying
occupat. Ille suae contra non immemor artis
seizes. He of-his-own in-turn not forgetful art
omnia transformat sese in miracula rerum,
all transforms himself into marvels of-things,

ignemque horribilemque feram fluviumque liquentem.
both-fire and-dreadful wild-beast and-river flowing.
Verum ubi nulla fugam reperit fallacia, victus
But when no escape has-found deceit, beaten
in sese redit, atque hominis tandem ore locutus:
into himself he-returns, and of-a-man at-last with-the-mouth spoke:
'Nam quis te, iuvenum confidentissime, nostras
'For who you, of-youths most-presumptuous, our
iussit adire domos? Quidve hinc petis?' inquit. At ille:
bade to-approach home? Or-what hence do-you-seek?' he-says. But he:
'Scis, Proteu, scis ipse; neque est te fallere quidquam;
'You-know, Proteus, you-know yourself; nor is-it you to-deceive at-all;
sed tu desine velle. Deum praecepta secuti
but you cease to-wish. Of-the-gods the-precepts following
venimus, hinc lapsis quaesitum oracula rebus.'
we-have-come, hence for-fallen to-seek oracles fortunes.'
Tantum effatus. Ad haec vates vi denique multa
So-much he-spoke. At this the-seer with-force at-last much
ardentis oculos intorsit lumine glauco,
blazing his-eyes rolled with-gleam gray-green,
et graviter frendens sic fatis ora resolvit:
and heavily gnashing thus to-fates his-mouth unlocked:
'Non te nullius exercent numinis irae;
'Not you of-no divinity pursue wraths;
magna luis commissa: tibi has miserabilis Orpheus
great you-atone-for misdeeds: to-you these pitiable Orpheus
haudquaquam ob meritum poenas, ni fata resistant,
not-at-all for desert penalties, unless the-fates oppose,
suscitat, et rapta graviter pro coniuge saevit.
rouses, and his-snatched-away heavily for wife rages.

Illa quidem, dum te fugerit per flumina praeceps,
She indeed, while you she-might-flee along the-river headlong,
immanem ante pedes hydrum moritura puella
a-monstrous before her-feet water-snake going-to-die the-girl
servantem ripas alta non vidit in herba.
guarding the-banks high not saw in grass.
At chorus aequalis Dryadum clamore supremos
But the-band of-her-peers of-the-Dryads with-clamor the-topmost
implerunt montis; flerunt Rhodopeiae arces
filled mountains; wept the-Rhodopean heights
altaque Pangaea et Rhesi Mavortia tellus
and-high Pangaea and of-Rhesus the-Martial land
atque Getae atque Hebrus et Actias Orithyia.
and the-Getae and Hebrus and Actian Orithyia.
Ipse cava solans aegrum testudine amorem
Himself on-the-hollow solacing his-sick shell love
te, dulcis coniunx, te solo in litore secum,
you, sweet wife, you lonely on shore with-himself,
te veniente die, te decedente canebat.
you at-coming day, you at-departing he-sang.
Taenarias etiam fauces, alta ostia Ditis,
The-Taenarian even jaws, the-high gates of-Dis,
et caligantem nigra formidine lucum
and the-gloomy with-black dread grove
ingressus Manisque adiit regemque tremendum
having-entered both-the-Shades he-approached and-the-king dread
nesciaque humanis precibus mansuescere corda.
and-not-knowing-how at-human prayers to-soften hearts.
At cantu commotae Erebi de sedibus imis
But by-the-song stirred of-Erebus from the-abodes lowest

umbrae ibant tenues simulacraque luce carentum,
the-shades went thin and-the-phantoms of-light of-those-lacking,
quam multa in foliis avium se milia condunt
as many in the-leaves of-birds themselves thousands hide
vesper ubi aut hibernus agit de montibus imber,
the-evening when or wintry drives from the-mountains rain,
matres atque viri defunctaque corpora vita
mothers and men and-finished bodies with-life
magnanimum heroum, pueri innuptaeque puellae,
of-great-souled heroes, boys and-unwed girls,
impositique rogis iuvenes ante ora parentum;
and-placed on-pyres young-men before the-faces of-parents;
quos circum limus niger et deformis harundo
whom around the-mud black and unsightly the-reed
Cocyti tardaque palus inamabilis unda
of-Cocytus and-the-sluggish marsh unlovely with-wave
alligat, et noviens Styx interfusa coercet.
binds, and nine-times Styx poured-between confines.
Quin ipsae stupuere domus atque intima Leti
Nay the-very were-stunned houses and the-inmost of-Death
Tartara caeruleosque implexae crinibus angues
Tartarus and-with-dark-blue entwined in-their-hair snakes
Eumenides, tenuitque inhians tria Cerberus ora,
the-Eumenides, and-held gaping his-three Cerberus mouths,
atque Ixionii vento rota constitit orbis.
and of-Ixion's in-the-wind the-wheel stood-still orb.
Iamque pedem referens casus evaserat omnis,
And-now his-foot bringing-back the-mishaps he-had-escaped all,
redditaque Eurydice superas veniebat ad auras
and-restored Eurydice the-upper was-coming to breezes

pone sequens, namque hanc dederat Proserpina legem,
behind following, for this had-given Proserpina law,
cum subita incautum dementia cepit amantem,
when a-sudden the-unwary madness seized lover,
ignoscenda quidem, scirent si ignoscere manes:
pardonable indeed, would-know if to-pardon the-shades:
restitit, Eurydicenque suam iam luce sub ipsa
he-stopped, and-Eurydice his-own now light under very
immemor, heu, victusque animi respexit. Ibi omnis
forgetful, alas, and-conquered of-mind he-looked-back. There all
effusus labor atque immitis rupta tyranni
poured-out the-labor and of-the-pitiless broken tyrant
foedera terque fragor stagni est auditus Averni.
the-compact and-thrice a-crash of-the-pool was heard Avernus.

IV.6 · THE DEATH OF ORPHEUS AND THE NEW BEES

Eurydice is drawn back into the dark. Orpheus mourns by the Strymon and is torn apart by the Ciconian women; his floating head still calls her name. Cyrene bids her son appease the nymphs with sacrifice, and from the slain cattle bees arise. The poet signs the poem, written at Parthenope while Caesar fought by the Euphrates.

Illa, 'Quis et me,' inquit, 'Miseram et te perdidit, Orpheu,
She, 'Who both me,' she-says, 'Wretched and you has-ruined, Orpheus,
quis tantus furor? En iterum crudelia retro
what so-great madness? Look again cruel backward
fata vocant, conditque natantia lumina somnus.
the-fates call, and-hides my-swimming eyes sleep.
Iamque vale: feror ingenti circumdata nocte
And-now farewell: I-am-borne by-huge encompassed night

invalidasque tibi tendens, heu non tua, palmas…'
and-strengthless to-you stretching, alas not yours, my-palms'
Dixit, et ex oculis subito ceu fumus in auras
She-spoke, and from his-eyes suddenly like smoke into the-breezes
commixtus tenuis fugit diversa, neque illum
mingled thin fled apart, nor him
prensantem nequiquam umbras et multa volentem
clutching in-vain the-shadows and much wishing
dicere praeterea vidit; nec portitor Orci
to-say besides saw; nor the-ferryman of-Orcus
amplius obiectam passus transire paludem.
further the-intervening allowed to-cross marsh.
Quid faceret? Quo se rapta bis coniuge ferret?
What was-he-to-do? Whither himself with-snatched twice his-wife should-he-take?
Quo fletu Manis, quae numina voce moveret?
With-what weeping the-Shades, what divinities with-voice could-he-move?
Illa quidem Stygia nabat iam frigida cymba.
She indeed in-Stygian was-floating now cold boat.
Septem illum totos perhibent ex ordine menses
Seven him whole they-say in order months
rupe sub aeria deserti ad Strymonis undam
a-rock beneath lofty of-the-lonely by Strymon the-water
flesse sibi et gelidis haec evolvisse sub antris
to-have-wept for-himself and cold these-woes to-have-unfolded beneath caves
mulcentem tigris et agentem carmine quercus;
soothing tigers and moving with-song oaks;
qualis populea maerens philomela sub umbra
as poplar mourning the-nightingale under shade
amissos queritur fetus, quos durus arator
lost laments her-young, whom the-hard plowman

observans nido implumis detraxit; at illa
watching from-the-nest unfledged has-dragged; but she
flet noctem, ramoque sedens miserabile carmen
weeps the-night, and-on-a-bough sitting her-piteous song
integrat, et maestis late loca questibus implet.
renews, and with-sad far places laments fills.
Nulla Venus, non ulli animum flexere hymenaei.
No Venus, not any his-spirit bent marriage-songs.
Solus Hyperboreas glacies Tanaimque nivalem
Alone the-Hyperborean ice and-the-Tanais snowy
arvaque Riphaeis numquam viduata pruinis
and-the-fields from-Riphaean never widowed frosts
lustrabat raptam Eurydicen atque inrita Ditis
he-ranged snatched-away Eurydice and the-vain of-Dis
dona querens; spretae Ciconum quo munere matres
gifts lamenting; spurned of-the-Cicones by-which tribute mothers
inter sacra deum nocturnique orgia Bacchi
amid the-rites of-the-gods and-of-the-nightly orgies Bacchus
discerptum latos iuvenem sparsere per agros.
torn-apart broad the-youth scattered over fields.
Tum quoque marmorea caput a cervice revulsum
Then even marble his-head from the-neck torn-off
gurgite cum medio portans Oeagrius Hebrus
in-the-swirl while middle carrying Oeagrian Hebrus
volveret, Eurydicen vox ipsa et frigida lingua,
rolled, Eurydice the-voice itself and cold the-tongue,
Ah! miseram Eurydicen anima fugiente vocabat,
Ah! wretched Eurydice with-the-soul fleeing called,
Eurydicen toto referebant flumine ripae.'
Eurydice along-the-whole echoed river the-banks.'

Haec Proteus, et se iactu dedit aequor in altum,
These-things Proteus, and himself with-a-leap gave the-sea into deep,
quaque dedit, spumantem undam sub vertice torsit.
and-where he-gave, foaming the-water under the-eddy whirled.
At non Cyrene; namque ultro adfata timentem:
But not Cyrene; for unasked having-addressed-him fearing:
'Nate, licet tristis animo deponere curas.
'Son, it-is-allowed sad from-your-mind to-lay-aside cares.
Haec omnis morbi causa, hinc miserabile Nymphae,
This all of-the-disease the-cause, hence a-piteous the-Nymphs,
cum quibus illa choros lucis agitabat in altis,
with whom she dances the-groves led in high,
exitium misere apibus. Tu munera supplex
destruction have-sent on-the-bees. You gifts suppliant
tende petens pacem, et facilis venerare Napaeas;
offer seeking peace, and gracious worship the-Napaeae;
namque dabunt veniam votis, irasque remittent.
for they-will-give pardon to-vows, and-their-wrath will-remit.
Sed modus orandi qui sit, prius ordine dicam.
But the-manner of-praying what is, first in-order I-will-tell.
Quatuor eximios praestanti corpore tauros,
Four choice with-surpassing body bulls,
qui tibi nunc viridis depascunt summa Lycaei,
which for-you now green graze-down the-heights of-Lycaeus,
delige, et intacta totidem cervice iuvencas.
pick-out, and with-untouched as-many neck heifers.
Quatuor his aras alta ad delubra dearum
Four for-these altars high by the-shrines of-the-goddesses
constitue, et sacrum iugulis demitte cruorem,
set-up, and the-sacred from-their-throats let-down blood,

corporaque ipsa boum frondoso desere luco.
and-the-bodies themselves of-the-oxen in-the-leafy leave grove.
Post ubi nona suos Aurora ostenderit ortus,
Afterward when the-ninth her Aurora shall-have-shown risings,
inferias Orphei Lethaea papavera mittes,
as-funeral-offerings to-Orpheus Lethean poppies you-shall-send,
et nigram mactabis ovem, lucumque revises:
and a-black shall-sacrifice ewe, and-the-grove shall-revisit:
placatam Eurydicen vitula venerabere caesa.'
appeased Eurydice with-a-heifer you-shall-worship slain.'
Haud mora; continuo matris praecepta facessit;
No delay; at-once of-his-mother the-commands he-performs;
ad delubra venit, monstratas excitat aras,
to the-shrines he-comes, the-shown he-raises altars,
quatuor eximios praestanti corpore tauros
four choice with-surpassing body bulls
ducit et intacta totidem cervice iuvencas.
he-leads and with-untouched as-many neck heifers.
Post ubi nona suos Aurora induxerat ortus,
Afterward when the-ninth her Aurora had-brought-on risings,
inferias Orphei mittit, lucumque revisit.
as-funeral-offerings to-Orpheus he-sends, and-the-grove revisits.
Hic vero subitum ac dictu mirabile monstrum
Here indeed a-sudden and to-tell wonderful portent
aspiciunt, liquefacta boum per viscera toto
they-behold, the-melted of-the-oxen through flesh in-the-whole
stridere apes utero et ruptis effervere costis,
to-hum bees belly and from-the-burst to-swarm-out ribs,
immensasque trahi nubes, iamque arbore summa
and-boundless to-be-drawn clouds, and-now on-the-tree's top

confluere et lentis uvam demittere ramis.
to-stream-together and from-pliant a-cluster to-let-hang boughs.
Haec super arvorum cultu pecorumque canebam
These-things about of-the-fields the-tilling and-of-the-flocks I-was-singing
et super arboribus, Caesar dum magnus ad altum
and about trees, Caesar while great by the-deep
fulminat Euphraten bello, victorque volentis
thunders Euphrates in-war, and-victor willing
per populos dat iura, viamque adfectat Olympo.
throughout peoples gives laws, and-the-way essays to-Olympus.
Illo Vergilium me tempore dulcis alebat
At-that Vergil me time sweet was-nourishing
Parthenope studiis florentem ignobilis oti,
Parthenope in-the-pursuits flourishing of-inglorious leisure,
carmina qui lusi pastorum, audaxque iuventa,
the-songs who played of-shepherds, and-bold in-youth,
Tityre, te patulae cecini sub tegmine fagi.
Tityrus, you of-the-spreading I-sang under the-cover beech.

CALPURNIUS SICULUS

Bucolica

The Eclogues of Calpurnius

In the late summer heat Corydon and Ornytus seek the shade of Faunus' grove, where they find verses fresh-cut in the bark of a beech. Ornytus reads them: Faunus foretells a golden age under a young god, with war chained in Tartarus, peace without hidden swords, the senate unchained, the laws restored, and a comet that portends no bloodshed. Awed, the shepherds resolve to sing the god's verses, hoping Meliboeus may carry them to august ears.

