LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 50

The Golden Ass

Apuleius

Metamorphoses

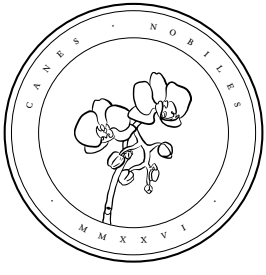
The Golden Ass

The Novel of Lucius, with Cupid and Psyche

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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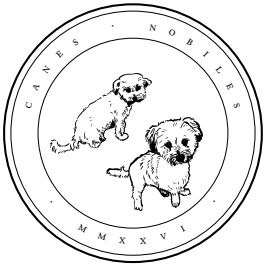

Volume 50 of the Canes Nobiles Latin interlinear texts

The Latin text follows Gaselee's Loeb text of the Metamorphoses of 1915

Set from the Perseus Digital Library's canonical Latin corpus, with corrections

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

CONTENTS

BOOK I

I · The Prologue 9
II · Two Travelers on the Road 10
III · Socrates and the Witch Meroe 14
IV · The Night at the Inn 22
V · The Sponge Falls Out 31
VI · Milo's House 35

BOOK II

VII · Byrrhena 45
VIII · Fotis in the Kitchen 51
IX · The Chaldaean Diophanes 59
X · The Night with Fotis 64
XI · Byrrhena's Banquet 68
XII · Thelyphron's Tale 71
XIII · The Three Robbers 84

BOOK III

XIV · The Trial 87
XV · The Bodies Uncovered 92
XVI · The God of Laughter 99

BOOK III

(continued)

XVII · Fotis Confesses 101
XVIII · The Owl 109
XIX · Lucius Becomes an Ass 115
XX · Robbers in the Night 117

BOOK IV

XXI · The Laurel-Roses 123
XXII · The Robbers' Cave 129
XXIII · Lamachus and Alcimus 134
XXIV · Thrasyleon the Bear 139
XXV · The Captive Maiden 151
XXVI · Psyche and Venus 158
XXVII · The Oracle and the Rock 163

BOOK V

XXVIII · The Palace of the Unseen Husband 169
XXIX · The Sisters' First Visit 173
XXX · The Sisters' Plot 181
XXXI · The Serpent Husband 188
XXXII · The Lamp 193
XXXIII · Psyche's Revenge 198
XXXIV · Venus Learns the Truth 202

BOOK VI

XXXV · Psyche's Search 209
XXXVI · The Seeds and the Golden Wool 217
XXXVII · The Water of the Styx 222
XXXVIII · The Box of Proserpina 226

BOOK VI

(continued)

XXXIX · The Wedding of Cupid and Psyche 233
XL · The Escape with Charite 236
XLI · Caught Again 243

BOOK VII

XLII · News from Hypata 249
XLIII · Haemus the Thracian 254
XLIV · Tlepolemus 261
XLV · Among the Horses 266
XLVI · The Boy and the Firewood 270
XLVII · The Bear 278

BOOK VIII

XLVIII · The Death of Tlepolemus 285
XLIX · Charite's Revenge 293
L · The Death of Charite 300
LI · Wolves and Dogs 303
LII · The Old Man and the Serpent 310
LIII · The Slave and the Ants 313
LIV · Philebus Buys the Ass 316
LV · The Priests of the Syrian Goddess 321

BOOK IX

LVI · The Rabid Dog 329
LVII · The Jar 334
LVIII · The Priests Caught 338
LIX · The Mill 342

BOOK IX

(continued)

LX · The Baker's Wife 346
LXI · Philesitherus and the Sandals 350
LXII · The Fuller's Wife 357
LXIII · The Baker's Revenge 362
LXIV · The Gardener 370
LXV · The Three Brothers 374
LXVI · The Soldier 381

BOOK X

LXVII · The Stepmother 389
LXVIII · The Doctor's Sleeping Draft 398
LXIX · The Two Brothers 406
LXX · Thiasus and the Matron 414
LXXI · The Poisoner 420
LXXII · The Judgment of Paris 429
LXXIII · Lucius Escapes 434

BOOK XI

LXXIV · The Prayer to the Moon 441
LXXV · Isis Appears 444
LXXVI · The Procession 450
LXXVII · Lucius Restored 459
LXXVIII · The Call to Initiation 465
LXXIX · The Initiation 472
LXXX · Rome and Osiris 477
LXXXI · The Third Initiation 482

BOOK I

I · THE PROLOGUE

The narrator promises to string together varied tales in the Milesian manner, of men's shapes and fortunes changed into other forms and restored again, if the reader will look at Egyptian papyrus written with a reed of the Nile. His stock is Greek, from Hymettus, the Isthmus, and Taenarus; he learned Latin at Rome with toil and begs pardon for a foreign speech. A Greek tale begins: reader, attend, and you will be delighted.

At ego tibi sermone isto Milesio varias fabulas conseram 1
but I to-you in-speech that Milesian various tales will-string-together
auresque tuas benivolas lepido susurro permulceam, modo
and-ears your kindly with-a-pleasant whisper will-soothe provided
si papyrum Aegyptiam argutia Nilotici calami inscriptam
if the-papyrus Egyptian with-the-sharpness of-a-Nilotic reed inscribed
non spreveris inspicere, figuras fortunasque hominum in
not you-scorn to-look-into figures and-fortunes of-men into
alias imagines conversas et in se rursum mutuo nexu
other images changed and into themselves again by-a-mutual bond
refectas, ut mireris. Exordior. Quis ille? Paucis accipe.
restored that you-may-wonder I-begin who that-one in-few-words hear
Hymettos Attica et Isthmos Ephyraea et Taenaros Spartiaca,
Hymettus Attic and the-Isthmus Ephyraean and Taenarus Spartan
glebae felices aeternum libris felicioribus conditae, mea
soils happy forever in-books happier laid-up my
vetus prosapia est: ibi linguam Attidem primis pueritiae
old stock is there the-tongue Attic in-the-first of-boyhood
stipendiis merui. Mox in urbe Latia advena studiorum,
campaigns I-earned soon in the-city Latin a-newcomer of-studies
Quiritium indigenam sermonem aerumnabili labore, nullo
of-the-Quirites native speech with-wretched labor with-no

magistro praeeunte, aggressus excolui. En ecce praefamur
master going-before having-attacked I-cultivated lo behold we-ask-beforehand
veniam, si quid exotici ac forensis sermonis rudis
pardon if anything outlandish and of-the-forum speech an-uncouth
locutor offendero. Iam haec equidem ipsa vocis immutatio
speaker I-shall-have-offended now this indeed very of-voice change
desultoriae scientiae stilo quem accessimus respondet.
of-circus-riding knowledge to-the-style which we-have-approached answers
Fabulam Graecanicam incipimus: lector intende; laetaberis.
a-tale Greekish we-begin reader attend you-will-be-delighted

II · TWO TRAVELERS ON THE ROAD

Lucius rides to Thessaly on business and falls in with two travelers, one of whom mocks the other's tale as a lie. Lucius rebukes the scoffer: things thought impossible happen, as when he nearly choked on a cheesecake, and at Athens saw a juggler swallow a sword and a boy dance on a pole. He asks the teller to begin again, offering him a lunch at the first inn.