CORYDON Nondum Solis equos declinis mitigat aestas,
Not-yet of-the-Sun horses declining tempers summer,
quamuis et madidis incumbant prela racemis
although even on-moist bear-down presses grapes
et spument rauco feruentia musta susurro.
and foam with-hoarse seething musts murmur.
cernis ut ecce pater quas tradidit, Ornyte, uaccae
do-you-see how behold father which handed-over, Ornytus, cows
molle sub hirsuta latus explicuere genista?
soft under shaggy flank have-stretched broom?
nos quoque uicinis cur non succedimus umbris?
we also to-neighboring why not go-under shades?
torrida cur solo defendimus ora galero?
parched why with-only do-we-shield faces hat?
ORNYTUS Hoc potius, frater Corydon, nemus, antra petamus
This rather, brother Corydon, grove, caves let-us-seek
ista patris Fauni, graciles ubi pinea denset
those of-father Faunus, slender where piny thickens
silua comas rapidoque caput leuat obuia soli,
wood leaves and-to-swift head lifts facing sun,
bullantes ubi fagus aquas radice sub ipsa
bubbling where beech waters root under very

protegit et ramis errantibus implicat umbras.
shelters and with-branches wandering entwines shades.
CORYDON Quo me cumque uocas, sequor, Ornyte;
Whither me -ever you-call, I-follow, Ornytus;
nam mea Leuce,
for my Leuce,
dum negat amplexus nocturnaque gaudia nobis,
while she-denies embraces and-nightly joys to-us,
peruia cornigeri fecit sacraria Fauni.
open of-horned has-made shrines Faunus.
prome igitur calamos et si qua recondita seruas;
bring-out therefore reeds and if any hidden you-keep;
nec tibi defuerit mea fistula, quam mihi nuper
nor to-you will-be-lacking my pipe, which for-me lately
matura docilis compegit harundine Ladon.
with-ripe skillful fashioned reed Ladon.
ORNYTUS Et iam captatae pariter successimus umbrae.
And now to-sought alike we-have-come-under shade.
sed quaenam sacra descripta est pagina fago,
but what-ever on-sacred inscribed is page beech,
quam modo nescio quis properanti falce notauit?
which just-now I-know-not who with-hurrying sickle has-marked?
aspicis ut uirides etiam nunc littera rimas
do-you-see how green even now letter cracks
seruet et arenti nondum se laxet hiatu?
keeps and with-dry not-yet itself loosens gaping?
CORYDON Ornyte, fer propius tua lumina: tu potes alto
Ornytus, bring nearer your eyes: you can high
codice descriptos citius percurrere uersus;
on-trunk inscribed more-quickly to-run-through verses;

nam tibi longa satis pater internodia largus
for to-you long enough father joints generous
procerumque dedit mater non inuida corpus.
and-tall gave mother not grudging body.
ORNYTUS Non pastor, non haec triuiali more uiator,
Not shepherd, not this in-common manner wayfarer,
sed deus ipse canit: nihil armentale resultat,
but god himself sings: nothing of-the-herd resounds,
nec montana sacros distinguunt iubila uersus.
nor mountain sacred punctuate yodels verses.
CORYDON Mira refers; sed rumpe moras oculoque sequaci
Wonders you-report; but break delays and-with-eye following
quamprimum nobis diuinum perlege carmen.
as-soon-as-may-be for-us divine read-through song.
ORNYTUS 'Qui iuga, qui siluas tueor, satus aethere Faunus,
'Who ridges, who woods guard, sprung from-heaven Faunus,
haec populis uentura cano: iuuat arbore sacra
these-things to-peoples coming I-sing: it-pleases on-tree sacred
laeta patefactis incidere carmina fatis.
glad with-opened to-carve songs fates.
uos o praecipue nemorum gaudete coloni,
you o especially of-groves rejoice dwellers,
uos populi gaudete mei: licet omne uagetur
you peoples rejoice my: granted all may-wander
securo custode pecus nocturnaque pastor
with-carefree guardian flock and-at-night shepherd
claudere fraxinea nolit praesepia crate,
to-close with-ashen may-not-wish folds hurdle,
non tamen insidias praedator ouilibus ullas
not however ambushes robber for-sheepfolds any

adferet aut laxis abiget iumenta capistris,
will-bring or with-loosened will-drive-off cattle halters,
aurea secura cum pace renascitur aetas
golden carefree with peace is-reborn age
et redit ad terras tandem squalore situque
and returns to lands at-last with-squalor and-neglect
alma Themis posito iuuenemque beata secuntur
kindly Themis laid-aside and-the-youth blessed follow
saecula, maternis causam qui uicit Iulis.
ages, for-maternal case who won Iulii.
dum populos deus ipse reget, dabit impia uinctas
while peoples god himself will-rule, will-give impious bound
post tergum Bellona manus spoliataque telis
behind back Bellona hands and-stripped of-weapons
in sua uesanos torquebit uiscera morsus
into her-own mad will-turn entrails bites
et modo quae toto ciuilia distulit orbe,
and lately which over-whole civil spread world,
secum bella geret: nullos iam Roma Philippos
with-herself wars will-wage: no now Rome Philippi
deflebit, nullos ducet captiua triumphos;
will-lament, no will-lead captive triumphs;
omnia Tartareo subigentur carcere bella
all in-Tartarean will-be-thrust prison wars
inmergentque caput tenebris lucemque timebunt.
and-will-plunge head in-darkness and-light will-fear.
candida pax aderit, nec solum candida uultu,
bright peace will-be-present, not only bright in-face,
qualis saepe fuit, quae libera Marte professo,
such-as often she-was, who free with-Mars declared,

quae domito procul hoste, tamen grassantibus armis
who with-tamed far enemy, however with-raging arms
publica diffudit tacito discordia ferro:
public spread with-silent discord sword:
omne procul uitium simulatae cedere pacis
every far vice of-feigned to-yield peace
iussit et insanos Clementia contudit enses,
has-ordered and mad Clemency has-crushed swords,
nulla catenati feralis pompa senatus
no of-chained funereal procession senate
carnificum lassabit opus, nec carcere pleno
of-executioners will-weary work, nor with-prison full
infelix raros numerabit Curia patres.
unhappy few will-count Curia fathers.
plena quies aderit, quae stricti nescia ferri
full quiet will-be-present, which of-drawn ignorant sword
altera Saturni referet Latialia regna,
second of-Saturn will-bring-back Latian realms,
altera regna Numae, qui primus ouantia caede
second realms of-Numa, who first exulting in-slaughter
agmina, Romuleis et adhuc ardentia castris,
columns, in-Romulean and still burning camps,
pacis opus docuit iussitque silentibus armis
of-peace work taught and-ordered with-silent arms
inter sacra tubas, non inter bella, sonare.
amid rites trumpets, not amid wars, to-sound.
iam nec adumbrati faciem mercatus honoris
now nor of-shadowy face having-bought honor
nec uacuos tacitus fasces et inane tribunal
nor empty silent fasces and void tribunal

accipiet consul; sed legibus omne reductis
will-receive consul; but with-laws all brought-back
ius aderit moremque fori uultumque priorem
right will-be-present and-custom of-forum and-face former
reddet et adflictum melior deus auferet aeuum,
will-restore and stricken better god will-remove age,
exsultet quaecumque Notum gens ima iacentem
let-exult whatever Notus nation lowest lying
erectumue colit Boream, quaecumque uel ortu
or-raised inhabits Boreas, whatever either at-rising
uel tepet occasu medioue sub aethere feruit.
or is-warm at-setting or-middle under sky burns.
cernitis ut puro nox iam uicesima caelo
do-you-see how in-clear night now twentieth sky
fulgeat et placida radiantem luce cometem
shines and with-calm beaming light comet
proferat? ut liquidum niteat sine uulnere sidus?
brings-forth? how clear gleams without wound star?
numquid utrumque polum, sicut solet, igne cruento
surely-not each pole, as it-is-wont, with-fire bloody
spargit et ardenti scintillat sanguine lampas?
sprinkles and with-burning sparkles blood torch?
at quondam non talis erat, cum Caesare rapto
but once not such it-was, when with-Caesar snatched
indixit miseris fatalia ciuibus arma.
it-proclaimed to-wretched fatal citizens arms.
scilicet ipse deus Romanae pondera molis
of-course himself god of-Roman weights mass
fortibus excipiet sic inconcussa lacertis,
on-strong will-take-up so unshaken arms,

ut neque translati sonitu fragor intonet orbis
that neither of-transferred with-sound crash may-thunder world
nec prius a meritis defunctos Roma penates
nor sooner from services discharged Rome household-gods
censeat, occasus nisi cum respexerit ortus.'
may-reckon, settings unless when has-looked-back-on risings.'
CORYDON Ornyte, iam dudum uelut ipso numine plenum
Ornytus, now long-since as-if with-very divinity full
me quatit et mixtus subit inter gaudia terror. 90
me shakes and mingled steals-in amid joys terror.
sed bona facundi ueneremur numina Fauni.
but kindly of-eloquent let-us-revere divinity Faunus.
ORNYTUS Carmina, quae nobis deus obtulit ipse canenda,
Songs, which to-us god offered himself to-be-sung,
dicamus teretique sonum modulemur auena:
let-us-recite and-on-smooth sound let-us-tune oat:
forsitan Augustas feret haec Meliboeus ad aures.
perhaps August will-bring these Meliboeus to ears.

The shepherd Idas and the gardener Astacus, both in love with Crocale, contend in song before Thyrsis, while beasts, birds, Faunus, the Satyrs, and the Dryads gather and the rivers and winds fall still. In alternate verses they set Silvanus, Pales, and the flock against Flora, Pomona, and the garden, grafting, gifts, and their own beauty, Idas promising Crocale his year and Astacus his garden. As evening comes, Thyrsis declares them equal and bids them live in concord, joined by grace, song, love, and age.

Intactam Crocalen puer Astacus et puer Idas,
Untouched Crocale boy Astacus and boy Idas,
Idas lanigeri dominus gregis, Astacus horti,
Idas of-wool-bearing master flock, Astacus of-garden,
dilexere diu, formosus uterque nec impar
loved long, handsome each nor unequal
uoce sonans. hi cum terras grauis ureret aestas,
in-voice sounding. these when lands heavy was-burning summer,
ad gelidos fontes et easdem forte sub umbras
to cool springs and same by-chance under shades
conueniunt dulcique simul contendere cantu
come-together and-in-sweet together to-contend song
pignoribusque parant: placet, hic ut uellera septem,
and-with-stakes prepare: it-is-agreed, this-one that fleeces seven,
ille sui uictus ne messem uindicet horti;
that-one his-own conquered lest harvest should-claim garden;
et magnum certamen erat sub iudice Thyrsi.
and great contest was under judge Thyrsis.
adfuit omne genus pecudum, genus omne ferarum
was-present every kind of-cattle, kind every of-beasts

et quodcumque uagis altum ferit aera pennis,
and whatever with-wandering high strikes air wings,
conuenit umbrosa quicumque sub ilice lentus
came shady whoever under holm-oak slow
pascit oues, Faunusque pater Satyrique bicornes;
grazes sheep, and-Faunus father and-Satyrs two-horned;
adfuerunt sicco Dryades pede, Naides udo,
were-present with-dry Dryads foot, Naiads wet,
et tenuere suos properantia flumina cursus;
and held-back their hurrying rivers courses;
desistunt tremulis incurrere frondibus Euri
cease trembling to-run-against leaves East-winds
altaque per totos fecere silentia montes.
and-deep through whole made silences mountains.
omnia cessabant, neglectaque pascua tauri
all-things were-idle, and-neglected pastures bulls
calcabant, illis etiam certantibus ausa est
trod, with-them even contending dared has
daedala nectareos apis intermittere flores.
skillful nectar-bearing bee to-leave-off flowers.
iamque sub annosa medius consederat umbra
and-now under aged in-the-middle had-sat-down shade
Thyrsis et ‘o pueri, me iudice pignora’ dixit
Thyrsis and ‘o boys, with-me judge stakes’ said
‘irrita sint moneo: satis hoc mercedis habeto,
‘void be I-warn: enough this of-reward have,
si laudem uictor, si fert obprobria uictus.
if praise victor, if bears reproaches conquered.
et nunc alternos magis ut distinguere cantus
and now alternate more that to-distinguish songs

possitis, ter quisque manus iactate micantes.'
you-may-be-able, three-times each hands throw flashing.'
nec mora: decernunt digitis, prior incipit Idas.
nor delay: they-decide with-fingers, first begins Idas.
IDAS Me Siluanus amat, dociles mihi donat auenas
Me Silvanus loves, docile to-me gives oats
et mea frondenti circumdat tempora taeda,
and my with-leafy surrounds temples pine,
ille etiam paruo dixit mihi non leue carmen:
he also to-small said to-me not light song:
'Iam leuis obliqua crescat tibi fistula canna.'
'Now light with-slanting may-grow for-you pipe reed.'
ASTACUS Et mihi Flora comas pallenti gramine pingit
And for-me Flora hair with-pale grass paints
et matura mihi Pomona sub arbore ludit.
and ripe for-me Pomona under tree plays.
'Accipe,' dixerunt Nymphae 'puer, accipe fontes:
'Take,' said Nymphs 'boy, take springs:
iam potes inriguos nutrire canalibus hortos.'
now you-can well-watered to-nourish with-channels gardens.'
IDAS Me docet ipsa Pales cultum gregis, ut niger albae
Me teaches herself Pales care of-flock, how black of-white
terga maritus ouis nascenti mutet in agna,
back mate ewe being-born may-change in lamb,
quae neque diuersi speciem seruare parentis
which neither of-differing likeness to-keep parent
possit et ambiguo testetur utrumque colore.
can and with-doubtful may-witness each color.
ASTACUS Non minus arte mea mutabilis induit arbos
Not less by-art my changeable puts-on tree

ignotas frondes et non genitalia poma:
unknown leaves and not native fruits:
ars mea nunc malo pira temperat et modo cogit
art my now with-apple pears tempers and now forces
insita praecoquibus subrepere persica prunis.
grafted on-early to-creep-under peaches plums.
IDAS Me teneras salices iuuat aut oleastra putare
Me tender willows it-pleases or wild-olives to-prune
et gregibus portare nouis, ut carpere frondes
and to-flocks to-carry new, that to-crop leaves
condiscant primoque recidere gramina morsu,
they-may-learn and-with-first to-cut grasses bite,
ne depulsa uagas quaerat fetura parentes.
lest weaned wandering may-seek offspring parents.
ASTACUS At mihi cum uulsis radicibus arida tellus
But for-me when with-plucked roots dry earth
pangitur, inriguo perfunditur area fonte
is-planted, with-watering is-drenched bed spring
et satiatur aqua, sucos ne forte priores
and is-sated with-water, juices lest by-chance former
languida mutata quaerant plantaria terra.
drooping with-changed may-seek seedlings soil.
IDAS O si quis Crocalen deus adferat! hunc ego terris,
O if any Crocale god would-bring! him I over-lands,
hunc ego sideribus solum regnare fatebor;
him I over-stars alone to-reign will-confess;
secernamque nemus dicamque 'Sub arbore numen
and-I-will-set-apart grove and-will-say 'Under tree divinity
hac erit; ite procul (sacer est locus) ite profani.'
this will-be; go far (sacred is place) go profane.'

ASTACUS Urimur in Crocalen: si quis mea uota deorum
We-burn for Crocale: if any my prayers of-gods
audiat, huic soli, uirides qua gemmeus undas
should-hear, to-him alone, green where jeweled waves
fons agit et tremulo percurrit lilia riuo,
spring drives and with-trembling runs-through lilies stream,
inter pampineas ponetur faginus ulmos.
amid vine-clad will-be-set beechen elms.
IDAS Ne contemne casas et pastoralia tecta:
Do-not despise huts and pastoral roofs:
rusticus est, fateor, sed non et barbarus Idas.
rustic is, I-confess, but not also barbarous Idas.
saepe uaporato mihi caespite palpitat agnus,
often on-steaming for-me turf throbs lamb,
saepe cadit festis deuota Parilibus agna.
often falls at-festive vowed Parilia ewe-lamb.
ASTACUS Nos quoque pomiferi Laribus consueuimus horti
We also of-fruit-bearing to-Lares have-been-accustomed garden
mittere primitias et figere liba Priapo,
to-send first-fruits and to-fix cakes on-Priapus,
rorantesque fauos damus et liquentia mella;
and-dewy combs we-give and flowing honeys;
nec sunt grata minus, quam si caper imbuat aras.
nor are pleasing less, than if he-goat should-stain altars.
IDAS Mille sub uberibus balantes pascimus agnas,
Thousand under udders bleating we-pasture ewe-lambs,
totque Tarentinae praestant mihi uellera matres;
and-as-many Tarentine furnish to-me fleeces mothers;
per totum niueus premitur mihi caseus annum:
through whole snowy is-pressed for-me cheese year:

si uenias, Crocale, totus tibi seruiet annus.
if you-should-come, Crocale, whole for-you will-serve year.

ASTACUS Qui numerare uelit quam multa sub arbore nostra
Who to-count would-wish how many under tree our

poma legam, tenues citius numerabit harenas.
fruits I-gather, slender sooner will-count sands.

semper holus metimus, nec bruma nec impedit aestas:
always greens we-reap, neither winter nor binders summer:

si uenias, Crocale, totus tibi seruiet hortus.
if you-should-come, Crocale, whole for-you will-serve garden.

IDAS Quamuis siccus ager languentes excoquat herbas,
Although dry field drooping may-scorch grasses,

sume tamen calathos nutanti lacte coactos:
take however baskets with-nodding milk curdled:

uellera tunc dabimus, cum primum tempus apricum
fleeces then we-shall-give, when first season sunny

surget et a tepidis fiet tonsura Kalendis.
shall-rise and from warm shall-be shearing Kalends.

ASTACUS At nos, quos etiam praetorrida munerat aestas,
But we, whom even very-parching rewards summer,

mille renidenti dabimus tibi cortice chias,
thousand with-gleaming will-give to-you rind Chian-figs,

castaneasque nuces totidem, cum sole Decembri
and-chestnut nuts as-many, when with-sun December

maturis nucibus uirides rumpentur echinni.
at-ripe nuts green will-be-burst husks.

IDAS Num, precor, informis uideor tibi? num grauis annis?
Surely-not, I-pray, ugly do-I-seem to-you? surely-not heavy with-years?

decipiorque miser, quotiens mollissima tango
and-am-I-deceived wretched, whenever softest I-touch

ora manu primique sequor uestigia floris
cheeks with-hand and-of-first I-follow traces bloom
nescius et gracili digitos lanugine fallo?
unknowing and with-slender fingers down I-deceive?
ASTACUS Fontibus in liquidis quotiens me conspicor, ipse
Springs in clear whenever myself I-behold, myself
admiror totiens. etenim sic flore iuuentae
I-admire as-often. indeed thus with-bloom of-youth
induimur uultus, ut in arbore saepe notaui
we-put-on face, as on tree often I-have-noted
cerea sub tenui lucere cydonia lana.
waxen under thin to-shine quinces wool.
IDAS Carmina poscit amor nec fistula cedit amori.
Songs demands love nor pipe yields to-love.
sed fugit ecce dies reuocatque crepuscula uesper.
but flees behold day and-calls-back twilight evening-star.
hinc tu, Daphni, greges, illinc agat Alphesiboeus.
hence you, Daphnis, flocks, thence let-drive Alphesiboeus.
ASTACUS Iam resonant frondes, iam cantibus obstrepit arbos:
Now resound leaves, now to-songs roars tree:
i procul, i Doryla, plenumque reclude canalem
go far, go Dorylas, and-full open channel
et sine iam dudum sitientes irriget hortos. —
and let now long thirsting water gardens.
uix ea finierant, senior cum talia Thyrsis:
scarcely those-things they-had-finished, elder when such Thyrsis:
'Este pares: et ob hoc concordes uiuite; nam uos
'Be equal: and on-account-of this harmonious live; for you
et decor et cantus et amor sociauit et aetas.'
both grace and song and love has-joined and age.'

III · LYCIDAS' LAMENT

Iollas, seeking a lost heifer, finds Lycidas burning for Phyllis, who has left him for Mopsus after he beat her in jealousy. Iollas sends Tityrus after the heifer and offers to carry the message, and Lycidas dictates a song for him to cut in cherry bark: lilies are black and wine sour without her; he is fairer and richer than Mopsus; he offers his hands for binding, and if she refuses he will hang himself, leaving an epitaph against fickle girls. Iollas goes, taking Tityrus' return with the heifer found as a good omen.

IOLLAS Numquid in hac, Lycida, uidisti forte iuuencam
Surely-not in this, Lycidas, have-you-seen by-chance heifer
ualle meam? solet ista tuis ocurrere tauris,
valley my? she-is-wont that to-your to-run-to bulls,
et iam paene duas, dum quaeritur, eximit horas;
and now nearly two, while she-is-sought, takes-away hours;
nec tamen apparet. duris ego perdita ruscis
nor however she-appears. with-hard I ruined butcher's-broom
iam dudum nullus dubitaui crura rubetis
now long not-at-all I-have-hesitated legs on-brambles
scindere, nec quicquam post tantum sanguinis egi.
to-tear, nor anything after so-much of-blood I-have-achieved.
LYCIDAS Non satis attendi: nec enim uacat. uror, Iolla,
Not enough I-attended: nor indeed is-there-leisure. I-burn, Iollas,
uror, et inmodice: Lycidan ingrata reliquit
I-burn, and beyond-measure: Lycidas ungrateful has-left
Phyllis amatque nouum post tot mea munera Mopsum.
Phyllis and-loves new after so-many my gifts Mopsus.
IOLLAS Mobilior uentis o femina! sic tua Phyllis:
More-fickle than-winds o woman! so your Phyllis:

quae sibi (nam memini), si quando solus abesses,
who to-herself (for I-remember), if ever alone you-were-absent,
mella etiam sine te iurabat amara uideri.
honey even without you swore bitter to-seem.
LYCIDAS Altius ista querar, si forte uacabis, Iolla.
More-deeply those-things I-shall-lament, if perhaps you-will-be-free, Iollas.
has pete nunc salices et laeuas flecte sub ulmos,
these seek now willows and left turn under elms,
nam cum prata calent, illic requiescere noster
for when meadows are-hot, there to-rest our
taurus amat gelidaque iacet spatiosus in umbra
bull loves and-cool lies at-length in shade
et matutinas reuocat palearibus herbas.
and morning chews-again with-dewlaps grasses.
IOLLAS Non equidem, Lycida, quauis contentus abibo.
Not indeed, Lycidas, with-any content I-shall-go-away.
Tityre, quas dixit, salices pete solus et illinc,
Tityrus, which he-said, willows seek alone and thence,
si tamen inuenies, deprensam uerbere multo
if however you-will-find-her, caught with-blow much
huc age; sed fractum referas hastile memento,
hither drive; but broken bring-back spear-shaft remember,
nunc age dic, Lycida: quae uos tam magna tulere
now come tell, Lycidas: what you so great have-borne
iurgia? quis uestro deus interuenit amori?
quarrels? what to-your god has-intervened love?
LYCIDAS Phyllide contentus sola (tu testis, Iolla)
With-Phyllis content alone (you witness, Iollas)
Callirhoen spreui, quamuis cum dote rogaret:
Callirhoe I-scorned, although with dowry she-asked:

en ibi cum Mopso calamos intexere cera
look there with Mopsus reeds to-weave with-wax
incipit et puero comitata sub ilice cantat,
she-begins and with-boy accompanied under holm-oak sings,
haec ego cum uidi, fateor, sic intimus arsi,
these-things I when I-saw, I-confess, so to-the-core I-burned,
ut nihil ulterius tulerim. nam protinus ambas
that nothing further I-could-bear. for at-once both
diduxi tunicas et pectora nuda cecidi.
I-tore-apart tunics and breasts bare I-beat.
Alcippen irata petit dixitque 'Relicto,
Alcippe angry she-seeks and-said 'With-abandoned,
improbe, te, Lycida, Mopsum tua Phyllis amabit.'
wicked, you, Lycidas, Mopsus your Phyllis will-love.'
nunc penes Alcippen manet ac ne forte negetur,
now in-the-house-of Alcippe she-stays and lest perhaps she-be-refused,
a! uereor; nec tam nobis ego Phyllida reddi
ah! I-fear; nor so-much to-us I Phyllis to-be-returned
exopto quam cum Mopso iurgetur anhelo.
long-for as-much-as with Mopsus she-may-quarrel I-pant.
IOLLAS A te coeperunt tua iurgia; tu prior illi
From you have-begun your quarrels; you first to-her
uictas tende manus; decet indulgere puellae,
conquered stretch hands; it-befits to-indulge girl,
uel cum prima nocet. si quid mandare iuuabit,
even when first she-harms. if anything to-entrust it-will-delight,
sedulus iratae contingam nuntius aures.
diligent angry I-shall-reach messenger ears.
LYCIDAS Iam dudum meditor, quo Phyllida carmine placem.
Now long I-ponder, with-what Phyllis song I-may-appease.

forsitan audito poterit mitescere cantu;
perhaps with-heard she-will-be-able to-soften song;
et solet illa meas ad sidera ferre Camenas.
and she-is-wont she my to stars to-bear Camenae.
IOLLAS Dic age nunc; cerasi tua cortice uerba notabo
Say come now; of-cherry your on-bark words I-shall-mark
et decisa feram rutilanti carmina libro.
and cut I-shall-bring on-ruddy songs bark.
LYCIDAS Has tibi, Phylli, preces iam pallidus, hos tibi cantus
These to-you, Phyllis, prayers now pale, these to-you songs
dat Lycidas, quos nocte miser modulatur acerba,
gives Lycidas, which by-night wretched he-tunes bitter,
dum flet et excluso disperdit lumina somno.
while he-weeps and with-shut-out wastes eyes sleep.
non sic destricta marcescit turdus oliua,
not so with-stripped wastes-away thrush olive,
non lepus, extremas legulus cum sustulit uuas,
not hare, last gleaner when has-carried-off grapes,
ut Lycidas domina sine Phyllide tabidus erro.
as Lycidas mistress without Phyllis wasting I-wander.
te sine, uae misero, mihi lilia nigra uidentur
you without, woe wretched, to-me lilies black seem
nec sapiunt fontes et acescunt uina bibenti.
nor taste springs and grow-sour wines to-the-drinker.
at si tu uenias, et candida lilia fient
but if you should-come, both white lilies will-become
et sapient fontes et dulcia uina bibentur.
and will-taste springs and sweet wines will-be-drunk.
ille ego sum Lycidas, quo te cantante solebas
that I am Lycidas, with-whom you singing you-were-wont

dicere felicem, cui dulcia saepe dedisti
to-call happy, to-whom sweet often you-gave
oscula nec medios dubitasti rumpere cantus
kisses nor middle you-hesitated to-break songs
atque inter calamos errantia labra petisti.
and between reeds wandering lips you-sought.
a dolor! et post haec placuit tibi torrida Mopsi
ah grief! and after these-things has-pleased you parched of-Mopsus
uox et carmen iners et acerbae stridor auenae? 60
voice and song sluggish and of-harsh screech oat?
quem sequeris? quem, Phylli, fugis? formosior illo
whom do-you-follow? whom, Phyllis, do-you-flee? more-handsome than-him
dicor, et hoc ipsum mihi tu iurare solebas.
I-am-said, and this itself to-me you to-swear were-wont.
sum quoque diuitior: certauerit ille tot haedos
I-am also richer: let-him-vie he so-many kids
pascere quot nostri numerantur uespere tauri.
to-pasture as-many-as our are-counted at-evening bulls.
quid tibi, quae nosti referam? scis, optima Phylli, 65
why to-you, what you-know shall-I-relate? you-know, best Phyllis,
quam numerosa meis siccetur bucula mulctris
how numerous into-my is-drained heifer milk-pails
et quam multa suos suspendat ad ubera natos.
and how many her-own she-hangs at udders young.
sed mihi nec gracili sine te fiscella salicto
but for-me neither with-slender without you basket willow
texitur et nullo tremuere coagula lacte.
is-woven and with-no have-curdled rennets milk.
quod si dura times etiam nunc uerbera, Phylli, 70
but if hard you-fear even now blows, Phyllis,

tradimus ecce manus: licet illae uimine torto,
we-hand-over behold hands: granted they with-osier twisted,
seu licet, et lenta post tergum uite domentur,
or granted, also with-pliant behind back vine may-be-tamed,
ut mala nocturni religauit bracchia Mopsi
as evil of-nocturnal bound arms Mopsus
Tityrus et furem medio suspendit ouili.
Tityrus and thief in-middle hung sheepfold.
accipe, ne dubites: meruit manus utraque poenas.
take, do-not doubt: has-deserved hand each punishments.
his tamen, his isdem manibus tibi saepe palumbes,
with-these however, these same hands to-you often doves,
saepe etiam leporem decepta matre pauentem
often even hare with-deceived mother trembling
misimus in gremium; per me tibi lilia prima
we-sent into lap; through me for-you lilies first
contigerant primaeque rosae: uixdum bene florem
had-befallen and-first roses: scarcely well flower
degustabat apis, tu cingebare coronis.
was-tasting bee, you were-girt with-garlands.
aurea sed forsan mendax tibi munera iactat,
golden but perhaps liar to-you gifts boasts,
qui metere occidua ferales nocte lupinos
who to-reap at-falling funereal night lupines
dicitur et cocto pensare legumine panem:
is-said and with-cooked to-make-up-for pulse bread:
qui sibi tunc felix, tunc fortunatus habetur,
who to-himself then happy, then fortunate is-held,
uilia cum subigit manualibus hordea saxis.
cheap when he-crushes with-hand barley millstones.

quodsi turpis amor precibus, quod abominor, istis
but-if foul love prayers, which I-abhor, these
obstiterit, laqueum miseri nectemus ab illa
shall-have-blocked, noose wretched we-shall-tie from that
ilice, quae nostros primum uiolauit amores.
holm-oak, which our first violated loves.
hi tamen ante mala figentur in arbore uersus:
these however before evil will-be-fixed on tree verses:
'Credere, pastores, leuibus nolite puellis;
'Believe, shepherds, fickle do-not girls;
Phyllida Mopsus habet, Lycidan habet ultima rerum.' —
Phyllis Mopsus has, Lycidas has the-last of-things.'
nunc age, si quicquam miseris succurris, Iolla,
now come, if at-all to-the-wretched you-help, Iollas,
perfer et exora modulato Phyllida cantu.
carry-through and entreat with-measured Phyllis song.
ipse procul stabo uel acuta carice tectus
I-myself far-off shall-stand either by-sharp sedge covered
uel propius latitans uicina saepe sub horti.
or nearer lurking neighboring hedge under of-garden.
IOLLAS Ibimus: et ueniet, nisi me praesagia fallunt.
We-shall-go: and she-will-come, unless me forebodings deceive.
nam bonus a dextro fecit mihi Tityrus omen,
for good from right has-made for-me Tityrus omen,
qui uenit inuenta non irritus ecce iuuenca.
who comes with-found not empty-handed behold heifer.

Corydon, under a plane tree, tells Meliboeus he is pondering songs for the golden age and the god who rules in peace; but for Meliboeus' kindness he would be a hired herdsman by the Baetis at the world's end. Trying the pipe Iollas gave him, once Tityrus', Corydon and his brother Amyntas sing by turns of Caesar: next to Jupiter, the woods falling silent, flocks and harvests flourishing, peace in the hills, and a prayer that the young god's life be long. Meliboeus praises them, Corydon asks him to carry his songs to the god, and the sheep are led to the river at noon.