2 Thessaliam, nam et illic originis maternae nostrae fundamenta
to-Thessaly for both there of-origin maternal our the-foundations
a Plutarcho illo inclito ac mox Sexto philosopho nepote eius
by Plutarch that famous and soon Sextus the-philosopher grandson his
prodita gloriam nobis faciunt, eam Thessaliam ex negotio
handed-down glory to-us make that Thessaly on business
petebam. Postquam ardua montium et lubrica vallium
I-was-seeking after the-steeps of-the-mountains and the-slippery-places of-the-valleys
et roscida caespitum et glebosa camporum emensi,
and the-dewy-places of-the-turf and the-cloddy-places of-the-fields having-traversed
me equo indigena peralbo vehens eo quoque admodum
me on-a-horse native very-white carrying with-that also quite

fesso, ut ipse etiam fatigationem sedentariam incessus
tired so-that I-myself even the-fatigue of-sitting of-walking
vegetatione discuterem, in pedes desilio, equi sudorem
by-the-liveliness might-shake-off onto my-feet I-leap-down of-the-horse the-sweat
a fronte curiose exfrico, aures remulceo, frenos detraho,
from his-forehead carefully I-rub-off his-ears I-stroke the-reins I-draw-off
in gradum lenem sensim proveho, quoad lassitudinis
into a-pace gentle gradually I-lead-him-on until of-weariness
incommodum alui solitum ac naturale praesidium
the-discomfort of-the-belly customary and natural a-relief
eliquaret. Ac dum is, ientaculum ambulatorium, prata
should-drain-away and while he his-breakfast walking the-meadows
quae praeterit ore in latus detorto pronus affectat,
which he-passes with-mouth to the-side twisted bent-forward strives-at
duobus comitum, qui forte paululum processerant, tertium
to-two of-the-companions who by-chance a-little had-gone-ahead the-third
me facio. Ac dum ausculto quid sermonis agitarent,
myself I-make and while I-listen what of-talk they-were-carrying-on
alter exerto cachinno “Parce” inquit “In verba ista haec
one with-a-thrust-out guffaw spare he-says in words those these
tam absurda tamque immania mentiendo.” Isto accepto
so absurd and-so monstrous by-lying with-that heard
sititor alioquin novitatis “Immo vero” inquam “Impertite
a-thirster otherwise of-novelty nay indeed I-say share
sermonis non quidem curiosum, sed qui velim scire vel
of-the-talk not indeed curious but one-who would-wish to-know either
cuncta vel certe plurima: simul iugi quod insurgimus
all-things or surely most at-the-same-time of-the-ridge which we-are-climbing
aspritudinem fabularum lepida iucunditas levigabit.”
the-roughness of-the-tales the-pleasant charm will-smooth

3 At ille qui coeperat, “Ne” inquit “Istud mendacium tam verum
but he who had-begun sure he-says that lie so true
est, quam si quis velit dicere magico susurramine amnes
is as if anyone should-wish to-say by-a-magic whispering rivers
agiles reverti, mare pigrum colligari, ventos inanimes exspirare;
swift to-run-back the-sea sluggish to-be-bound the-winds lifeless to-breathe-out
solem inhiberi, lunam despumari, stellas evelli,
the-sun to-be-stopped the-moon to-be-skimmed-of-foam the-stars to-be-plucked-out
diem tolli, noctem teneri.” Tunc ego in verba fidentior
the-day to-be-removed the-night to-be-held then I in words more-confident
“Heus tu” inquam “Qui sermonem ieceras priorem, ne
hey you I-say who the-talk had-thrown-out before not
pigeat te vel taedeat reliqua pertexere,” et ad alium “Tu
let-it-irk you or weary the-rest to-weave-out and to the-other you
vero crassis auribus et obstinato corde respuis quae forsitan
indeed with-thick ears and with-obstinate heart you-spurn what perhaps
vere perhibeantur. Minus Hercule calles pravissimis
truly may-be-related less by-Hercules you-are-versed with-most-perverse
opinionibus ea putari mendacia, quae vel auditu
opinions those-things to-be-thought lies which either in-hearing
nova vel visu rudia vel certe supra captum cogitationis
new or in-sight unpolished or surely beyond the-reach of-thought
ardua videantur; quae si paulo accuratius exploraris, non
steep may-seem which if a-little more-carefully you-shall-have-explored not
modo compertu evidentia, verum etiam factu facilia senties.”
only in-discovery evident but also in-doing easy you-will-feel
4 “Ego denique vespera, dum polentae caseatae modico secus
I in-short last-evening while of-polenta cheesed a-little beyond-measure
offulam grandiorem in convivas aemulus contruncare gestio,
a-morsel larger among the-guests competing to-gulp I-am-eager
mollitie cibi glutinosi faucibus inhaerentis et meacula
by-the-softness of-the-food sticky to-my-throat clinging and the-passages

spiritus distinentis minimo minus interii: et tamen Athenis
of-breath blocking by-least less I-perished and still at-Athens
proxime et ante Poecilen porticum isto gemino obtutu
lately and before the-Painted portico with-this twin gaze
circulatorem aspexi equestrem spatham praeacutam mucrone
a-juggler I-saw a-horseman's broadsword very-sharp with-point
infesto devorasse ac mox eundem invitamento exiguae stipis
menacing to-have-swallowed and soon the-same at-the-inducement of-a-small coin
venatoriam lanceam, qua parte minatur exitium, in ima
a-hunting lance by-which part it-threatens destruction into the-lowest
viscera condidisse: et ecce pone lanceae ferrum, qua bacillum
bowels to-have-buried and behold behind of-the-lance the-iron where the-shaft
inversi teli ad occipitium per ingluviem subit,
of-the-reversed weapon to the-back-of-the-head through the-gullet rises
puer in mollitiem decorus insurgit inque flexibus tortuosis
a-boy in softness handsome rises-up and-in turnings twisting
enervam et exossam saltationem explicat cum omnium, qui
a-nerveless and boneless dance unfolds with of-all who
aderamus, admiratione: diceres dei medici baculo, quod
were-present the-admiration you-would-say of-the-god physician on-the-staff which
ramulis semiamputatis nodosum gerit, serpentem generosum
with-twigs half-cut knotty he-carries a-serpent noble
lubricis amplexibus inhaerere. Sed iam cedo tu sodes, qui
with-slippery embraces to-cling but now come-on you please who
coeperas, fabulam remetire. Ego tibi solus haec pro
had-begun the-tale measure-again I for-you alone these-things instead-of
isto credam et quod ingressui primum fuerit stabulum,
him will-believe and at-what for-entering first shall-be inn
prandio participabo. Haec tibi merces deposita est."
in-the-lunch I-shall-make-you-share this to-you the-wage laid-down is

Aristomenes, a dealer in honey and cheese from Aegium, found his old friend Socrates at Hypata in rags, given up for dead at home. Robbed on the road, Socrates had fallen into the hands of the innkeeper Meroe, a witch who keeps him as her lover. Her powers are fearful: she turned a lover into a beaver and a rival into a frog, and shut a whole town in its houses.