MELIBOEUS Quid tacitus, Corydon, uultuque subinde minaci
Why silent, Corydon, and-with-face repeatedly threatening
quidue sub hac platano, quam garrulus astrepit umor,
or-why under this plane, which chattering murmurs-at water,
insueta statione sedes? iuuat herbida forsan
in-unwonted station do-you-sit? pleases grassy perhaps
ripa leuatque diem uicini spiritus amnis?
bank and-lightens day of-neighboring breath river?
CORYDON Carmina iam dudum, non quae nemorale resultent,
Songs now long, not which woodland may-resound,
uoluimus, o Meliboee; sed haec, quibus aurea possint
we-ponder, o Meliboeus; but these, by-which golden may-be-able
saecula cantari, quibus et deus ipse canatur,
ages to-be-sung, by-which also god himself may-be-sung,
qui populos urbesque regit pacemque togatam.
who peoples and-cities rules and-peace toga-clad.
MELIBOEUS Dulce quidem resonas, nec te diuersus Apollo
Sweetly indeed you-sound, nor you hostile Apollo
despicit, o iuuenis, sed magnae numina Romae
despises, o young-man, but of-great divinity Rome

non ita cantari debent, ut ouile Menalcae.
not so to-be-sung ought, as sheepfold of-Menalcas.
CORYDON Quidquid id est, siluestre licet uideatur acutis
Whatever it is, rustic granted it-may-seem to-sharp
auribus et nostro tantum memorabile pago,
ears and to-our only memorable village,
non mea rusticitas, si non ualet arte polita
not my rusticity, if not it-avails by-art polished
carminis, at certe ualeat pietate probari?
of-song, but surely may-avail by-dutifulness to-be-approved?
rupe sub hac, eadem quam maxima pinus obumbrat,
rock under this, same which greatest pine overshadows,
haec eadem nobis frater meditatur Amyntas,
these same-things for-us brother ponders Amyntas,
quem uicina meis natalibus admouet aetas.
whom neighboring to-my birthdays brings-near age.
MELIBOEUS Iam puerum calamos et odorae uincula cerae
Now boy reeds and of-fragrant bonds wax
iungere non cohibes, leuibus quem saepe cicutis
to-join not do-you-restrain, on-light whom often hemlock-pipes
ludere conantem uetuisti fronte paterna?
to-play trying you-forbade with-brow paternal?
dicentem, Corydon, te non semel ista notaui:
saying, Corydon, you not once these-things I-noted:
'Frange, puer, calamos et inanes desere Musas;
'Break, boy, reeds and empty desert Muses;
i, potius glandes rubicundaque collige corna,
go, rather acorns and-ruddy gather cornel-berries,
duc ad mulctra greges et lac uenale per urbem
lead to milk-pails flocks and milk for-sale through city

non tacitus porta. quid enim tibi fistula reddet,
not silent carry. what indeed to-you pipe will-return,
quo tutere famem? certe mea carmina nemo
by-which you-may-ward-off hunger? surely my songs no-one
praeter ab his scopulis uentosa remurmurat echo.'
except from these crags windy murmurs-back echo.'
CORYDON Haec ego, confiteor, dixi, Meliboee, sed olim:
These-things I, I-confess, said, Meliboeus, but once:
non eadem nobis sunt tempora, non deus idem.
not same for-us are times, not god same.
spes magis adridet: certe ne fraga rubosque
hope more smiles: surely that-not strawberries and-brambles
colligerem uiridique famem solarer hibisco,
I-should-gather and-with-green hunger should-console mallow,
tu facis et tua nos alit indulgentia farre;
you bring-about and your us feeds kindness with-grain;
tu nostras miseratus opes docilemque iuuentam
you our having-pitied means and-teachable youth
hiberna prohibes ieiunia soluere fago.
wintry forbid fasts to-break with-beech-mast.
ecce nihil querulum per te, Meliboee, sonamus;
behold nothing plaintive through you, Meliboeus, we-sound;
per te secura saturi recubamus in umbra
through you carefree sated we-recline in shade
et fruimur siluis Amaryllidos, ultima nuper,
and enjoy woods of-Amaryllis, the-last lately,
litora terrarum, nisi tu, Meliboee, fuisses,
shores of-lands, unless you, Meliboeus, had-been,
ultima uisuri, trucibus obnoxia Mauris
the-last going-to-see, to-savage exposed Moors

pascua Geryonis, liquidis ubi cursibus ingens
pastures of-Geryon, with-liquid where courses huge
dicitur occiduas impellere Baetis harenas.
is-said western to-drive Baetis sands.
scilicet extremo nunc uilis in orbe iacerem,
of-course farthest now cheap in world I-would-lie,
a dolor! et pecudes inter conductus Hiberas
ah grief! and cattle among hired Iberian
irrita septena modularer sibila canna;
vain on-sevenfold I-would-tune whistlings reed;
nec quisquam nostras inter dumeta Camenas
nor anyone our among thickets Camenae
respiceret; non ipse daret mihi forsitan aurem,
would-regard; not himself would-give to-me perhaps ear,
ipse deus uacuam longeque sonantia uota
himself god empty and-far sounding prayers
scilicet extremo non exaudiret in orbe.
of-course farthest not would-hear in world.
sed nisi forte tuas melior sonus aduocat aures
but unless perhaps your better sound summons ears
et nostris aliena magis tibi carmina rident,
and to-our foreign more to-you songs smile,
uis, hodierna tua subigatur pagina lima?
do-you-wish, today's by-your may-be-worked page file?
nam tibi non tantum uenturos dicere uentos
for to-you not only coming to-tell winds
agricolis qualemque ferat sol aureus ortum
to-farmers and-what-kind may-bring sun golden rising
attribuere dei, sed dulcia carmina saepe
have-granted gods, but sweet songs often

concinis, et modo te Baccheis Musa corymbis
you-sing, and now you with-Bacchic Muse ivy-clusters
munerat et lauro modo pulcher obumbrat Apollo.
rewards and with-laurel now handsome overshadows Apollo.
quod si tu faueas trepido mihi, forsitan illos
but if you should-favor trembling me, perhaps those
experiar calamos, here quos mihi doctus Iollas
I-shall-try reeds, yesterday which to-me learned Iollas
donauit dixitque 'Truces haec fistula tauros
gave and-said 'Fierce this pipe bulls
conciliat: nostroque sonat dulcissima Fauno.
wins-over: and-to-our sounds sweetest Faunus.
Tityrus hanc habuit, cecinit qui primus in istis
Tityrus this had, sang who first in these
montibus Hyblaea carmen modulatus auena.'
mountains on-Hyblaean song having-tuned oat.'
MELIBOEUS Magna petis, Corydon, si Tityrus esse laboras.
Great-things you-seek, Corydon, if Tityrus to-be you-strive.
ille fuit uates sacer et qui posset auena
he was bard sacred and who could on-oat
praesonuisse chelyn, blandae cui saepe canenti
to-have-outsounded lyre, alluring to-whom often singing
adlusere ferae, cui substitit aduena quercus,
played-about beasts, for-whom stood-still stranger oak,
quem modo cantantem rutilo spargebat acantho
whom just-now singing with-ruddy was-sprinkling acanthus
Nais et implicitos comebat pectine crines.
Naiad and entwined was-combing with-comb locks.
CORYDON Est (fateor, Meliboee,) deus: sed nec mihi Phoebus
It-is (I-confess, Meliboeus,) god: but nor to-me Phoebus

forsitan abnuerit; tu tantum commodus audi:
perhaps will-refuse; you only obliging listen:
scimus enim, quam te non aspernetur Apollo.
we-know indeed, how you not may-scorn Apollo.
MELIBOEUS Incipe, nam faueo; sed prospice, ne tibi forte
Begin, for I-favor; but look-out, lest for-you perhaps
tinnula tam fragili respiret fistula buxo,
tinkling so with-frail may-breathe pipe boxwood,
quam resonare solet, si quando laudat Alexin,
as to-resound it-is-wont, if ever it-praises Alexis,
hos potius, magis hos calamos sectare: canales
these rather, more these reeds pursue: channels
exprime, qui dignas cecinerunt consule siluas.
press-out, which worthy sang of-consul woods.
incipe, ne dubita. uenit en et frater Amyntas:
begin, do-not hesitate. comes look also brother Amyntas:
cantibus iste tuis alterno succinet ore.
to-songs that-one your with-alternate will-sing-in-answer mouth.
ducite, nec mora sit, uicibusque reducite carmen;
lead, nor delay let-there-be, and-by-turns bring-back song;
tuque prior, Corydon, tu proximus ibis, Amynta.
and-you first, Corydon, you next will-go, Amyntas.
CORYDON Ab Ioue principium, si quis canit aethera, sumat,
From Jupiter beginning, if anyone sings heaven, let-him-take,
si quis Atlantiaci pondus molitur Olympi:
if anyone of-Atlantean weight shoulders Olympus:
at mihi, qui nostras praesenti numine terras
but on-me, who our with-present divinity lands
perpetuamque regit iuuenili robore pacem,
and-everlasting rules with-youthful strength peace,

laetus et augusto felix adrideat ore.
glad and with-august happy may-be-smile face.

AMYNTAS Me quoque facundo comitatus Apolline Caesar
Me also with-eloquent accompanied Apollo Caesar

respiciat, montes neu dedignetur adire,
may-regard, mountains nor may-disdain to-approach,

quos et Phoebus amat, quos Iuppiter ipse tuetur:
which both Phoebus loves, which Jupiter himself guards:

in quibus Augustos uisurae saepe triumphos
in which August going-to-see often triumphs

laurus fructificat uicinaque nascitur arbos.
laurel bears-fruit and-neighboring is-born tree.

ipse polos etiam qui temperat igne geluque,
himself poles even who tempers with-fire and-frost,

Iuppiter ipse parens, cui tu iam proximus, ecce,
Jupiter himself parent, to-whom you now nearest, behold,

Caesar, abes, posito paulisper fulmine saepe
Caesar, are-absent, with-laid-aside for-a-while thunderbolt often

Cresia rura petit uiridique reclinis in antro
Cretan countryside seeks and-green reclining in cave

carmina Dictaeis audit Curetica siluis.
songs in-Dictaean hears Curetic woods.

CORYDON Aspicis, ut uirides audito Caesare siluae
Do-you-see, how green with-heard Caesar woods

conticeant? memini, quamuis urgente procella
fall-silent? I-remember, although with-pressing storm

sic nemus immotis subito requiescere ramis,
so grove with-unmoved suddenly to-rest branches,

et dixi 'Deus hinc, certe deus expulit Euros.'
and I-said 'God hence, surely god has-driven-out East-winds.'

nec mora; Parrhasiae soluerunt sibila cannae.
nor delay; Parrhasian released whistlings reeds.

AMYNTAS Aspicis, ut teneros subitus uigor excitet agnos?
Do-you-see, how tender sudden vigor rouses lambs?

utque superfuso magis ubera lacte grauentur
and-how with-overflowing more udders milk are-weighed-down

et nuper tonsis exundent uellera fetis?
and lately to-shorn overflow fleeces offspring?

hoc ego iam, memini, semel hac in ualle notaui
this I now, I-remember, once this in valley noted

et uenisse Palen pecoris dixisse magistros.
and to-have-come Pales of-the-flock to-have-said masters.

CORYDON Scilicet omnis eum tellus, gens omnis adorat,
Of-course every him land, nation every adores,

diligiturque deis, quem sic taciturna uerentur
and-he-is-loved by-gods, whom so silent revere

arbuta, cuius iners audito nomine tellus
arbutus-trees, whose sluggish with-heard name land

incaluit floremque dedit; cui silua uocato
grew-warm and-flower gave; for-whom wood called

densat odore comas, stupefacta regerminat arbos.
thickens with-fragrance leaves, stunned buds-again tree.

AMYNTAS Illius ut primum senserunt numina terrae,
Of-him as first felt divinity lands,

coepit et uberior sulcis fallentibus olim
began and more-fruitful in-furrows deceiving once

luxuriare seges tandemque legumina plenis
to-flourish crop and-at-last beans in-full

uix resonant siliquis; nec praefocata malignum
scarcely rattle pods; nor choked malignant

messis habet lolium nec inertibus albet auenis.
harvest has darnel nor with-idle whitens oats.

CORYDON Iam neque damnatos metuit iactare ligones
Now neither condemned fears to-wield hoes

fossor et inuento, si fors dedit, utitur auro;
digger and found, if chance has-given, uses gold;

nec timet, ut nuper, dum iugera uersat arator,
nor fears, as lately, while acres turns plowman,

ne sonet offenso contraria uomere massa,
lest may-sound with-struck opposing share mass,

iamque palam presso magis et magis instat aratro.
and-now openly with-pressed more and more presses plow.

AMYNTAS ***
***

CORYDON Ille dat, ut primas Cereri dare cultor aristas
He grants, that first to-Ceres to-give tiller ears

possit et intacto Bromium perfundere uino,
may-be-able and with-unmixed Bromius to-drench wine,

ut nudus ruptas saliat calcator in uuas
that naked burst may-leap treader onto grapes

utque bono plaudat paganica turba magistro,
and-that good may-applaud country crowd master,

qui facit egregios ad peruia compita ludos.
who makes outstanding at open crossroads games.

AMYNTAS Ille meis pacem dat montibus: ecce per illum,
He to-my peace gives mountains: behold through him,

seu cantare iuuat seu ter pede lenta ferire
whether to-sing it-pleases or thrice with-foot slow to-strike

gramina, nullus obest: licet et cantare choreis
grasses, no-one hinders: it-is-allowed both to-sing in-dances

et cantus uiridante licet mihi condere libro,
and songs with-greening it-is-allowed for-me to-store bark,
turbida nec calamos iam surdant classica nostros.
riotous nor reeds now deafen trumpets our.
CORYDON Numine Caesareo securior ipse Lycaeus
By-divinity Caesarean more-carefree himself Lycaean
Pan recolit siluas et amoena Faunus in umbra
Pan revisits woods and pleasant Faunus in shade
securus recubat placidoque in fonte lauatur
carefree reclines and-calm in spring is-washed
Nais et humanum non calcatura cruorem
Naiad and human not going-to-tread blood
per iuga siccato uelox pede currit Oreas.
over ridges with-dried swift foot runs Oread.
di, precor, hunc iuuenem, quem uos (neque fallor) ab ipso
gods, I-pray, this youth, whom you (nor I-am-deceived) from very
aethere misistis, post longa reducite uitae
heaven have-sent, after long bring-back of-life
tempora uel potius mortale resoluite pensum
times or rather mortal unwind wool
et date perpetuo caelestia fila metallo:
and grant with-everlasting heavenly threads metal:
sit deus et nolit pensare palatia caelo!
let-him-be god and let-him-not-wish to-exchange palaces for-heaven!
AMYNTAS Tu quoque mutata seu Iuppiter ipse figura,
You also with-changed whether Jupiter himself form,
Caesar, ades seu quis superum sub imagine falsa
Caesar, are-present or-whether any of-the-gods-above under image false
mortalique lates (es enim deus), hunc, precor, orbem,
and-mortal you-lie-hid (you-are indeed god), this, I-pray, world,

hos precor, aeternus populos rege! sit tibi caeli
these I-pray, eternal peoples rule! let-be to-you of-heaven
uilis amor coeptamque, pater, ne desere pacem!
cheap love and-begun, father, do-not desert peace!
MELIBOEUS Rustica credebam nemorales carmina uobis
Rustic I-believed woodland songs to-you
concessisse deas et obesis auribus apta;
to-have-granted goddesses and for-thick ears fit;
uerum, quae paribus modo concinuistis auenis,
but, which with-equal just-now you-have-sung-together oats,
tam liquidum, tam dulce sonant, ut non ego malim
so clear, so sweet sound, that not I would-prefer
quod Paeligna solent examina lambere nectar.
what Paelignian are-wont swarms to-lick nectar.
CORYDON Olim quam tereti decurrent carmina uersu
Once than with-smooth will-run songs verse
nunc, Meliboee, sonant, si quando montibus istis
now, Meliboeus, they-sound, if ever on-mountains these
dicar habere Larem, si quando nostra uidere
I-shall-be-said to-have Lar, if ever our to-see
pascua contingat! uellit nam saepius aurem
pastures may-befall! plucks for oftener ear
inuida paupertas et dicit 'Ouilia cura!'
envious poverty and says 'Sheepfolds tend!'
at tu, si qua tamen non aspernanda putabis,
but you, if any however not to-be-scorned you-will-think,
fer, Meliboee, deo mea carmina: nam tibi fas est
bring, Meliboeus, to-god my songs: for for-you right it-is
sacra Palatini penetralia uisere Phoebi.
sacred of-Palatine inner-shrines to-visit Phoebus.

tum mihi talis eris, qualis qui dulce sonantem
then to-me such you-will-be, as-he who sweetly sounding
Tityron e siluis dominam deduxit in urbem
Tityrus from woods mistress led-down into city
ostenditque deis et 'Spreto' dixit 'ouili,
and-showed to-gods and 'Scorned' said 'sheepfold,
Tityre, rura prius, sed post cantabimus arma.'
Tityrus, countryside before, but after we-shall-sing arms.'
AMYNTAS Respiciat nostros utinam fortuna labores
May-regard our would-that fortune labors
pulcrior et meritae faueat deus ipse iuuentae!
fairer and deserving may-favor god himself youth!
nos tamen interea tenerum mactabimus haedum
we however meanwhile tender shall-sacrifice kid
et pariter subitae peragemus fercula cenae.
and alike of-sudden shall-complete dishes supper.
MELIBOEUS Nunc ad flumen oues deducite: iam fremit aestas,
Now to river sheep lead-down: now roars summer,
iam sol contractas pedibus magis admouet umbras.
now sun contracted to-feet more brings-near shadows.

The old shepherd Micon hands his flocks to his foster son Canthus with a year of counsel: in spring move the flock out after appeasing Pales, milk morning and evening but spare the lambs, and carry the ewe that has just lambed with her newborn; in summer graze them early and shade them at noon; shear in season, treat wounds with sulfur and pitch, and brand the sheep; fumigate the folds against snakes; and in autumn gather leafy branches to feed the flock through winter. Nightfall cuts his counsel short.

Forte Micon senior Canthusque, Miconis alumnus,
By-chance Micon old and-Canthus, of-Micon foster-son,
torrentem patula uitabant ilice solem,
scorching with-spreading were-avoiding holm-oak sun,
cum iuueni senior praecepta daturus alumno
when to-young old-man precepts going-to-give foster-son
talia uerba refert tremulis titubantia labris:
such words he-utters with-trembling tottering lips:
'Quas errare uides inter dumeta capellas
'Which to-wander you-see among thickets she-goats
† uanaque lasciuo concidere germina morsu,
(corrupt) and-empty with-playful to-crop shoots bite,
Canthe puer, quos ecce greges a monte remotos
Canthus boy, which behold flocks from mountain withdrawn
cernis in aprico decerpere gramina campo,
you-see on sunny to-pluck grasses plain,
hos tibi do senior iuueni pater: ipse tuendos
these to-you I-give old to-young father: yourself to-be-guarded
accipe. iam certe potes insudare labori,
take. now surely you-can to-sweat at-toil,

iam pro me gnauam potes exercere iuuentam.
now for me active you-can to-exercise youth.
aspicis ut nobis aetas iam mille querelas
do-you-see how to-us age now thousand complaints
adferat et baculum premat inclinata senectus?
brings and staff presses bent old-age?
sed qua lege regas et amantes lustra capellas
but by-what law you-may-rule both loving glades she-goats
et melius pratis errantes mollibus agnas,
and better in-meadows wandering soft lambs,
percipe, uere nouo, cum iam tinnire uolucres
learn, in-spring new, when now to-twitter birds
incipient nidosque reuersa lutabit hirundo,
will-begin and-nests returned will-plaster swallow,
protinus hiberno pecus omne mouebis ouili.
at-once from-wintry flock whole you-will-move fold.
tunc etenim melior uernanti germine silua
then indeed better with-spring shoot wood
pullat et aestiuas reparabilis incohat umbras,
sprouts and summer renewable begins shades,
tunc florent segetes uiridisque renascitur annus,
then flower crops and-green is-reborn year,
tunc Venus et calidi scintillat feruor amoris
then Venus and of-hot sparkles heat of-love
lasciuumque pecus salientes accipit hircos.
and-playful flock leaping receives he-goats.
sed non ante greges in pascua mitte reclusos,
but not before flocks into pastures send released,
quam fuerit placata Pales. tum caespite uiuo
than will-have-been appeased Pales. then on-turf living

pone focum geniumque loci Faunumque Laresque
place hearth and-genius of-the-place and-Faunus and-Lares
salso farre uoca; tepidos tunc hostia cultros
with-salted meal call; warm then victim knives
imbuat: hac etiam, dum uiuit, ouilia lustra.
let-stain: with-this also, while it-lives, folds purify.
nec mora, tunc campos ouibus, dumeta capellis
nor delay, then plains to-sheep, thickets to-she-goats
orto sole dabis, simul hunc transcendere montem
with-risen sun you-will-give, as-soon-as this to-climb mountain
coeperit ac primae spatium tepefecerit horae.
it-has-begun and of-first span has-warmed hour.
at si forte uaces, dum matutina relaxat
but if by-chance you-are-at-leisure, while morning loosens
frigora sol, tumidis spument tibi mulctra papillis.
chills sun, with-swollen let-foam for-you pails teats.
implebis quod mane fluet; rursusque premetur
you-will-fill what at-morning will-flow; and-again will-be-pressed
mane quod occiduae mulsura redegerit horae.
at-morning what of-sunset milking will-have-gathered hour.
parce tamen fetis: ne sint compendia tanti,
spare however young: lest be savings of-such-worth,
destruat ut niueos uenalis caseus agnos;
may-destroy that snowy for-sale cheese lambs;
nam tibi praecipuo fetura coletur amore.
for by-you with-special offspring will-be-tended love.
te quoque non pudeat, cum serus ouilia uises,
you also not let-it-shame, when late folds you-will-visit,
si qua iacebit ouis partu resoluta recenti,
if any will-lie ewe by-birth loosened recent,

hanc umeris portare tuis natosque patenti
her on-shoulders to-carry your and-young in-open
ferre sinu tremulos et nondum stare paratos,
to-bear bosom trembling and not-yet to-stand ready,
nec tu longinquas procul a praesaepibus herbas
nor you distant far from stalls grasses
nec nimis amotae sectabere pabula siluae,
nor too of-removed will-pursue pastures wood,
dum peragit uernum Iouis inconstantia tempus,
while completes spring of-Jupiter fickleness season,
ueris enim dubitanda fides: modo fronte serena
of-spring indeed to-be-doubted faith: now with-brow calm
blandius arrisit, modo cum caligine nimbos
more-alluringly smiled, now with gloom storms
intulit et miseras torrentibus abstulit agnas.
brought-in and wretched with-torrents carried-off lambs.
at cum longa dies sitientes adferet aestus
but when long day thirsting will-bring heats
nec fuerit uariante deo mutabile caelum,
nor will-be with-varying god changeable sky,
iam siluis committe greges, iam longius herbas
now to-woods entrust flocks, now farther grasses
quaere; sed ante diem pecus exeat: umida dulces
seek; but before day flock let-go-out: moist sweet
efficit aura cibos, quotiens fugientibus Euris
makes air foods, whenever with-fleeing East-winds
frigida nocturno tanguntur pascua rore
cold by-nightly are-touched pastures dew
et matutinae lucent in gramine guttae.
and morning shine on grass drops.

at simul argutae nemus increpuere cicadae,
but as-soon-as shrill grove have-made-clatter cicadas,
ad fontem compelle greges; nec protinus herbas
to spring drive flocks; nor at-once grasses
et campos permitte sequi, sed protegat illos
and plains allow to-follow, but let-shelter them
interea ueteres quae porrigit aesculus umbras.
meanwhile old which stretches oak shades.
uerum ubi declini iam nona tepescere sole
but when with-declining now ninth to-grow-warm sun
incipiet, † serique uidebitur hora premendi,
will-begin, (corrupt) and-late will-seem hour of-pressing,
rursus pasce greges et opacos desere lucos.
again pasture flocks and shady desert groves.
nec prius aestiuo pecus includatur ouili,
nor sooner in-summer flock let-be-shut fold,
quam leuibus nidis somnos captare uolucris
than in-light nests sleep to-catch bird
cogitet et tremulo queribunda fritinniat ore.
thinks and with-trembling plaintive twitters mouth.
cum iam tempus erit maturas demere lanas,
when now time will-be ripe to-take-off wools,
sucida iam tereti constringere uellera iunco,
greasy now with-smooth to-bind fleeces rush,
hircorumque iubas et olentes caedere barbas,
and-of-he-goats manes and smelly to-cut beards,
ante tamen secerne pecus gregibusque notatis
before however separate flock and-in-flocks marked
consimiles include comas, ne longa minutis,
like shut-in fleeces, lest long with-short,

mollia ne duris coeant, ne candida fuscis.
soft lest with-hard may-mate, lest white with-dark.
sed tibi cum uacuas posito uelamine costas
but for-you when empty with-laid-aside covering ribs
denudauit ouis, circumspice, ne sit acuta
has-bared ewe, look-around, lest be by-sharp
forpice laesa cutis, tacitum ne pusula uirus
shears hurt skin, silent lest pustule poison
texerit occulto sub uulnere: quae nisi ferro
may-have-covered hidden under wound: which unless by-iron
rumpitur, a! miserum fragili rubigine corpus
is-burst, ah! wretched with-crumbling rust body
adrodet sanies et putria contrahet ossa,
will-gnaw pus and rotten will-shrink bones,
prouidus (hoc moneo) uiuentia sulphura tecum
foreseeing (this I-warn) living sulfurs with-you
et scillae caput et uirosa bitumina portes,
and of-squill head and noxious bitumens carry,
uulneribus laturus opem. nec Brutia desit
to-wounds going-to-bring help. nor Bruttian let-be-lacking
pix tibi: tu liquido picis unguine terga memento,
pitch for-you: you with-liquid of-pitch ointment backs remember,
si sint scabra, linas. durae quoque pondera massae
if they-be rough, smear. of-hard also weights mass
arrhenici coquito lentumque bitumen aheno,
of-arsenic boil and-sticky bitumen in-bronze,
impressurus oui tua nomina; nam tibi lites
going-to-stamp on-ewe your names; for to-you lawsuits
auferet ingentes lectus possessor in armo.
will-take-away huge read owner on shoulder.

nunc etiam, dum siccus ager, dum feruida tellus,
now also, while dry field, while burning earth,
dum rimosa palus et multo torrida limo
while cracked marsh and with-much parched mud
aestuat et fragiles nimium sol puluerat herbas,
seethes and brittle too-much sun turns-to-dust grasses,
lurida conueniet succendere galbana saeptis
yellow it-will-be-fitting to-kindle galbanum in-folds
et tua ceruino lustrare mapalia fumo.
and your with-stag's to-purify huts smoke.
obfuit ille malis odor anguibus: ipse uidebis
has-harmed that to-evil smell snakes: yourself you-will-see
serpentum cecidisse minas: non stringere dentes
of-serpents to-have-fallen threats: not to-bare teeth
ulla potest uncos, sed inani debilis ore
any can hooked, but with-empty weak mouth
marcet et obtuso iacet exarmata ueneno.
withers and with-blunted lies disarmed poison.
nunc age uicinae circumspice tempora brumae
now come of-neighboring consider times winter
qua ratione geras. aperit cum uinea saepes
by-what method you-may-manage. opens when vineyard hedges
et portat lectas securus circitor uuas,
and carries chosen carefree inspector grapes,
incipe falce nemus uiuasque recidere frondes.
begin with-sickle grove and-living to-cut leaves.
nunc opus est teneras summatim stringere uirgas,
now need is tender at-the-top to-strip twigs,
nunc hiemi seruare comas, dum permanet umor,
now for-winter to-keep foliage, while remains moisture,

dum uiret et tremulas non excutit Africus umbras.
while it-is-green and trembling not shakes-off Africus shades.
has tibi conueniet tepidis faenilibus olim
these for-you it-will-be-fitting from-warm haylofts one-day
promere, cum pecudes extremus clauserit annus,
to-bring-out, when cattle last will-have-shut-in year,
hac tibi nitendum, labor hic in tempore noster
here for-you to-be-striven, labor this in season our
gnauaque sedulitas redit et pastoria uirtus.
and-active diligence returns and pastoral virtue.
ne pigeat ramos siccis miscere recentes
do-not let-it-irk branches with-dry to-mix fresh
et sucos adhibere nouos; licet horrida nimbis
and juices to-apply new; though bristling with-storms
instet hiems nimioque gelu niuibusque coactis
may-press winter and-with-excessive frost and-with-snows packed
incuruare uelit nemus et constringere frondes,
to-bend may-wish grove and to-bind leaves,
tu tamen aut leues hederas aut molle salictum
you however either light ivies or soft willow-bed
ualle premes media. sitis est pensanda tuorum,
in-valley will-press middle. thirst is to-be-weighed of-your,
Canthe, gregum uiridante cibo: nihil aridus illis,
Canthus, flocks with-greening food: nothing dry to-them,
ingenti positus quamuis strue, prosit aceruus,
on-huge placed although pile, may-profit heap,
uirgea si desint liquido turgentia suco
twig-fodder if be-lacking with-liquid swelling juice
et quibus est aliquid plenae uitale medullae.
and to-which is something of-full living pith.

praecipue gelidum stipula cum fronde caduca
especially cold with-straw with leaf falling
sterne solum, ne forte rigor penetrabile corpus
strew ground, lest perhaps stiffness penetrable body
urat et interno uastet pecuaria morbo,
may-burn and with-internal may-waste herds disease,
plura quidem meminisse uelim, nam plura supersunt:
more indeed to-remember I-would-wish, for more remain:
sed iam sera dies cadit et iam sole fugato
but now late day falls and now with-sun put-to-flight
frigidus aestiuas impellit Noctifer horas.'
cold summer drives Noctifer hours.'

VI · THE QUARREL OF ASTYLUS AND LYCIDAS

Astylus tells Lycidas that Alcon has beaten Nyctilus in song, and Lycidas mocks the verdict. They fall to insults and agree to a contest before Mnasyllus: Astylus stakes his pet stag, adorned with roses, ribbons, and a boar's tusk, Lycidas his colt Petasus. They move to a quiet cave, but the abuse grows until Mnasyllus refuses to judge such rivals and leaves the quarrel to Micon and Iollas, who are approaching.

ASTYLUS Serus ades, Lycida: modo Nyctilus et puer Alcon
Late you-are-here, Lycidas: just-now Nyctilus and boy Alcon
certauere sub his alterno carmine ramis
have-contended under these in-alternate song branches
iudice me, sed non sine pignore. Nyctilus haedos
with-judge me, but not without stake. Nyctilus kids
iuncta matre dedit; catulum dedit ille leaenae
with-joined mother gave; whelp gave that-one of-lioness
iurauitque genus, sed sustulit omnia uictor.
and-swore breed, but carried-off all victor.

LYCIDAS Nyctilon ut cantu rudis exsuperauerit Alcon?
Nyctilus that in-song untaught surpassed Alcon?
Astyle, credibile est, si uincat acanthida cornix,
Astylus, believable it-is, if should-beat goldfinch crow,
uocalem superet si dirus aedona bubo.
melodious should-surpass if dire nightingale owl.
ASTYLUS Non potiar Petale, qua nunc ego maceror una,
Not may-I-win Petale, by-whom now I am-wasted alone,
si magis aut docili calamorum Nyctilus arte
if more either in-skillful of-reeds Nyctilus art
aut cantu magis est quam uultu proximus illi.
or in-song more is than in-face nearest to-him.
LYCIDAS Iam non decipior: te iudice pallidus alter
Now not I-am-deceived: with-you judge pale the-one
uenit et hirsuta spinosior hystrice barbam;
comes and than-shaggy pricklier porcupine as-to-beard;
candidus alter erat leuique decentior ouo
fair the-other was and-than-smooth comelier egg
et ridens oculis crinemque simillimus auro,
and smiling with-eyes and-in-hair most-like gold,
qui posset dici, si non cantaret, Apollo.
who could to-be-called, if not he-were-singing, Apollo.
ASTYLUS O Lycida, si quis tibi carminis usus inesset,
O Lycidas, if any to-you of-song use were-in,
tu quoque laudatum posses Alcona probare.
you also praised could Alcon to-approve.
LYCIDAS Vis igitur, quoniam nec nobis, improbe, par es,
Do-you-wish therefore, since not-even to-us, wicked, equal you-are,
ipse tuos iudex calamos committere nostris?
yourself your judge reeds to-match-with ours?

uis conferre manum? ueniat licet arbiter Alcon.
do-you-wish to-join hand? may-come granted arbiter Alcon.

ASTYLUS Vincere tu quemquam? uel te certamine quisquam
To-beat you anyone? or you in-contest anyone

dignetur, qui uix stillantes, aride, uoces
would-deem-worthy, who scarcely dripping, dry-one, voices

rumpis et expellis male singultantia uerba?
burst-out and expel badly sobbing words?

LYCIDAS Fingas plura licet: nec enim potes, improbe, uera
You-may-invent more granted: nor indeed you-can, wicked, true-things

exprobrare mihi, sicut tibi multa Lycotas.
to-reproach to-me, as to-you many-things Lycotas.

sed quid opus uana consumere tempora lite?
but what need with-empty to-consume times quarrel?

ecce uenit Mnasyllus: erit (nisi forte recusas)
behold comes Mnasyllus: he-will-be (unless perhaps you-refuse)

arbiter inflatis non credulus, improbe, uerbis.
arbiter by-puffed not credulous, wicked, words.