At ille: "Istud quidem, quod polliceris, aequi bonique facio,
but he that indeed which you-promise as-fair and-good I-take
verum quod inchoaveram porro exordiar. Sed tibi prius
but what I-had-begun further I-shall-start but to-you first
deierabo solem istum omnividentem deum me re vera
I-shall-swear-by the-sun that all-seeing god that-I in-fact truly
comperta memorare, nec vos ulterius dubitabitis si Thessaliae
found-out relate nor you further will-doubt if of-Thessaly
proximam civitatem perveneritis, quod ibidem passim
the-nearest city you-shall-have-reached because in-the-same-place everywhere
per ora populi sermo iactetur quae palam gesta sunt.
through the-mouths of-the-people as-talk is-tossed what openly done were
Sed ut prius noritis cuiatis sim; Aegiensis: audite et
but that first you-may-know of-what-country I-am from-Aegium hear and
quo quaestu me teneam; melle vel caseo et huiuscemodi
by-what trade myself I-keep with-honey or cheese and of-this-kind
cauponiorum mercibus per Thessaliam Aetoliam Boeotiam
of-innkeepers' wares through Thessaly Aetolia Boeotia
ultro citro discurrens. Comperto itaque Hypatae, quae civitas
to-and fro running-about with-it-learned and-so at-Hypata which city
cunctae Thessaliae antepollet, caseum recens et sciti saporis
of-all Thessaly is-foremost that-cheese fresh and of-fine flavor
admodum commodo pretio distrahi, festinus adcucurri id omne
at-a-very reasonable price to-be-sold hastily I-ran-there it all

praestinaturus. Sed, ut fieri assolet, sinistro pede profectum
going-to-buy-up but as to-happen is-wont with-the-left foot set-out
me spes compendii frustrata est; omne enim pridie
me the-hope of-profit cheated has all for the-day-before
Lupus negotiator magnarius coemerat. Ergo igitur inefficaci
Lupus a-dealer wholesale had-bought-up therefore then by-useless
celeritate fatigatus commodum vespera oriente ad balneas
haste wearied just with-evening rising to the-baths
processeram; ecce Socraten contubernalem meum conspicio.
I-had-gone-on behold Socrates comrade my I-catch-sight-of
"Humi sedebat scissili palliastro semiamictus, paene 6
on-the-ground he-was-sitting in-a-torn shabby-cloak half-clad almost
alius lurore, ad miseram maciem deformatus, qualia
another-man with-sallowness to wretched leanness disfigured such-as
solent fortunae detrimina stipes in triviis erogare. Hunc
are-wont of-fortune the-castoffs coins at the-crossroads to-beg this-man
talem, quamquam necessarium et summe cognitum, tamen
such although an-intimate and most-thoroughly known still
dubia mente propius accessi. 'Hem' inquam 'Mi Socrates,
with-doubting mind nearer I-approached ha I-say my Socrates
quid istud? Quae facies? Quod flagitium? At vero domi
what that what face what disgrace but indeed at-home
tuae iam defletus et conclamatus es; liberis tuis tutores
your already wept-for and called-on-for-dead you-are to-children your guardians
iuridici provincialis decreto dati; uxor persolutis inferialibus
of-the-judge provincial by-decree given your-wife with-paid-off the-funeral
officiis, luctu et maerore diuturno deformata, diffletis paene
offices by-grief and by-sorrow long disfigured with-wept-out almost
ad extremam captivitatem oculis suis, domus infortunium
to the-extreme loss eyes her-own of-the-house the-misfortune
novarum nuptiarum gaudiis a suis sibi parentibus
of-a-new marriage with-the-joys by her-own to-herself parents

hilarare compellitur. At tu hic larvale simulacrum cum
to-cheer is-compelled but you here a-ghostly image with
summo dedecore nostro viseris.' 'Aristomene,' inquit 'Ne tu
the-highest disgrace our are-seen Aristomenes he-says truly you
fortunarum lubricas ambages et instabiles incursiones et
of-fortunes the-slippery windings and unstable assaults and
reciprocas vicissitudines ignoras!' Et cum dicto sutili
alternating changes know-not and with the-word with-a-patched
centunculo faciem suam iamdudum punicantem prae pudore
rag-quilt face his long-since reddening for shame
obtexit, ita ut ab umbilico pube tenus cetera corporis
he-covered so that from the-navel the-groin as-far-as the-rest of-the-body
renudaret. Nec denique perpessus ego tam miserum aerumnae
he-bared nor in-short enduring I so wretched of-misery
spectaculum, iniecta manu ut assurgat enitor.
a-spectacle with-thrown-on hand that he-may-get-up I-strive
7 "At ille, ut erat, capite velato 'Sine, sine' inquit 'Fruatur
but he as he-was with-head veiled let-be let-be he-says let-enjoy
diutius trophaeo Fortuna quod fixit ipsa.'
longer the-trophy Fortune which she-fixed herself
"Effeci sequatur et simul unam e duabus laciniis meis
I-brought-it-about he-should-follow and at-once one of two cloaks my
exuo eumque propere vestio dicam an contego, et illico
I-strip-off and-him hastily I-clothe shall-I-say or I-cover and at-once
lavacro trado; quod unctui, quod tersui, ipse praeministro;
to-the-bath I-hand-over what for-anointing what for-drying myself I-supply
sordium enormem eluviem operose effrico; probe curatum,
of-the-filth the-enormous flood laboriously I-scrub-off well cared-for
ad hospitium, lassus ipse fatigatum aegerrime sustinens,
to the-inn weary myself the-exhausted-man most-painfully supporting
perduco; lectulo refoveo, cibo satio, poculo mitigo, fabulis
I-lead-in on-a-little-bed I-revive with-food I-fill with-a-cup I-soften with-tales

permulceo. Iam allubentia proclivis est sermonis et ioci et
I-soothe now the-pleasantness inclined is of-talk and of-jest and
scitum et cavillum; iam dicacitas tinnula, cum ille imo
wit and banter now the-raillery tinkling when he the-lowest
de pectore cruciabilem suspiritum ducens, dextra
from breast an-agonized sigh drawing with-his-right-hand
saeviente frontem replaudens, 'Me miserum' infit 'Qui, dum
raging his-forehead striking me wretched he-begins who while
voluptatem gladiatorii spectaculi satis famigerabilis consector,
the-pleasure of-a-gladiatorial show quite notorious I-pursue
in has aerumnas incidi. Nam ut scis optime, secundum
into these miseries have-fallen for as you-know very-well for
quaestum Macedoniam profectus, dum mense decimo
gain to-Macedonia having-set-out while in-the-month tenth
ibidem attentus nummatior revortor, modico priusquam
there busy richer I-return a-little before
Larissam accederem, per transitum spectaculum obiturus, in
to-Larissa I-should-approach on the-way the-show going-to-attend in
quadam avia et lacunosa convalli a vastissimis latronibus
a-certain trackless and full-of-hollows valley by most-monstrous robbers
obsessus atque omnibus privatus tandem evado et, utpote
beset and of-all-things stripped at-last I-escape and as
ultime affectus, ad quandam cauponam Meroen, anum sed
utterly reduced at a-certain inn-keeper Meroe an-old-woman but
admodum scitulam, devorto, eique causas et peregrinationis
quite pretty I-turn-aside and-to-her the-causes both of-the-traveling
diuturnae et domuitionis anxiae et spoliationis diuturnae et
long and of-the-homecoming anxious and of-the-robbery long and
miserae refero: quae me nimis quam humane tractare adorta
wretched I-relate who me too very kindly to-treat having-begun
cenae gratae atque gratuitae ac mox, urigine percita, cubili
to-a-dinner welcome and free and soon by-lust stirred to-bed