ASTYLUS Malueram, fateor, uel praedamnatus abire
I-had-preferred, I-confess, even condemned-beforehand to-go-away

quam tibi certanti partem committere uocis.
than with-you contending part to-match of-voice.

ne tamen hoc impune feras, en aspicis illum,
lest however this unpunished you-may-bear, look do-you-see that,

candida qui medius cubat inter lilia, ceruum?
white who in-the-middle lies among lilies, stag?

quamuis hunc Petale mea diligat, accipe uictor.
although him Petale my may-love, take victor.

scit frenos et ferre iugum sequiturque uocantem
he-knows reins and to-bear yoke and-follows calling

credulus et mensae non improba porrigit ora.
trusting and to-table not greedy stretches mouth.
aspicis, ut fruticat late caput utque sub ipsis
do-you-see, how branches widely head and-how under very
cornibus e tereti pendent redimicula collo?
horns from smooth hang ribbons neck?
aspicis, ut niueo frons inretita capistro
do-you-see, how with-snowy brow entangled halter
lucet et, a dorso quae totam circuit aluum,
shines and, from back which whole goes-round belly,
alternat uitreas lateralis cingula bullas?
alternates glassy at-the-side girth bosses?
cornua sutilibus ramosaque tempora nodis
horns with-sewn and-branching temples knots
implicuere rosae rutiloque monilia torque
have-entwined roses and-with-ruddy necklaces collar
extrema ceruice natant, ubi pendulus apri
on-farthest neck float, where hanging of-boar
dens sedet et niuea distinguit pectora luna.
tooth sits and with-snowy marks breast crescent.
hunc, sic … umque uides, Mnasylle, paciscor
him, so (lacuna) -ever you-see, Mnasyllus, I-agree
perdere, dum sciat hic se non sine pignore uinci.
to-lose, provided he-may-know this-one himself not without stake to-be-beaten.
LYCIDAS Terreri, Mnasylle, suo me munere credit:
To-be-frightened, Mnasyllus, by-his me gift he-believes:
aspice, quam timeam! genus est, ut scitis, equarum
look, how I-fear! breed is, as you-know, of-mares
non uulgare mihi; quarum de sanguine ponam
not common to-me; of-which from blood I-shall-stake

uelocem Petason, qui gramina matre relicta
swift Petasus, who grasses with-mother left
nunc primum teneris libauit dentibus: illi
now first with-tender has-tasted teeth: on-him
terga sedent, micat acre caput, sine pondere ceruix,
back sits, flashes keen head, without weight neck,
et tornata breui substringitur ungula cornu,
and turned with-short is-bound hoof horn,
ungula, qua uiridi sic exsultauit in aruo,
hoof, with-which green so he-has-leapt in field,
tangeret ut fragiles, sed non curuaret, aristas:
would-touch that frail, but not would-bend, ears-of-grain:
hunc dare, si uincar, siluestria numina iuro.
him to-give, if I-be-beaten, woodland divinities I-swear.
MNASYLLUS Et uacat et uestros cantus audire iuuabit.
Both there-is-leisure and your songs to-hear it-will-delight.
iudice me sane contendite, si libet: istic
with-judge me by-all-means contend, if it-pleases: there
protinus ecce torum fecere sub ilice Musae.
at-once behold couch have-made under holm-oak Muses.
ASTYLUS Sed ne uicini nobis sonus obstrepat amnis,
But lest of-neighboring for-us sound may-roar-against river,
gramina linquamus ripamque uolubilis undae.
grasses let-us-leave and-bank of-rolling wave.
namque sub exeso raucum mihi pumice lymphae
for under hollowed hoarsely for-me pumice waters
respondent et obest arguti glarea riui.
answer and hinders of-shrill gravel stream.
LYCIDAS Si placet, antra magis uicinaque saxa petamus,
If it-pleases, caves rather and-neighboring rocks let-us-seek,

saxa, quibus uiridis stillanti uellere muscus
rocks, from-which green with-dripping fleece moss
dependet scopulisque cauum sinuantibus arcum
hangs and-with-crags winding hollow arch
imminet exesa ueluti testudine concha.
overhangs hollowed as-if tortoise shell.
MNASYLLUS Venimus et tacito sonitum mutauimus antro:
We-have-come and in-silent sound we-have-changed cave:
seu residere libet, dabit ecce sedilia tophus,
whether to-sit-down it-pleases, will-give behold seats tufa,
ponere seu cubitum, melior uiret herba tapetis.
to-lay or elbow, better is-green grass than-carpets.
nunc mihi seposita reddantur carmina lite;
now to-me with-set-aside let-be-rendered songs quarrel;
nam uicibus teneros malim cantetis amores:
for by-turns tender I-would-prefer you-sing loves:
Astyle, tu Petalen, Lycida, tu Phyllida lauda.
Astylus, you Petale, Lycidas, you Phyllis praise.
LYCIDAS Tu modo nos illis (iam nunc, Mnasylle, precamur)
You only us with-those (already now, Mnasyllus, we-pray)
auribus accipias, quibus hunc et Acanthida nuper
ears may-receive, with-which this-one and Acanthis lately
diceris in silua iudex audisse Thalea.
you-are-said in wood judge to-have-heard Thalea.
ASTYLUS Non equidem possum, cum prouocet iste, tacere,
Not indeed I-can, when provokes that-one, to-be-silent,
rumpor enim, Mnasylle: nihil nisi iurgia quaerit.
I-burst indeed, Mnasyllus: nothing except quarrels he-seeks.
audiat aut dicat, quoniam cupit; hoc mihi certe
let-him-hear or speak, since he-desires; this for-me surely

dulce satis fuerit, Lycidam spectare trementem,
sweet enough will-have-been, Lycidas to-watch trembling,
dum te teste palam sua crimina pallidus audit.
while with-you witness openly his crimes pale he-hears.
LYCIDAS Me, puto, uicinus Stimicon, me proximus Aegon
Me, I-think, neighbor Stimicon, me nearest Aegon
hos inter frutices tacite risere uolentem
these among bushes silently laughed-at wishing
oscula cum tenero simulare uirilia Mopso.
kisses with tender to-feign manly Mopsus.
ASTYLUS Fortior o utinam non iam Mnasyllus adesset!
Stronger o would-that not now Mnasyllus were-present!
efficerem, ne te quisquam tibi turpior esset.
I-would-bring-about, that-not you anyone than-yourself fouler should-be.
MNASYLLUS Quid furitis, quo uos insania tendere iussit?
Why do-you-rage, whither you madness to-strain has-ordered?
si uicibus certare placet — sed non ego uobis
if by-turns to-contend it-pleases but not I for-you
arbiter: hoc alius possit discernere iudex.
arbiter: this another could to-decide judge.
et uenit ecce Micon, uenit et uicinus Iollas:
and comes behold Micon, comes also neighbor Iollas:
litibus hi uestris poterunt imponere finem.
on-quarrels these your will-be-able to-impose end.

VII · CORYDON AT THE GAMES

Corydon returns from the city after twenty nights, and Lycotas asks why he stayed. Corydon describes the amphitheater: the stands rising to the sky, an old man who confessed his own amazement, the gems and gold, the ivory roller and golden nets that guard the arena, and the beasts: elk, wild bulls, sea calves, river horses, and animals rising from the opening ground. In his rustic dress he saw the young god only from afar, with the faces of Mars and Apollo in one.

LYCOTAS Lentus ab urbe uenis, Corydon; uicesima certe
Slow from city you-come, Corydon; twentieth surely
nox fuit, ut nostrae cupiunt te cernere siluae,
night has-been, since our long you to-see woods,
ut tua maerentes exspectant iubila tauri.
since your mourning await yodels bulls.
CORYDON O piger, o duro non mollior axe, Lycota,
O sluggard, o than-hard not softer axle, Lycotas,
qui ueteres fagos noua quam spectacula mauis
who old beeches new than spectacles you-prefer
cernere, quae patula iuuenis deus edit harena.
to-see, which on-spreading young god puts-on sand.
LYCOTAS Mirabar, quae tanta foret tibi causa morandi,
I-was-wondering, what so-great might-be to-you cause of-delaying,
cur tua cessaret taciturnis fistula siluis
why your should-be-idle in-silent pipe woods
et solus Stimicon caneret pallente corymbo:
and alone Stimicon should-sing with-pale ivy-cluster:
quem sine te maesti tenero donauimus haedo.
whom without you sad with-tender we-presented kid.
nam, dum lentus abes, lustrauit ouilia Thyrsis,
for, while slow you-are-away, has-purified folds Thyrsis,

iussit et arguta iuuenes certare cicuta.
ordered and with-shrill youths to-contend hemlock-pipe.
CORYDON Sit licet inuictus Stimicon et praemia diues
Let-him-be granted unconquered Stimicon and prizes rich
auferat, accepto nec solum gaudeat haedo,
let-him-carry-off, with-received not only let-him-rejoice kid,
uerum tota ferat quae lustrat ouilia Thyrsis:
but whole let-him-take which purifies folds Thyrsis:
non tamen aequabit mea gaudia; nec mihi, si quis
not however he-will-equal my joys; nor to-me, if anyone
omnia Lucanae donet pecuaria siluae,
all of-Lucanian should-give herds wood,
grata magis fuerint quam quae spectauimus urbe.
pleasing more would-be than what we-watched in-city.
LYCOTAS Dic age dic, Corydon, nec nostras inuidus aures
Say come say, Corydon, nor our grudging ears
despice: non aliter certe mihi dulce loquere,
despise: not otherwise surely to-me sweetly you-will-speak,
quam cantare soles, quotiens ad sacra uocatur
than to-sing you-are-wont, whenever to rites is-called
aut fecunda Pales aut pastoralis Apollo.
either fruitful Pales or pastoral Apollo.
CORYDON Vidimus in caelum trabibus spectacula textis
We-saw into sky with-beams spectacles woven
surgere, Tarpeium prope despectantia culmen;
to-rise, Tarpeian nearly looking-down-on summit;
emensique gradus et cliuos lene iacentes
and-having-climbed steps and slopes gently lying
uenimus ad sedes, ubi pulla sordida ueste
we-came to seats, where dark in-dingy garment

inter femineas spectabat turba cathedras,
among women's watched crowd chairs,
nam quaecumque patent sub aperto libera caelo,
for whatever lie-open under open free sky,
aut eques aut niuei loca densauere tribuni.
either knight or snowy places have-crowded tribunes.
qualiter haec patulum concedit uallis in orbem
just-as this spreading yields valley into circle
et sinuata latus resupinis undique siluis
and curved as-to-side with-sloping on-all-sides woods
inter continuos curuatur concaua montes,
between continuous is-bent hollow mountains,
sic ibi planitiem curuae sinus ambit harenae
so there plain of-curved fold surrounds sand
et geminis medium se molibus alligat ouum.
and with-twin middle itself masses binds egg.
quid tibi nunc referam, quae uix suffecimus ipsi
why to-you now shall-I-relate, which scarcely we-were-able ourselves
per partes spectare suas? sic undique fulgor
through parts to-watch its-own? so on-all-sides gleam
percussit, stabam defixus et ore patenti
struck, I-stood fixed and with-mouth open
cunctaque mirabar necdum bona singula noram,
and-everything I-wondered-at and-not-yet good single I-knew,
cum mihi iam senior, lateri qui forte sinistro
when to-me now elder, at-side who by-chance left
iunctus erat, 'Quid te stupefactum, rustice,' dixit
joined was, 'Why you astonished, rustic,' said
'ad tantas miraris opes, qui nescius auri
'at so-great you-marvel riches, who ignorant of-gold

sordida tecta, casas, et sola mapalia nosti?
dingy roofs, huts, and only cabins have-known?
en ego iam tremulus et uertice canus et ista
look I now trembling and on-crown gray and this
factus in urbe senex stupeo tamen omnia: certe
made in city old-man am-stunned however at-everything: surely
uilia sunt nobis quaecumque prioribus annis
cheap are to-us whatever in-former years
uidimus, et sordet quidquid spectauimus olim.'
we-saw, and is-shabby whatever we-watched once.'
balteus en gemmis, en illita porticus auro
belt look with-gems, look smeared colonnade with-gold
certatim radiant; nec non, ubi finis harenae
in-rivalry shine; nor not, where edge of-sand
proxima marmoreo praebet spectacula muro,
nearest by-marble offers spectacles wall,
sternitur adiunctis ebur admirabile truncis
is-laid with-joined ivory admirable trunks
et coit in rotulum, tereti qui lubricus axe
and comes-together into roller, with-smooth which slippery axle
impositos subita uertigine falleret ungues
placed by-sudden spinning might-cheat claws
excuteretque feras. auro quoque torta refulgent
and-might-shake-off beasts. with-gold also twisted gleam
retia, quae totis in harenam dentibus exstant,
nets, which with-whole into arena tusks stand-out,
dentibus aequatis; et erat (mihi crede, Lycota,
with-tusks leveled; and was (to-me believe, Lycotas,
si qua fides) nostro dens longior omnis aratro.
if any trust) than-our tusk longer every plow.

ordine quid referam? uidi genus omne ferarum,
in-order why shall-I-relate? I-saw kind every of-beasts,
hic niueos lepores et non sine cornibus apros,
here snowy hares and not without horns boars,
hic raram siluis etiam, quibus editur, alcen,
here rare in-woods even, in-which it-is-born, elk,
uidimus et tauros, quibus aut ceruice leuata
we-saw also bulls, to-which either with-neck raised
deformis scapulis torus eminet aut quibus hirtae
ugly from-shoulders hump stands-out or to-which shaggy
iactantur per colla iubae, quibus aspera mento
are-tossed over necks manes, to-which rough on-chin
barba iacet tremulisque rigent palearia saetis,
beard lies and-with-trembling stiffen dewlaps bristles,
nec solum nobis siluestria cernere monstra
nor only to-us woodland to-see monsters
contigit: aequoreos ego cum certantibus ursis
it-befell: sea-borne I with contending bears
spectaui uitulos et equorum nomine dictum,
watched calves and of-horses by-name called,
sed deforme pecus, quod in illo nascitur amne,
but ugly cattle, which in that is-born river,
qui sata riparum uernantibus inrigat undis.
which crops of-banks with-springtime irrigates waters.
a! trepidi quotiens sola discedentis harenae
ah! trembling how-often ground of-parting sand
uidimus inuerti, ruptaque uoragine terrae
we-saw to-be-turned, and-from-burst chasm of-earth
emersisse feras; et in isdem saepe cauernis
to-have-emerged beasts; and in same often caverns

aurea cum subito creuerunt arbuta nimbo.
golden with sudden have-grown arbutus-trees shower.

LYCOTAS O felix Corydon, quem non tremebunda senectus
O happy Corydon, whom not trembling old-age

impedit! o felix, quod in haec tibi saecula primos
hinders! o happy, that into these for-you ages first

indulgente deo demittere contigit annos!
with-indulgent god to-send-down it-befell years!

nunc, tibi si propius uenerandum cernere numen
now, to-you if nearer to-be-revered to-see divinity

fors dedit et praesens uultumque habitumque notasti,
chance has-given and present both-face and-bearing you-noted,

dic age dic, Corydon, quae sit mihi forma deorum.
say come say, Corydon, what may-be to-me form of-gods.

CORYDON O utinam nobis non rustica uestis inesset:
O would-that to-us not rustic garment were-on:

uidissem propius mea numina! sed mihi sordes
I-would-have-seen nearer my divinity! but to-me dinginess

pullaque paupertas et adunco fibula morsu
and-dark poverty and with-hooked brooch bite

obfuerunt, utcumque tamen conspeximus ipsum
have-hindered, somehow however we-beheld himself

longius; ac, nisi me uisus decepit, in uno
from-afar; and, unless me sight has-deceived, in one

et Martis uultus et Apollinis esse putatur.
both of-Mars face and of-Apollo to-be is-thought.

NEMESIANUS

Bucolica

The Eclogues of Nemesianus

Timetas asks old Tityrus to sing, but Tityrus says his singing days are past and bids Timetas honor the dead Meliboeus. Timetas sings the song he cut in a cherry tree: may the elements carry it to Meliboeus, if souls dwell in the starry seats; he judged disputes, taught the young to play the pipe, and rewarded the Muse; the gods of the countryside bring him their gifts, and sooner will nature reverse its laws than his praise fall silent. Tityrus foretells Timetas' fame in the city as the sun sets.

TIMETAS Dum fiscella tibi fluuiali, Tityre, iunco
While basket for-you with-river, Tityrus, rush
texitur et raucis inmunia rura cicadis,
is-woven and from-hoarse free countryside cicadas,
incipe, si quod habes gracili sub harundine carmen
begin, if any you-have slender under reed song
compositum, nam te calamos inflare labello
composed, for you reeds to-blow with-lip
Pan docuit uersuque bonus tibi fauit Apollo.
Pan taught and-in-verse kindly to-you has-favored Apollo.
incipe, dum salices haedi, dum gramina uaccae
begin, while willows kids, while grasses cows
detondent, uiridique greges permittere campo
crop, and-to-green flocks to-entrust plain
dum ros et primi suadet clementia solis.
while dew and of-first urges mildness sun.
TITYRUS Hos annos canamque comam, uicine Timeta,
These years and-gray hair, neighbor Timetas,
tu iuuenis carusque deis in carmina cogis?
you young and-dear to-gods into songs do-you-drive?
diximus et calamis uersus cantauimus olim,
we-have-recited and on-reeds verses we-have-sung once,

dum secura hilares aetas ludebat amores.
while carefree merry age was-playing loves.
nunc album caput et ueneres tepuere sub annis,
now white head and loves have-cooled under years,
iam mea ruricolae dependet fistula Fauno.
now my to-rustic hangs pipe Faunus.
te nunc rura sonant; nuper nam carmine uictor
you now countryside sounds; lately for in-song victor
risisti calamos et dissona flamina Mopsi
you-laughed-at reeds and discordant blasts of-Mopsus
iudice me. mecum senior Meliboeus utrumque
with-judge me. with-me elder Meliboeus each
audierat laudesque tuas sublime ferebat.
had-heard and-praises your on-high was-bearing.
quem nunc emeritae permensum tempora uitae
whom now of-served having-measured times life
secreti pars orbis habet mundusque piorum.
of-secluded part world holds and-world of-the-dutiful.
quare age, si qua tibi Meliboei gratia uiuit,
therefore come, if any to-you of-Meliboeus gratitude lives,
dicat honoratos praedulcis tibia manes.
let-tell honored very-sweet flute shade.
TIMETAS Et parere decet iussis et grata iubentur.
Both to-obey befits commands and pleasing-things are-commanded.
namque fuit dignus senior, quem carmine Phoebus,
for was worthy elder, whom in-song Phoebus,
Pan calamis, fidibus Linus aut Oeagrius Orpheus
Pan on-reeds, on-strings Linus or Oeagrian Orpheus
concinerent totque acta uiri laudesque sonarent.
should-sing and-so-many deeds of-the-man and-praises should-sound.

sed quia tu nostrae laudem deposcis auenae,
but because you of-our praise demand oat,
accipe quae super haec cerasus, quam cernis ad amnem,
take what above this cherry, which you-see by river,
continet, inciso seruans mea carmina libro.
holds, on-cut keeping my songs bark.
TITYRUS Dic age; sed nobis ne uento garrula pinus
Say come; but to-us lest by-wind chattering pine
obstrepat, has ulmos potius fagosque petamus.
may-roar-against, these elms rather and-beeches let-us-seek.
TIMETAS Hic cantare libet; uirides nam subicit herbas
Here to-sing it-pleases; green for spreads grasses
mollis ager lateque tacet nemus omne: quieti
soft field and-widely is-silent grove whole: quiet
aspice ut ecce procul decerpant gramina tauri.
look how behold far-off crop grasses bulls.
Omniparens aether et rerum causa, liquores,
All-begetting ether and of-things cause, waters,
corporis et genetrix tellus, uitalis et aer,
of-body and mother earth, life-giving and air,
accipite hos cantus atque haec nostro Meliboeo
receive these songs and these to-our Meliboeus
mittite, si sentire datur post fata quietis.
send, if to-feel is-granted after fates to-the-reposing.
nam si sublimes animae caelestia templa
for if lofty souls heavenly temples
sidereasque colunt sedes mundoque fruuntur,
and-starry inhabit seats and-world enjoy,
tu nostros aduerte modos, quos ipse benigno
you our turn-to measures, which yourself with-kindly

pectore fouisti, quos tu, Meliboee, probasti.
heart you-cherished, which you, Meliboeus, approved.
longa tibi cunctisque diu spectata senectus
long for-you and-by-all long watched old-age
felicesque anni nostrique nouissimus aeui
and-happy years and-of-our latest age
circulus innocuae clauserunt tempora uitae.
circle of-harmless have-closed times life.
nec minus hinc nobis gemitus lacrimaeque fuere
nor less hence to-us groans and-tears were
quam si florentes mors inuida carperet annos.
than if blooming death envious were-plucking years.
nec tenuit tales communis causa querelas.
nor held-back such common cause complaints.
heu, Meliboee, iaces mortali frigore segnis
alas, Meliboeus, you-lie in-mortal chill sluggish
lege hominum, caelo dignus canente senecta
by-law of-men, of-heaven worthy with-singing old-age
concilioque deum, plenum tibi ponderis aequi
and-council of-gods, full to-you of-weight fair
pectus erat, tu ruricolum discernere lites
heart was, you of-rustics to-decide disputes
adsueras, uarias pacans mulcendo querelas
had-been-accustomed, various soothing by-calming complaints
sub te ruris amor, sub te reuerentia iuris
under you of-countryside love, under you reverence of-law
floruit, ambiguos signauit terminus agros.
flourished, doubtful marked boundary fields.
blanda tibi uultu grauitas et mite serena
gentle to-you in-face gravity and mild with-calm

fronte supercilium, sed pectus mitius ore.
brow eyebrow, but heart milder than-face.
tu calamos aptare labris et iungere cera
you reeds to-fit to-lips and to-join with-wax
hortatus duras docuisti fallere curas.
encouraging hard taught to-beguile cares.
nec segnem passus nobis marcere iuuentam
nor sluggish allowing for-us to-wither youth
saepe dabas meritae non uilia praemia Musae.
often you-used-to-give to-deserving not cheap rewards Muse.
saepe etiam senior, ne nos cantare pigeret,
often even elder, lest us to-sing should-irk,
laetus Phoebea dixisti carmen auena.
glad on-Phoebean you-recited song oat.
felix o Meliboee, uale! tibi frondis odorae
happy o Meliboeus, farewell! to-you of-leaf fragrant
munera dat lauros carpens ruralis Apollo;
gifts gives laurels plucking rustic Apollo;
dant Fauni, quod quisque ualet, de uite racemos,
give Fauns, what each can, from vine clusters,
de messi culmos omnique ex arbore fruges;
from harvest stalks and-every from tree fruits;
dat grandaeua Pales spumantia cymbia lacte,
gives long-aged Pales foaming cups with-milk,
mella ferunt Nymphae, pictas dat Flora coronas;
honeys bring Nymphs, painted gives Flora garlands;
manibus hic supremus honos, dant carmina Musae,
to-shade this last honor, give songs Muses,
carmina dant Musae, nos et modulamur auena:
songs give Muses, we also tune on-oat:

siluestris te nunc platanus, Meliboee, susurrat,
woodland you now plane, Meliboeus, whispers,
te pinus; reboat te quidquid carminis echo
you pine; re-echoes you whatever of-song echo
respondet siluae; te nostra arbusta loquuntur.
answers woods; you our trees speak.
namque prius siccis phocae pascentur in aruis
for sooner on-dry seals will-graze in fields
insuetusque freto uiuet leo, dulcia mella
and-unaccustomed to-sea will-live lion, sweet honeys
sudabunt taxi, confusis legibus anni
will-sweat yews, with-confused laws of-year
messem tristis hiemps, aestas praestabit oliuam,
harvest gloomy winter, summer will-furnish olive,
ante dabit flores autumnus, uer dabit uuas,
before will-give flowers autumn, spring will-give grapes,
quam taceat, Meliboee, tuas mea fistula laudes.
than falls-silent, Meliboeus, your my pipe praises.

TITYRUS Perge, puer, coeptumque tibi ne desere carmen.
Go-on, boy, and-begun by-you do-not desert song.
nam sic dulce sonas, ut te placatus Apollo
for so sweetly you-sound, that you appeased Apollo
prouehat et felix dominam perducat in urbem.
advances and happy mistress leads into city.
iamque hic in siluis praesens tibi Fama benignum
and-now here in woods present for-you Fame kindly
strauit iter, rumpens liuoris nubila pennis.
has-strewn road, breaking of-envy clouds with-wings.

sed iam Sol demittit equos de culmine mundi,
but now Sun sends-down horses from summit of-world,
flumineos suadens gregibus praebere liquores.
river urging to-flocks to-offer waters.

II · IDAS AND ALCON

The boys Idas and Alcon both love Donace, whose parents have shut her away. Under a plane tree they sing in turn: Idas asks the nymphs where to find her, tells how his cows and his work have ceased, and how flowers fade without her; Alcon asks the gods why she left him, recalls his gifts of a nightingale, a hare, and doves, and boasts of his beauty and his pipe. They sing until Hesperus calls the bulls home.

Formosam Donacen Idas puer et puer Alcon
Beautiful Donace Idas boy and boy Alcon
ardebant rudibusque annis incensus uterque
were-burning-for and-in-raw years inflamed each
in Donaces uenerem furiosa mente ruebant.
into of-Donace love with-frenzied mind were-rushing.
hanc, cum uicini flores in uallibus horti
her, when of-neighboring flowers in valleys garden
carperet et molli gremium compleret acantho,
she-was-plucking and with-soft lap was-filling acanthus,
inuasere simul uenerisque imbutus uterque
they-assailed together and-with-love steeped each
tum primum dulci carpebant gaudia furto.
then first in-sweet were-plucking joys stealth.
hinc amor et pueris iam non puerilia uota:
hence love and to-boys now not boyish vows:
quis anni ter quinque hiemes et cura iuuentae.
to-whom of-years three-times five winters and care of-youth.

sed postquam Donacen duri clausere parentes,
but after Donace harsh shut-in parents,
quod non tam tenui filo de uoce sonaret
because not so slender thread from voice she-sounded
sollicitumque foret pinguis sonus, improba ceruix
and-troubled was thick sound, shameless neck
suffususque rubor crebro uenaeque tumentes,
and-suffused blush often and-veins swelling,
tum uero ardentes flammati pectoris aestus
then indeed burning of-inflamed breast heats
carminibus dulcique parant releuare querela;
with-songs and-sweet they-prepare to-relieve complaint;
ambo aeuo cantuque pares nec dispare forma,
both in-age and-in-song equal nor unequal in-form,
ambo genas leues, intonsi crinibus ambo.
both as-to-cheeks smooth, unshorn as-to-hair both.
atque hinc sub platano maesti solacia casus
and hence under plane of-sad consolations misfortune
alternant, Idas calamis et uersibus Alcon.
they-alternate, Idas on-reeds and in-verses Alcon.
IDAS Quae colitis siluas, Dryades, quaeque antra, Napaeae,
Who inhabit woods, Dryads, and-who caves, Napaeae,
et quae marmoreo pede, Naides, uda secatis
and who with-marble foot, Naiads, wet cut
litora purpureosque alitis per gramina flores:
shores and-purple nourish through grasses flowers:
dicite, quo Donacen prato, qua forte sub umbra
tell, in-what Donace meadow, what by-chance under shade
inueniam, roseis stringentem lilia palmis?
I-may-find, with-rosy plucking lilies palms?

nam mihi iam trini perierunt ordine soles,
for to-me now three have-perished in-order suns,
ex quo consueto Donacen exspecto sub antro.
from which accustomed Donace I-await under cave.
interea, tamquam nostri solamen amoris
meanwhile, as-if of-our solace love
hoc foret aut nostros posset medicare furores,
this were or our could heal frenzies,
nulla meae trinis tetigerunt gramina uaccae
no my for-three have-touched grasses cows
Luciferis, nullo libarunt amne liquores;
morning-stars, from-no have-sipped river waters;
siccaque fetarum lambentes ubera matrum
and-dry of-calved licking udders mothers
stant uituli et teneris mugitibus aera complent.
stand calves and with-tender lowings air fill.
ipse ego nec iunco molli nec uimine lento
myself I neither with-rush soft nor with-osier pliant
perfeci calathos cogendi lactis in usus.
have-finished baskets of-to-be-curdled milk for uses.
quid tibi, quae nosti, referam? scis mille iuuencas
why to-you, what you-know, shall-I-relate? you-know thousand heifers
esse mihi, nosti numquam mea mulctra uacare.
to-be to-me, you-know never my pails to-be-empty.
ille ego sum, Donace, cui dulcia saepe dedisti
that I am, Donace, to-whom sweet often you-gave
oscula nec medios dubitasti rumpere cantus
kisses nor middle you-hesitated to-break songs
atque inter calamos errantia labra petisti.
and between reeds wandering lips you-sought.

heu heu! nulla meae tangit te cura salutis?
alas alas! no of-my touches you care welfare?
pallidior buxo uiolaeque simillimus erro.
paler than-boxwood and-to-violet most-like I-wander.
omnes ecce cibos et nostri pocula Bacchi
all behold foods and of-our cups Bacchus
horreo nec placido memini concedere somno.
I-shudder-at nor to-calm I-remember to-yield sleep.
te sine, uae, misero mihi lilia fusca uidentur
you without, woe, to-wretched me lilies dark seem
pallentesque rosae nec dulce rubens hyacinthus,
and-pale roses nor sweetly blushing hyacinth,
nullos nec myrtus nec laurus spirat odores.
no nor myrtle nor laurel breathes scents.
at si tu uenias, tunc candida lilia fient
but if you should-come, then white lilies will-become
purpureaeque rosae, tunc dulce rubens hyacinthus;
and-purple roses, then sweetly blushing hyacinth;
tunc mihi cum myrto laurus spirabit odores.
then for-me with myrtle laurel will-breathe scents.
nam dum Pallas amat turgentes unguine bacas,
for while Pallas loves swelling with-oil berries,
dum Bacchus uites, Deo sata, poma Priapus,
while Bacchus vines, Deo crops, fruits Priapus,
pascua laeta Pales, Idas te diligit unam. —
pastures glad Pales, Idas you loves alone.
Haec Idas calamis, tu, quae responderit Alcon
These-things Idas on-reeds, you, what has-answered Alcon
uersu, Phoebe, refer: sunt curae carmina Phoebo.
in-verse, Phoebus, relate: are for-care songs to-Phoebus.

ALCON O montana Pales, o pastoralis Apollo,
O mountain Pales, o pastoral Apollo,
et nemorum Siluane potens, et nostra Dione,
and of-groves Silvanus powerful, and our Dione,
quae iuga celsa tenes Erycis, cui cura iugales
who ridges lofty hold of-Eryx, to-whom care conjugal
concubitus hominum totis conectere saeclis,
couplings of-men in-all to-join ages,
quid merui? cur me Donace formosa reliquit?
what have-I-deserved? why me Donace beautiful has-left?
munera namque dedi, noster quae non dedit Idas,
gifts for I-gave, our which not gave Idas,
uocalem longos quae ducit aedona cantus;
melodious long which draws nightingale songs;
quae licet interdum, contexto uimine clausae
which though at-times, by-woven osier closed
cum paruae patuere fores, ceu libera ferri
when small have-lain-open doors, as-if free to-be-borne
norit et agrestes inter uolitare uolucres,
has-known and rustic among to-flit birds,
scit rursus remeare domum tectumque subire,
knows again to-return home and-roof to-go-under,
uiminis et caueam totis praeponere siluis.
of-osier and cage to-all to-prefer woods.
praeterea tenerum leporem geminasque palumbes
moreover tender hare and-twin doves
nuper, quae potui, siluarum praemia misi.
lately, which I-could, of-woods prizes I-sent.
et post haec, Donace, nostros contemnis amores?
and after these-things, Donace, our do-you-scorn loves?

forsitan indignum ducis, quod rusticus Alcon
perhaps unworthy you-reckon, that rustic Alcon
te peream, qui mane boues in pascua duco.
for-you I-perish, who at-morning oxen into pastures lead.
di pecorum pauere greges, formosus Apollo,
gods of-flocks have-pastured herds, beautiful Apollo,
Pan doctus, Fauni uates et pulcher Adonis.
Pan learned, Fauns prophets and handsome Adonis.
quin etiam fontis speculo me mane notaui,
nay also of-spring in-mirror myself at-morning I-noted,
nondum purpureos Phoebus cum tolleret ortus
not-yet purple Phoebus when was-raising risings
nec tremulum liquidis lumen splenderet in undis;
nor trembling clear light was-shining in waves;
quod uidi, nulla tegimur lanugine malas,
what I-saw, by-no we-are-covered down as-to-cheeks,
pascimus et crinem; nostro formosior Ida
we-grow and hair; than-our handsomer Idas
dicor, et hoc ipsum mihi tu iurare solebas,
I-am-said, and this itself to-me you to-swear were-wont,
purpureas laudando genas et lactea colla
purple by-praising cheeks and milky neck
atque hilares oculos et formam puberis aeui.
and merry eyes and form of-youthful age.
nec sumus indocti calamis: cantamus auena,
nor we-are unskilled on-reeds: we-sing on-oat,
qua diui cecinere prius, qua dulce locutus
on-which gods sang before, on-which sweetly having-spoken
Tityrus e siluis dominam peruenit in urbem.
Tityrus from woods mistress came into city.

nos quoque te propter, Donace, cantabimur urbi,
we also you for, Donace, shall-be-sung to-city,
si modo coniferas inter uiburna cupressos
if only cone-bearing among wayfaring-trees cypresses
atque inter pinus corylum frondescere fas est.
and among pines hazel to-put-forth-leaves right is.
Sic pueri Donacen toto sub sole canebant,
So boys Donace whole under sun were-singing,
frigidus e siluis donec descendere suasit
cold from woods until to-descend urged
Hesperus et stabulis pastos inducere tauros.
Hesperus and to-stalls grazed to-lead-in bulls.