suo applicat. Et statim miser ut cum illa acquievi, ab
her-own applies and at-once wretched-me as with her I-lay-down from
unico congressu annosam ac pestilentem luem contraho et
a-single coupling a-long-lasting and pestilent plague I-contract and
ipsas etiam lacinias, quas boni latrones contegendo mihi
the-very even clothes which the-good robbers by-covering to-me
concesserant, in eam contuli, operulas etiam, quas adhuc
had-granted on her I-spent the-wages even which still
vegetus saccariam faciens merebam, quoad me ad istam faciem,
vigorous a-sack-porter being I-earned until me to that appearance
quam paulo ante vidisti, bona uxor et mala fortuna perduxit.'
which a-little before you-saw a-good wife and bad fortune brought
8 "'Pol quidem tu dignus' inquam 'Es extrema sustinere, si
by-Pollux indeed you worthy I-say are the-extremes to-bear if
quid est tamen novissimo extremius, qui voluptatem veneriam
anything is still than-the-last more-extreme who the-pleasure of-Venus
et scortum scorteum Lari et liberis praetulisti.' At
and a-harlot leathery to-your-hearth and to-children preferred but
ille, digitum a pollice proximum ori suo admovens et
he the-finger from the-thumb nearest to-mouth his moving and
in stuporem attonitus, 'Tace, tace' inquit, et circumspiciens
into stupor astonished hush hush he-says and looking-round
tutamenta sermonis, 'Parce' inquit 'In feminam divinam,
for-safeguards of-speech spare he-says against a-woman divine
ne quam tibi lingua intemperante noxam contrahas.'
lest any to-yourself with-tongue intemperate harm you-contract
'Ain tandem?' inquam 'Potens illa et regina caupona
do-you-say-so pray I-say mighty that-one and a-queen the-innkeeper
quid mulieris est?' 'Saga' inquit 'Et divina, potens caelum
what of-a-woman is-she a-witch he-says and divine able the-sky
deponere, terram suspendere, fontes durare, montes diluere,
to-bring-down the-earth to-hang-up springs to-harden mountains to-melt

manes sublimare, deos infimare, sidera extinguere, Tartarum
the-shades to-raise-up the-gods to-lower the-stars to-extinguish Tartarus
ipsum illuminare.' 'Oro te' inquam 'Aulaeum tragicum
itself to-light-up I-beg you I-say the-curtain tragic
dimoveto et siparium scaenicum complicato et cedo verbis
draw-aside and the-drop-scene theatrical fold-up and give-it in-words
communibus.' 'Vis' inquit 'Unum vel alterum, immo
common do-you-wish he-says one or another nay
plurima eius audire facta? Nam ut se ament efflictim
very-many of-her to-hear deeds for that her they-may-love to-distraction
non modo incolae, verum etiam Indi vel Aethiopes
not only the-inhabitants but also the-Indians or the-Ethiopians
utrique, vel ipsi Antichthones, folia sunt artis et nugae
both or themselves the-Antipodeans leaves are of-her-art and trifles
merae. Sed quod in conspectum plurium perpetravit, audi.
mere but what in the-sight of-many she-performed hear
"'Amatorem suum, quod in aliam temerasset, unico 9
a-lover her-own because on another-woman he-had-trespassed with-a-single
verbo mutavit in feram castorem, quod ea bestia captivitati
word she-changed into a-wild-beast a-beaver because that beast of-capture
metuens ab insequentibus se praecisione genitalium liberat,
fearing from its-pursuers itself by-the-cutting-off of-its-genitals frees
ut illi quoque simile, quod venerem habuit in aliam,
so-that to-him too something-like because love he-had on another-woman
proveniret. Cauponem quoque vicinum atque ob id
might-befall an-innkeeper also neighboring and on-account-of that
aemulum deformavit in ranam et nunc senex ille dolio
a-rival she-disfigured into a-frog and now old-man that in-a-wine-jar
innatans vini sui adventores pristinos in faece summissus
swimming of-wine his-own the-customers former in the-lees sunk
officiosis ronchis raucus appellat. Alium de foro quod
with-dutiful croakings hoarse calls another from the-forum because

adversus eam locutus esset, in arietem deformavit et nunc aries
against her he-had spoken into a-ram she-disfigured and now ram
ille causas agit. Eadem amatoris sui uxorem quod in
that cases pleads the-same-woman of-a-lover her-own the-wife because against
eam dicacule probrum dixerat, iam in sarcina praegnationis
her wittily an-insult she-had-said already in the-burden of-pregnancy
obsaepto utero et repigrato fetu perpetua praegnatione
with-blocked womb and with-slowed fetus to-perpetual pregnancy
damnavit et, ut cuncti numerant, iam octo annorum
condemned and as all count now of-eight years
onere misella illa velut elephantum paritura distenditur.
with-the-load poor-woman that as-if an-elephant going-to-bear is-distended
10 "Quae cum subinde ac multis noceret, publicitus indignatio
which since repeatedly and to-many she-harmed publicly indignation
percrebruit, statutumque ut in eam die altera severissime
spread and-it-was-decided that on her on-the-day next most-severely
saxorum iaculationibus vindicaretur: quod consilium
of-stones by-throwings she-should-be-punished which plan
virtutibus cantionum antevortit et, ut illa Medea unius
by-the-powers of-her-spells she-forestalled and as that-famous Medea of-one
dieculae a Creone impetratis induciis totam eius domum
little-day from Creon with-obtained a-truce whole his house
filiamque cum ipso sene flammis coronalibus deusserat, sic
and-daughter with the-very old-man with-flames of-the-crown had-burned-up so
haec devotionibus sepulchralibus in scrobem procuratis, ut
she with-curses sepulchral into a-trench performed as
mihi temulenta narravit proxime, cunctos in suis sibi
to-me drunk she-told lately all in their-own to-themselves
domibus tacita numinum violentia clausit, ut toto
houses by-the-silent of-the-powers violence shut-in so-that for-a-whole
biduo non claustra perfringi, non fores evelli, non denique
two-days not the-bars to-be-broken not the-doors to-be-torn-off not finally

parietes ipsi quiverint perforari, quoad mutua hortatione
the-walls themselves could to-be-pierced until by-mutual exhortation
consone clamitarent, quam sanctissime deierantes sese neque
in-unison they-cried-out as most-solemnly swearing that-they neither
ei manus admolituros, et si quis aliud cogitarit, salutare
on-her hands going-to-lay and if anyone else should-plan a-saving
laturos subsidium: et sic illa propitiata totam civitatem
going-to-bring help and so she propitiated the-whole city
absoluit. At vero coetus illius auctorem nocte intempesta
released but indeed of-the-assembly that the-author at-night dead
cum tota domo, id est parietibus et ipso solo et
with his-whole house that is with-the-walls and the-very ground and
omni fundamento, ut erat, clausa ad centesimum lapidem
all foundation as it-was closed to the-hundredth milestone
in aliam civitatem summo vertice montis exasperati
into another city on-the-highest peak of-a-mountain rugged
sitam, et ob id ad aquas sterilem, transtulit. Et
situated and on-account-of that for waters barren she-transferred and
quoniam densa inhabitantium aedificia locum novo hospiti
since the-close of-the-inhabitants buildings room to-the-new guest
non dabant, ante portam proiecta domo discessit.'
not gave before the-gate with-thrown-down the-house she-departed

The two friends bar the door and go to bed, but at midnight the doors burst open, Aristomenes' bed falls over on him, and Meroe and her sister Panthia enter. They cut Socrates' throat, draw out his heart, stop the wound with a sponge, and foul Aristomenes. At dawn he fears a charge of murder and tries to hang himself, but the rotten rope breaks and Socrates wakes.