III · PAN'S SONG OF BACCHUS

Three boys find Pan asleep and try his pipe, which only shrieks. Waking, Pan sings for them himself of Bacchus: his birth from Semele and Jupiter, his nursing by the nymphs and old Silenus, the first grapes, the first vintage trodden by the Satyrs, their wild drinking and pursuit of the nymphs, Silenus drunk ever after, and the god's spears wreathed in vine. Night ends the song.

Nyctilus atque Micon nec non et pulcher Amyntas
Nyctilus and Micon nor not also handsome Amyntas
torrentem patula uitabant ilice solem,
scorching with-spreading were-avoiding holm-oak sun,
cum Pan uenatu fessus recubare sub ulmo
when Pan from-hunting weary to-lie-down under elm
coeperat et somno lassatas sumere uires;
had-begun and in-sleep weary to-take-up strength;
quem super ex tereti pendebat fistula ramo.
whom above from smooth was-hanging pipe branch.

hanc pueri, tamquam praedem pro carmine possent
this boys, as-if surety for song they-could
sumere fasque esset calamos tractare deorum,
to-take and-right it-were reeds to-handle of-gods,
inuadunt furto; sed nec resonare canorem
attack by-stealth; but neither to-resound melody
fistula quem suerat nec uult contexere carmen,
pipe which it-had-been-wont nor wishes to-weave song,
sed pro carminibus male dissona sibila reddit,
but for songs badly discordant hisses gives-back,
cum Pan excussus sonitu stridentis auenae
when Pan roused by-sound of-screeching oat
iamque uidens 'Pueri, si carmina poscitis,' inquit
and-now seeing 'Boys, if songs you-demand,' says
'ipse canam: nulli fas est inflare cicutas,
'myself I-shall-sing: to-no-one right it-is to-blow hemlock-pipes,
quas ego Maenaliis cera coniungo sub antris.
which I Maenalian with-wax join under caves.
iamque ortus, Lenaee, tuos et semina uitis
and-now birth, Lenaeus, your and seeds of-vine
ordine detexam: debemus carmina Baccho.'
in-order I-shall-unfold: we-owe songs to-Bacchus.'
haec fatus coepit calamis sic montiuagus Pan:
these-things having-spoken began on-reeds thus mountain-ranging Pan:
'Te cano, qui grauidis hederata fronte corymbis
'You I-sing, who with-heavy on-ivied brow clusters
uitea serta plicas quique udo palmite tigres
vine garlands fold and-who with-wet vine-shoot tigers
ducis odoratis perfusus colla capillis,
lead with-fragrant drenched as-to-neck locks,

uera Iouis proles; nam cum post sidera caeli
true of-Jupiter offspring; for when after stars of-heaven
sola Iouem Semele uidit Iouis ora professum,
alone Jupiter Semele saw of-Jupiter face having-shown,
hunc pater omnipotens, uenturi prouidus aeui,
him father almighty, of-coming foreseeing age,
pertulit et iusto produxit tempore partus.
carried and at-due brought-forth time of-birth.
hunc Nymphae Faunique senes Satyrique procaces,
him Nymphs and-Fauns old and-Satyrs saucy,
nosque etiam Nysae uiridi nutrimus in antro.
and-we also of-Nysa green nourish in cave.
quin et Silenus paruum ueteranus alumnum
nay also Silenus small aged nursling
aut gremio fouet aut resupinis sustinet ulnis,
either in-lap cherishes or with-upturned holds arms,
euocat aut risum digito motuue quietem
calls-forth or laughter with-finger or-with-motion rest
allicit aut tremulis quassat crepitacula palmis.
entices or with-trembling shakes rattles palms.
cui deus arridens horrentes pectore saetas
whose god smiling bristling on-breast hairs
uellicat aut digitis aures astringit acutas
plucks or with-fingers ears squeezes pointed
adplauditue manu mutilum caput aut breue mentum
or-pats with-hand stunted head or short chin
et simas tenero collidit pollice nares.
and snub with-tender crushes thumb nostrils.
interea pueri florescit pube iuuentus
meanwhile of-boy blossoms with-down youth

flauaque maturo tumuerunt tempora cornu.
and-tawny with-ripe have-swelled temples horn.
tum primum laetas extendit pampinus uuas:
then first glad stretches-out vine-leaf grapes:
mirantur Satyri frondes et poma Lyaei.
marvel Satyrs at-leaves and fruits of-Lyaeus.
tum deus 'O Satyri, maturos carpite fetus'
then god 'O Satyrs, ripe pluck fruits'
dixit 'et ignotos primi calcate racemos.'
said 'and unknown first tread clusters.'
uix haec ediderat, decerpunt uitibus uuas
scarcely these-things he-had-uttered, they-pluck from-vines grapes
et portant calathis celerique elidere planta
and carry in-baskets and-with-swift to-crush sole
concaua saxa super properant: uindemia feruet
hollow rocks over hasten: vintage seethes
collibus in summis, crebro pede rumpitur uua
hills on topmost, with-frequent foot is-burst grape
rubraque purpureo sparguntur pectora musto.
and-red with-purple are-sprinkled breasts must.
tum Satyri, lasciua cohors, sibi pocula quisque
then Satyrs, playful band, for-themselves cups each
obuia corripiunt: quae fors dedit, arripit usus.
at-hand seize: what chance has-given, snatches need.
cantharon hic retinet, cornu bibit alter adunco,
tankard this-one holds, from-horn drinks another hooked,
concauat ille manus palmasque in pocula uertit,
hollows that-one hands and-palms into cups turns,
pronus at ille lacu bibit et crepitantibus haurit
bent-forward but that-one from-vat drinks and with-smacking drains

musta labris; alius uocalia cymbala mergit,
musts lips; another tuneful cymbals dips,
atque alius latices pressis resupinus ab uuis
and another liquors pressed lying-back from grapes
excipit; at potus (saliens liquor ore resultat)
catches; but drunk (leaping liquid from-mouth bounces-back)
euomit inque umeros et pectora defluit umor.
he-vomits and-onto shoulders and breast flows-down moisture.
omnia ludus habet cantusque chorique licentes;
everything play holds and-songs and-dances licentious;
et uenerem iam uina mouent: raptantur amantes
and love now wines stir: are-dragged loving
concubitu Satyri fugientes iungere Nymphas
to-union Satyrs fleeing to-join Nymphs
iamiamque elapsas hic crine, hic ueste retentat.
and-just-now escaped this-one by-hair, this-one by-dress holds-back.
tum primum roseo Silenus cymbia musto
then first with-rosy Silenus cups must
plena senex auide non aequis uiribus hausit.
full old-man greedily not with-equal strength drained.
ex illo uenas inflatus nectare dulci
from that as-to-veins swollen with-nectar sweet
hesternoque grauis semper ridetur Iaccho.
and-with-yesterday's heavy always is-laughed-at Iacchus.
quin etiam deus ille, deus Ioue prosatus ipso,
nay also god that, god from-Jupiter begotten very,
et plantis uuas premit et de uitibus hastas
both with-soles grapes presses and from vines spears
integit et lynci praebet cratera bibenti.'
covers and to-lynx offers mixing-bowl drinking.'

haec Pan Maenalia pueros in ualle docebat,
these-things Pan Maenalian boys in valley was-teaching,
sparsas donec oues campo conducere in unum
scattered until sheep in-plain to-gather into one
nox iubet, uberibus suadens siccare fluorem
night bids, from-udders urging to-drain flow
lactis et in niueas astrictum cogere glaebas.
of-milk and into snowy curdled to-press clods.

IV · THE REFRAIN OF MOPSUS AND LYCIDAS

Mopsus, in love with Meroe, and Lycidas, in love with the boy Iollas, both scorned, sing their complaints in alternate stanzas, each closing with the refrain that each should sing what he loves, since songs lighten cares. They plead that beauty fades, that all nature loves, and that the heat calls to the shade; they tell what a lover must endure, and the rites and spells tried on them in vain.

Populea Lycidas nec non et Mopsus in umbra,
Poplar Lycidas nor not also Mopsus in shade,
pastores, calamis et uersu doctus uterque
shepherds, on-reeds and in-verse skilled each
nec triuiale sonans, proprios cantabat amores.
nor commonplace sounding, own was-singing loves.
nam Mopso Meroe, Lycidae crinitus Iollas
for to-Mopsus Meroe, to-Lycidas long-haired Iollas
ignis erat; parilisque furor de dispare sexu
fire was; and-equal madness from different sex
cogebat trepidos totis discurrere siluis.
was-driving anxious through-all to-run-about woods.
hos puer ac Meroe multum lusere furentes,
these boy and Meroe much mocked raging,

dum modo condictas uitant in uallibus ulmos,
while now agreed they-avoid in valleys elms,
nunc fagos placitas fugiunt promissaque fallunt
now beeches pleasing they-flee and-promised deceive
antra nec est animus solitos adludere fontes.
caves nor is mind accustomed to-play-by springs.
cum tandem fessi, quos dirus adederat ignis,
when at-last weary, whom dire had-eaten fire,
sic sua desertis nudarunt uulnera siluis
thus their to-deserted bared wounds woods
inque uicem dulces cantu dixere querelas.
and-in turn sweet in-song uttered complaints.
MOPSUS Inmitis Meroe rapidisque fugacior Euris,
Pitiless Meroe and-than-swift more-fleeing East-winds,
cur nostros calamos, cur pastoralia uitas
why our reeds, why pastoral do-you-avoid
carmina? quemue fugis? quae me tibi gloria uicto?
songs? or-whom do-you-flee? what with-me to-you glory conquered?
quid uultu mentem premis ac spem fronte serenas?
why with-face mind do-you-press and hope with-brow do-you-brighten?
tandem, dura, nega: possum non uelle negantem.
at-last, hard-one, refuse: I-can not to-want refusing.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
LYCIDAS Respice me tandem, puer o crudelis Iolla.
Look-back-at me at-last, boy o cruel Iollas.
non hoc semper eris: perdunt et gramina flores,
not this always you-will-be: lose also grasses flowers,
perdit spina rosas nec semper lilia candent
loses thorn roses nor always lilies are-white

nec longum tenet uua comas nec populus umbras.
nor long holds vine leaves nor poplar shades.
donum forma breue est nec se quod commodet annis.
gift beauty brief is nor itself which lends to-years.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
MOPSUS Cerua marem sequitur, taurum formosa iuuenca,
Hind male follows, bull beautiful heifer,
et uenerem sensere lupae, sensere leaenae
and love have-felt she-wolves, have-felt lionesses
et genus aerium uolucres et squamea turba
and race airy birds and scaly throng
et montes siluaeque, suos habet arbor amores:
and mountains and-woods, its-own has tree loves:
tu tamen una fugis, miserum tu prodis amantem.
you however alone flee, wretched you betray lover.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
LYCIDAS Omnia tempus alit, tempus rapit: usus in arto est.
All-things time nourishes, time snatches: use in narrow is.
uer erat, et uitulos uidi sub matribus istos,
spring it-was, and calves I-saw under mothers those,
qui nunc pro niuea coiere in cornua uacca.
who now for snowy have-clashed into horns heifer.
et tibi iam tumidae nares et fortia colla,
and to-you now swollen nostrils and strong neck,
iam tibi bis denis numerantur messibus anni.
now to-you twice by-ten are-counted harvests years.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.

MOPSUS Huc, Meroe formosa, ueni: uocat aestus in umbram.
Hither, Meroe beautiful, come: calls heat into shade.
iam pecudes subiere nemus, iam nulla canoro
now cattle have-gone-under grove, now no with-tuneful
gutture cantat auis, torto non squamea tractu
throat sings bird, with-twisted not scaly trail
signat humum serpens: solus cano, me sonat omnis
marks ground serpent: alone I-sing, me sounds whole
silua, nec aestiuis cantu concedo cicadis.
wood, nor to-summer in-song I-yield cicadas.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
LYCIDAS Tu quoque, saeue puer, niueum ne perde colorem
You also, cruel boy, snowy do-not lose color
sole sub hoc: solet hic lucentes urere malas.
sun under this: is-wont this shining to-burn cheeks.
hac age pampinea mecum requiesce sub umbra;
this come vine-clad with-me rest under shade;
hic tibi lene uirens fons murmurat, hic et ab ulmis
here for-you gently green spring murmurs, here also from elms
purpureae fetis dependent uitibus uuae.
purple fruitful hang vines grapes.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
MOPSUS Qui tulerit Meroes fastidia lenta superbae,
Who shall-have-borne of-Meroe disdain slow proud,
Sithonias feret ille niues Libyaeque calorem,
Sithonian will-bear he snows and-of-Libya heat,
Nerinas potabit aquas taxique nocentis
Nerine will-drink waters and-of-yew harmful

non metuet sucos, Sardorum gramina uincet
not will-fear juices, of-Sardinians grasses will-overcome
et iuga Marmaricos coget sua ferre leones.
and yokes Marmaric will-force his to-bear lions.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
LYCIDAS Quisquis amat pueros, ferro praecordia duret,
Whoever loves boys, with-iron heart let-him-harden,
nil properet discatque diu patienter amare
nothing let-him-basten and-let-him-learn long patiently to-love
prudentesque animos teneris non spernat in annis,
and-prudent minds tender not let-him-scorn in years,
perferat et fastus, sic olim gaudia sumet,
let-him-endure also disdains, so one-day joys he-will-take,
si modo sollicitos aliquis deus audit amantes.
if only anxious any god hears lovers.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.
MOPSUS Quid prodest, quod me pagani mater Amyntae
What profits-it, that me of-rustic mother Amyntas
ter uittis, ter fronde sacra, ter ture uaporo,
thrice with-fillets, thrice with-leaf sacred, thrice with-incense steaming,
incendens uiuo crepitantes sulphure lauros,
burning with-living crackling sulfur laurels,
lustrauit cineresque auersa effudit in amnem,
purified and-ashes turned-away poured into river,
cum sic in Meroen totis miser ignibus urar?
when so for Meroe with-all wretched fires I-burn?
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.

LYCIDAS Haec eadem nobis quoque uersicoloria fila.
These same for-us also many-colored threads.
et mille ignotas Mycale circumtulit herbas;
and thousand unknown Mycale carried-around herbs;
cantauit, quo luna tumet, quo rumpitur anguis, 70
she-sang, by-which moon swells, by-which is-burst snake,
quo currunt scopuli, migrant sata, uellitur arbos.
by-which run rocks, migrate crops, is-plucked tree.
plus tamen ecce meus, plus est formosus Iollas.
more however behold my, more is handsome Iollas.
cantet, amat quod quisque: leuant et carmina curas.
let-sing, loves what each: lighten even songs cares.