11 "'Mira' inquam 'Nec minus saeva, mi Socrates, memoras.
wonderful-things I-say nor less savage my Socrates you-relate
Denique mihi quoque non parvam incussisti sollicitudinem,
in-short to-me too not small you-have-struck anxiety
immo vero formidinem, iniecto non scrupulo sed lancea,
nay indeed fear with-thrown-in not a-pebble but a-lance
ne quo numinis ministerio similiter usa sermones
lest by-some of-divine-power ministry similarly having-used talk
istos nostros anus illa cognoscat. Itaque maturius quieti
that our old-woman that may-learn and-so earlier to-rest
nos reponamus et somno levata lassitudine noctis
ourselves let-us-put and by-sleep with-relieved weariness of-the-night
antelucio aufugiamus istinc quam pote longissime.'
before-dawn let-us-flee from-there as possible farthest
"Haec adhuc me suadente insolita vinolentia ac diurna
this still with-me urging by-unaccustomed drunkenness and by-the-day's
fatigatione pertentatus bonus Socrates iam sopitus stertebat
fatigue overcome good Socrates now asleep was-snoring
altius. Ego vero adducta fore pessulisque firmatis,
more-deeply I indeed with-drawn-to the-door and-the-bolts fastened
grabatulo etiam pone cardine supposito et probe aggesto,
with-the-little-bed also behind the-hinge set-under and well heaped-up
super eum me recipio: ac primum prae metu aliquantisper
upon it myself I-take and first for fear for-a-while

vigilo, dein circa tertiam ferme vigiliam paululum conniveo.
I-stay-awake then about the-third almost watch a-little I-close-my-eyes
Commodum quieveram, et repente impulsu maiore quam ut
just I-had-rested and suddenly with-a-push greater than that
latrones crederes ianuae reserantur, immo vero fractis et
robbers you-would-think the-doors are-unbarred nay indeed with-broken and
evolsis funditus cardinibus prosternuntur. Grabatulus,
torn-out from-the-foundations the-hinges they-are-thrown-down the-little-bed
alioquin breviculus et uno pede mutilus ac putris, impetus
besides very-short and in-one foot maimed and rotten of-the-onset
tanti violentia prosternitur, me quoque evolutum atque
so-great by-the-violence is-thrown-down me too rolled-out and
excussum humi recidens inversum cooperit ac tegit.
shaken-off on-the-ground falling-back upside-down it-covers and hides
"Tunc ego sensi naturalitus quosdam affectus in contrarium 12
then I felt naturally certain feelings into the-contrary
provenire: nam ut lacrimae saepicule de gaudio prodeunt, ita
to-come-forth for as tears quite-often from joy come-forth so
et in illo nimio pavore risum nequivi continere, de Aristomene
also in that excessive fear laughter I-could-not to-hold-in from Aristomenes
testudo factus. Ac dum infimum deiectus, obliquo aspectu,
a-tortoise made and while to-the-lowest thrown-down with-sidelong glance
quid rei sit grabatuli sollertia munitus opperior,
what of-the-matter it-is by-the-little-bed's ingenuity protected I-wait
video mulieres duas altioris aetatis; lucernam lucidam
I-see women two of-more-advanced age a-lamp bright
gerebat una, spongiam et nudum gladium altera; hoc habitu
carried one a-sponge and a-naked sword the-other in-this garb
Socratem bene quietum circumstetere. Infit illa cum gladio
Socrates well sleeping they-stood-round begins she with the-sword
'Hic est, soror Panthia, carus Endymion, hic Catamitus meus,
this is sister Panthia my-dear Endymion this Catamite my

qui diebus ac noctibus illusit aetatulam meam: hic, qui
who by-days and nights has-mocked youth my this-man who
meis amoribus subterhabitis non solum me diffamat probris,
with-my loves held-cheap not only me defames with-insults
verum etiam fugam instruit. At ego scilicet Ulixi astu
but also flight prepares but I of-course of-Ulysses by-the-cunning
deserta vice Calypsonis aeternam solitudinem flebo.'
deserted in-the-part of-Calypso everlasting solitude shall-weep
Et porrecta dextera meque Panthiae suae demonstrato,
and with-stretched-out right-hand and-me to-Panthia her-own pointed-out
'At hic bonus' inquit 'Consiliator Aristomenes, qui fugae
but this good she-says counselor Aristomenes who of-flight
huius auctor fuit, et nunc morti proximus iam humi
this the-author was and now to-death nearest already on-the-ground
prostratus grabatulo succubans iacet, et haec omnia
prostrate under-the-little-bed lying lies and these-things all
conspicit, impune se laturum meas contumelias putat.
watches unpunished himself going-to-carry-off my insults thinks
Faxo eum sero, immo statim, immo vero iam nunc ut
I-shall-see-that him late nay at-once nay indeed even now that
et praecedentis dicacitatis et instantis curiositatis paeniteat.'
both of-his-preceding wit and of-his-present curiosity it-may-repent
13 "Haec ego ut accepi, sudore frigido miser perfluo tremore
this I when I-heard with-sweat cold wretched I-stream with-trembling
viscera quatior, ut grabatulus etiam succussu meo
in-my-bowels I-am-shaken so-that the-little-bed even by-the-shaking my
inquietus super dorsum meum palpitando saltaret. At bona
restless on back my by-quivering danced but good
Panthia 'Quin igitur' inquit 'Soror, hunc primum bacchatim
Panthia why therefore she-says sister this-man first bacchant-fashion
discerpimus vel membris eius destinatis virilia desecamus?'
do-we-not-tear-to-pieces or with-limbs his bound his-genitals cut-off

Ad haec Meroe (sic enim reapse nomen eius tunc fabulis
to this Meroe so for in-fact the-name her then to-the-tales
Socratis convenire sentiebam) 'Immo' ait 'Supersit hic
of-Socrates to-fit I-perceived nay she-says let-survive this-man
saltem, qui miselli huius corpus parva contumulet
at-least who of-the-poor-wretch of-this the-body with-a-little may-bury
humo,' et capite Socratis in alterum dimoto latus per
earth and with-the-head of-Socrates to the-other turned side through
iugulum sinistrum capulo tenus gladium totum ei
the-throat left the-hilt as-far-as the-sword whole into-him
demergit, et sanguinis eruptionem utriculo admoto excipit
plunges and of-blood the-gush with-a-little-bag applied receives
diligenter, ut nulla stilla compareret usquam: haec ego
carefully so-that no drop appeared anywhere these-things I
meis oculis aspexi. Nam etiam, ne quid demutaret, credo,
with-my eyes saw for also lest anything she-should-change I-believe
a victimae religione, immissa dextera per vulnus illud ad
from of-the-victim the-rite with-thrust-in right-hand through wound that to
viscera penitus, cor miseri contubernalis mei Meroe bona
the-bowels deep the-heart of-wretched comrade my Meroe good
scrutata protulit, cum ille impetu teli praesecata gula
having-searched brought-out while he by-the-thrust of-the-weapon with-cut throat
vocem, immo stridorem incertum per vulnus effunderet, et
a-voice nay a-squeak indistinct through the-wound poured-out and
spiritum rebulliret. Quod vulnus qua maxime patebat spongia
breath bubbled-up which wound where most-widely it-gaped with-a-sponge
offulciens Panthia 'Heus tu' inquit 'Spongia, cave in mari
plugging Panthia hey you she-says sponge beware in the-sea
nata per fluvium transeas.' His editis abeunt: remoto
born over a-river you-pass these-things uttered they-go-off with-removed

grabatulo varicus super faciem meam residentes vesicam
the-little-bed astride over face my sitting the-bladder
exonerant, quoad me urinae spurcissimae madore perluerent.
they-unload until me of-urine most-foul with-the-wetness they-drenched
14 "Commodum limen evaserant, et fores ad pristinum statum
just the-threshold they-had-passed and the-doors to their-former state
integrae resurgunt; cardines ad foramina resident, postes ad
whole rise-again the-hinges to their-sockets settle the-posts to
repagula redeunt, ad claustra pessuli recurrunt. At ego ut eram
the-bars return to the-staples the-bolts run-back but I as I-was
etiam nunc humi proiectus, inanimis, nudus et frigidus
even now on-the-ground thrown lifeless naked and cold
et lotio perlitus, quasi recens utero matris editus,
and with-urine drenched as-if newly from-the-womb of-my-mother brought-forth
immo vero semimortuus, verum etiam ipse mihi supervivens
nay indeed half-dead but also myself to-myself surviving
et postumus, vel certe destinatae iam cruci candidatus,
and posthumous or surely to-the-destined already cross a-candidate
'Quid' inquam 'De me fiet, ubi iste iugulatus mane
what I-say of me will-become when he murdered in-the-morning
paruerit? Cui videbor verisimilia dicere proferens
shall-have-appeared to-whom shall-I-seem likely-things to-say bringing-forth
vera? "Proclamares saltem suppetiatum, si resistere vir
true-things you-should-have-shouted at-least for-help if to-resist a-man
tantus mulieri nequibas: sub oculis tuis homo iugulatur, et
so-great a-woman you-could-not before eyes your a-man is-murdered and
siles? Cur autem te simile latrocinium non peremit? Cur
you-are-silent why however you a-like brigandage not destroyed why
saeva crudelitas vel propter indicium sceleris arbitro
savage cruelty even on-account-of the-information of-the-crime the-witness
pepercit? Ergo quoniam evasisti mortem, nunc illo redi."'
spared therefore since you-have-escaped death now to-it return

"Haec identidem mecum replicabam, et nox ibat in
these-things over-and-over with-myself I-turned and night was-going into
diem: optimum itaque factu visum est anteluculo furtim
day best and-so to-do seemed it-has before-dawn secretly
evadere et viam licet trepido vestigio capessere. Sumo
to-slip-away and the-road although with-trembling step to-take I-take
sarcinulam meam, subdita clavi pessulos reduco: at illae
little-pack my with-put-under the-key the-bolts I-draw-back but those
probae et fideles ianuae, quae sua sponte reseratae
honest and faithful doors which of-their-own accord unbarred
nocte fuerant, vix tandem et aegerrime tunc clavis suae
by-night had-been scarcely at-last and most-painfully then of-the-key their
crebra immissione patefiunt.
with-frequent insertion are-opened
"Et 'Heus tu, ubi es?' inquam: 'Valvas stabuli absolve, 15
and hey you where are-you I-say the-doors of-the-inn open
antelucio volo ire.' Ianitor pone stabuli ostium humi
before-dawn I-want to-go the-porter behind of-the-inn the-door on-the-ground
cubitans, etiam nunc semisomnus 'Quid? Tu' inquit 'Ignoras
lying even now half-asleep what you he-says do-you-not-know
latronibus infestari vias, qui hoc noctis iter incipis? Nam
by-robbers to-be-infested the-roads who at-this of-night a-journey you-begin for
etsi tu, alicuius facinoris tibi conscius scilicet, mori cupis,
even-if you of-some crime to-yourself conscious evidently to-die you-desire
nos cucurbitae caput non habemus ut pro te moriamur.'
we of-a-gourd a-head not have that for you we-should-die
'Non longe' inquam 'Lux abest: et praeterea quid viatori
not far I-say the-light is-off and besides what from-a-traveler
de summa pauperie latrones auferre possunt? An ignoras,
of the-utmost poverty robbers to-take-away can or do-you-not-know
inepte, nudum nec a decem palaestritis despoliari posse?'
fool a-naked-man not-even by ten wrestlers to-be-stripped to-be-able

Ad haec ille marcidus et semisopitus in alterum latus evolutus
to this he drowsy and half-asleep onto the-other side rolled-over
'Unde autem' inquit 'Scio an convectore illo tuo, cum
how however he-says do-I-know whether with-fellow-traveler that your with
quo sero devorteras, iugulato fugae mandes praesidium?'
whom late you-had-put-up murdered to-flight you-entrust your-protection
"Illud horae memini me terra dehiscente ima Tartara
that hour I-remember that-I with-the-earth gaping the-lowest Tartarus
inque his canem Cerberum prorsus esurientem mei prospexisse:
and-in it the-dog Cerberus quite hungry for-me to-have-seen
ac recordabar profecto bonam Meroen non misericordia
and I-recalled indeed good Meroe not by-pity
iugulo meo pepercisse sed saevitia cruci me reservasse.
my-throat my to-have-spared but by-savagery for-the-cross me to-have-reserved
16 "In cubiculum itaque reversus de genere tumultuario mortis
into the-bedroom and-so returned about the-kind hasty of-death
mecum deliberabam. Sed cum nullum aliud telum mortiferum
with-myself I-deliberated but when no other weapon deadly
Fortuna quam solum mihi grabatulum subministraret, 'Iam
Fortune than only to-me the-little-bed supplied now
iam grabatule' inquam 'Animo meo carissime, qui mecum
now little-bed I-say to-soul my dearest who with-me
tot aerumnas exanclasti, conscius et arbiter quae nocte
so-many miseries have-endured accomplice and witness of-what by-night
gesta sunt, quem solum in meo reatu testem innocentiae
done were whom alone in my trial as-witness of-innocence
citare possum, tu mihi ad inferos festinanti subministra
to-summon I-can you to-me to the-dead hastening supply
telum salutare'; et cum dicto restim, qua erat intextus,
a-weapon saving and with the-word the-rope with-which it-was interwoven
aggredior expedire ac tigillo, quod fenestrae subditum
I-set-about to-undo and to-a-little-beam which to-the-window placed-under

altrinsecus prominebat, iniecta atque obdita parte funiculi
outside projected with-thrown and fastened part of-the-cord
et altera firmiter in nodum coacta, ascenso grabatulo ad
and the-other firmly into a-knot drawn with-climbed the-little-bed for
exitium sublimatus et immisso capite laqueum induo. Sed
destruction raised-up and with-put-in head the-noose I-put-on but
dum pede altera fulcimentum quo sustinebar repello, ut
while with-foot one the-support by-which I-was-held-up I-push-away so-that
ponderis deductu restis ad ingluviem astricta spiritus
of-the-weight by-the-drawing-down the-rope at the-gullet tightened of-breath
officia discluderet, repente putris alioquin et vetus funis
the-functions might-shut-off suddenly rotten otherwise and old the-rope
dirumpitur, atque ego de alto recidens Socratem — nam
bursts and I from high falling-back onto-Socrates for
iuxta me iacebat — superruo cumque eo in terram devolvor.
next-to me he-lay I-fall-upon and-with him onto the-ground I-roll-down
"Et ecce in ipso momento ianitor introrumpit exerte 17
and behold in the-very moment the-porter bursts-in loudly
clamitans 'Ubi es tu, qui alta nocte immodice festinabas,
shouting where are you who in-deep night immoderately were-hurrying
et nunc stertis involutus?' Ad haec nescio an casu
and now are-snoring wrapped-up to this I-know-not whether by-the-fall
nostro an illius absono clamore experrectus Socrates exsurgit
our or by-his discordant shout awakened Socrates rises
prior, et 'Nec' inquit 'Immerito stabularios hos omnes
first and not he-says without-reason innkeepers these all
hospites detestantur. Nam iste curiosus dum importune
guests curse for that curious-fellow while rudely
irrumpit — credo studio rapiendi aliquid — clamore
he-bursts-in I-believe from-eagerness of-stealing something with-a-shout
vasto marcidum alioquin me altissimo somno excussit.'
enormous heavy otherwise me from-deepest sleep shook

“Emergo laetus atque alacer insperato gaudio perfusus, et
I-emerge glad and brisk with-unhoped-for joy suffused and
‘Ecce, ianitor fidelissime, comes et pater meus et frater
behold porter most-faithful my-companion and father my and brother
meus, quem nocte ebrius occisum a me calumniabaris,’ et
my whom by-night drunk murdered by me you-falsely-accused and
cum dicto Socraten deosculabar amplexus: at ille odore
with the-word Socrates I-kissed having-embraced but he by-the-smell
alioquin spurcissimi humoris percussus, quo me Lamiae
otherwise of-most-foul liquid struck with-which me Lamiae
illae infecerant, vehementer aspernatur: ‘Apage te’ inquit
those had-stained violently rejects away-with you he-says
‘Fetorem extremae latrinae,’ et causas coepit huius odoris
the-stench of-the-lowest privy and the-causes he-began of-this smell
comiter inquirere. At ego miser afficto ex tempore absurdo
genially to-inquire but I wretched with-feigned on the-spur absurd
ioco in alium sermonem intentionem eius denuo derivo et
joke onto another talk the-attention his again I-divert and
iniecta dextra ‘Quin imus’ inquam ‘Et itineris matutini
with-laid-on right-hand why-not we-go I-say and of-the-journey morning
gratiam capimus.’ Sumo sarcinulam et pretio mansionis
the-advantage take I-take my-little-pack and with-the-price of-the-lodging
stabulario persoluto capessimus viam.
to-the-innkeeper paid we-take-to the-road

V · THE SPONGE FALLS OUT

The two set out at dawn, Aristomenes thinking the night a drunken dream. When Socrates stoops to drink from a stream, the sponge falls from his throat and he dies. Aristomenes buries him and flees into exile in Aetolia, where he has married again. The other traveler still scoffs; Lucius believes, and they come to Hypata.

"Aliquantum processeramus et iam iubaris exortu cuncta 18
some-way we-had-advanced and now of-the-sunbeam at-the-rising all-things
collustrantur, et ego curiose sedulo arbitrabar iugulum
are-lit-up and I curiously attentively was-examining the-throat
comitis, qua parte gladium delapsum videram, et mecum
of-my-companion in-which part the-sword sunk I-had-seen and with-myself
'Vesane,' aio 'Qui poculis et vino sepultus extrema somniasti.
madman I-say who in-cups and wine buried extremes have-dreamed
Ecce Socrates integer, sanus, incolumis. Ubi vulnus? Spongia
behold Socrates whole sound unharmed where the-wound the-sponge
ubi? Ubi postremum cicatrix tam alta, tam recens?' et ad
where where finally the-scar so deep so fresh and to
illum 'Ne' inquam 'Immerito medici fidi cibo et crapula
him not I-say without-reason doctors reliable with-food and with-surfeit
distentos saeva et gravia somniare autumant: mihi denique
those-distended savage and heavy-things to-dream declare to-me in-short
quod poculis vesperi minus temperavi, nox acerba diras
because at-the-cups last-evening less I-controlled-myself the-night bitter dire
et truces imagines obtulit, ut adhuc me credam cruore
and fierce images brought so-that still myself I-believe with-blood
humano aspersum atque impiatum.' Ad haec ille subridens
human sprinkled and defiled to this he smiling
'At tu' inquit 'Non sanguine sed lotio perfusus es, verum
but you he-says not with-blood but with-urine drenched are but

tamen et ipse per somnium iugulari visus sum mihi. Nam
still also myself in sleep to-be-murdered seemed I to-myself for
et iugulum istum dolui et cor ipsum mihi avelli
both throat this I-felt-pain-in and heart itself from-me to-be-torn-out
putavi et nunc etiam spiritu deficior et genua quatior et
I-thought and now still in-breath I-fail and in-the-knees am-shaken and
gradu titubo et aliquid cibatus refovendo spiritu desidero.'
in-step I-stagger and some of-food for-reviving breath I-want
'En' inquam 'Paratum tibi adest ientaculum,' et cum dicto
behold I-say ready for-you is-here breakfast and with the-word
manticam meam humero exuo, caseum cum pane propere
knapsack my from-my-shoulder I-take-off the-cheese with bread hastily
ei porrigo, et 'Iuxta platanum istam residamus' aio.
to-him I-hold-out and by plane-tree that let-us-sit-down I-say
19 "Quo facto et ipse aliquid indidem sumo, eumque avide
which done also myself something from-the-same I-take and-him greedily
esitantem aspicio aliquanto intentiore macie atque pallore
eating I-watch with-somewhat more-intense leanness and pallor
buxeo deficientem video. Sic denique eum vitalis color
boxwood-yellow fainting I-see so in-short him the-vital color
turbaverat ut mihi prae metu, nocturnas etiam Furias illas
had-disturbed that to-me for fear the-nightly even Furies those
imaginanti, frustulum panis quod primum sumpseram, quamvis
imagining the-morsel of-bread which first I-had-taken although
admodum modicum, mediis faucibus inhaereret, ac neque
quite small in-the-middle of-my-throat stuck and neither
deorsum demeare neque sursum remeare posset. Nam et
downward to-go-down nor upward to-come-back could for also
crebritas ipsa commeantium metum mihi cumulabat: quis enim
the-frequency itself of-passers-by fear for-me heaped-up who for
de duobus comitum alterum sine alterius noxa peremptum
of two companions one without of-the-other's guilt slain

crederet? Verum ille, ut satis detruncaverat cibum, sitire
would-believe but he when enough he-had-gulped the-food to-thirst
impatienter coeperat; nam et optimi casei bonam partem
impatiently had-begun for both of-the-best cheese a-good part
avide devoraverat, et haud ita longe radices platani
greedily had-devoured and not so far from-the-roots of-the-plane-tree
lenis fluvius in speciem placidae paludis ignavus ibat argento
a-gentle river into the-likeness of-a-placid pool sluggish went to-silver
vel vitro aemulus in colorem. 'En' inquam 'Explere latice
or to-glass a-rival in color behold I-say fill-yourself with-the-water
fontis lacteo.' Assurgit ille et oppertus paululum
of-the-spring milky rises he and having-waited-for a-little
planiorem ripae marginem complicitus in genua appronat
the-flatter of-the-bank edge doubled-up onto his-knees bends
se avidus affectans poculum: necdum satis extremis
himself greedy reaching-for a-drink and-not-yet enough with-the-tips-of-his
labiis summum aquae rorem attigerat, et iugulo eius
lips the-top of-the-water dew had-touched when in-throat his
vulnus dehiscit in profundum patorem, et illa spongia de eo
the-wound gapes-open into a-deep gap and that sponge from it
repente devolvitur eamque parvus admodum comitatur cruor:
suddenly rolls-out and-it small very accompanies blood
denique corpus exanimatum in flumen paene cernuat, nisi
finally the-body lifeless into the-river almost pitches-headlong unless
ego altero eius pede retento vix et aegre ad ripam
I with-one his foot held-back scarcely and with-difficulty to the-bank
superiorem attraxi, ubi defletum pro tempore comitem
higher I-dragged where wept-for for the-time the-companion
misellum arenosa humo in amnis vicinia sempiterna
poor in-sandy earth in of-the-river the-neighborhood for-ever
contexi. Ipse trepidus et eximie metuens mihi per diversas
I-covered I-myself trembling and exceedingly fearing for-myself through different

et avias solitudines aufugi et quasi conscius mihi caedis
and pathless solitudes fled and as-if guilty to-myself of-murder
humanae relicta patria et Lare ultroneum exilium
human with-left my-fatherland and household-god a-voluntary exile
amplexus nunc Aetoliam novo contracto matrimonio colo."
having-embraced now Aetolia with-new contracted marriage I-inhabit
20 Haec Aristomenes. At ille comes eius, qui statim
these-things Aristomenes but that companion his who straight-away
initio obstinata incredulitate sermonem eius respuebat,
from-the-start with-obstinate incredulity talk his spurned
"Nihil" inquit "Hac fabula fabulosius, nihil isto mendacio
nothing he-says than-this tale more-fabulous nothing than-that lie
absurdius," et ad me conversus "Tu autem" inquit "Vir,
more-absurd and to me turned you however he-says a-man
ut habitus et habitudo demonstrat, ornatus, accredis huic
as your-dress and bearing shows refined do-you-believe this
fabulae?" "Ego vero" inquam "Nihil impossibile arbitror, sed
tale I indeed I-say nothing impossible I-think but
utcumque fata decreverint, ita cuncta mortalibus provenire:
however the-fates shall-have-decreed so all-things to-mortals to-come-to-pass
nam et mihi et tibi et cunctis hominibus multa usu
for both to-me and to-you and to-all men many-things in-experience
venire mira et paene infecta, quae tamen ignaro
to-happen wonderful and almost unheard-of which still to-an-ignorant-man
relata fidem perdant. Sed ego huic et credo Hercule et
related their-credit lose but I him both believe by-Hercules and
gratas gratias memini, quod lepidae fabulae festivitate nos
grateful thanks I-remember that by-a-pleasant tale's gaiety us
avocavit; asperam denique ac prolixam viam sine labore ac
he-has-diverted rough in-short and long road without labor and
taedio evasi. Quod beneficium etiam illum vectorem
weariness I-have-got-through which kindness even that carrier

meum credo laetari: sine fatigatione sui me usque ad istam
my I-believe to-rejoice without fatigue of-his me right to this
civitatis portam non dorso illius sed meis auribus provecto."
of-the-city gate not on-the-back his but on-my ears carried

VI · MILO'S HOUSE

Lucius brings a letter from Demeas to Milo, a rich miser who keeps only his wife and one maid, Fotis, in his cramped house, and who gives him the room beside his own. At the market Lucius buys fish and meets his old fellow-student Pythias, now an aedile, who, finding the price too high, has the fish trampled on the spot. Lucius goes to bed hungry after Milo's long questioning.

Is finis nobis et sermonis et itineris communis fuit: nam 21
this the-end for-us both of-the-talk and of-the-journey common was for
comites utrique ad villulam proximam laevorsum abierunt.
the-companions both to a-little-farm nearby on-the-left went-off
Ego vero quod primum ingressu stabulum conspicatus
I indeed which first at-the-entry inn spotted
sum, accessi, et de quadam anu caupona illico
have I-approached and of a-certain old-woman innkeeper at-once
percontor "Estne" inquam "Hypata haec civitas?" Adnuit.
I-inquire is I-say Hypata this city she-nodded
"Nostine Milonem quendam e primoribus?" Arrisit et
do-you-know Milo a-certain-man from the-leading-men she-laughed and
"Vere" inquit "Primus istic perhibetur Milo, qui extra
truly she-says first there is-reckoned Milo who outside
pomerium et urbem totam colit." "Remoto" inquam "Ioco,
the-boundary and the-city whole inhabits with-removed I-say joking
parens optima, dic oro et cuiatis sit et quibus
mother best tell I-pray both of-what-country he-is and in-what

deversetur aedibus?" "Videsne" inquit "Extremas fenestras,
he-lodges house do-you-see she-says the-last windows
quae foris urbem prospiciunt et altrinsecus fores proximum
which outside the-city look-out and on-the-other-side the-door the-nearest
respicientes angiportum? Inibi iste Milo deversatur ampliter
facing alley there that Milo lodges amply
nummatus et longe opulentus, verum extremae avaritiae et
moneyed and far rich but of-extreme avarice and
sordis infimae infamis homo, foenus denique copiosum
of-meanness lowest infamous a-man usury in-short abundant
sub arrabone auri et argenti crebriter exercens, exiguo
upon a-pledge of-gold and of-silver frequently practicing in-a-tiny
Lare inclusus et aerugini semper intentus, cum uxorem
dwelling shut-up and to-the-copper always attentive though a-wife
etiam calamitatis suae comitem habeat. Neque praeter
too of-calamity his as-companion he-has nor except
unicam pascit ancillam et habitu mendicantis semper
one he-feeds maid-servant and in-the-dress of-a-beggar always
incedit."
he-goes-about

22 Ad haec ego risum subicio: "Benigne" inquam "Et prospicue
to this I a-laugh add kindly I-say and farsightedly
Demeas meus in me consuluit, qui peregrinaturum tali viro
Demeas my for me has-provided who (me)-going-to-travel to-such a-man
conciliavit, in cuius hospitio nec fumi nec nidoris
has-commended in whose hospitality neither of-smoke nor of-the-smell-of-cooking
nebulam vererer," et cum dicto modico secus progressus
the-cloud I-need-fear and with the-word a-little further having-gone-on
ostium accedo et ianuam firmiter oppessulatam pulsare
to-the-door I-approach and the-gate firmly bolted to-knock
vocaliter incipio. Tandem adulescentula quaedam procedens
loudly I-begin at-last a-little-girl a-certain coming-out

"Heus tu" inquit "Qui tam fortiter fores verberasti, sub
hey you she-says who so stoutly the-doors have-beaten under
qua specie mutuari cupis? An tu solus ignoras
what form to-borrow do-you-want or you alone do-you-not-know
praeter aurum argentumque nullum nos pignus admittere?"
except gold and-silver no us pledge admit
"Meliora" inquam "Ominare, et potius responde an
better-things I-say forebode and rather answer whether
intra aedes erum tuum offenderim." "Plane;" inquit
within the-house master your I-may-find certainly she-says
"Sed quae causa quaestionis huius?" "Litteras ei a
but what the-cause of-question this a-letter to-him from
Corinthio Demea scriptas ad eum reddo." "Dum annuntio,"
the-Corinthian Demeas written to him I-deliver while I-announce(-you)
inquit "Hic ibidem me opperimino," et cum dicto
she-says here in-the-same-place me wait-for and with the-word
rursum foribus oppessulatis intro capessit. Modico deinde
again with-the-doors bolted inside she-goes after-a-little then
regressa patefactis foribus "Rogat te" inquit. Intuli
come-back with-opened doors he-asks-for you she-says I-brought-in
me eumque accubantem exiguo admodum grabatulo et
myself and-him lying-down on-a-tiny very little-bed and
commodum cenare incipientem invenio: assidebat pedes
just to-dine beginning I-find sat-at his-feet
uxor et mensa vacua posita, cuius monstratu "En" inquit
his-wife and a-table empty set whose at-pointing behold he-says
"Hospitium." "Bene" ego, et illico ei litteras Demeae
(your)-lodging good I(-say) and at-once to-him the-letter of-Demeas
trado.
I-hand

23 Quibus properiter lectis "Amo" inquit "Meum Demean,
which quickly read I-love he-says my Demeas
qui mihi tantum conciliavit hospitem," et cum dicto
who to-me so-great has-commended a-guest and with the-word
iubet uxorem decedere utque in eius locum assidam
he-orders his-wife to-withdraw and-that into her place I-should-sit
iubet, meque etiam nunc verecundia cunctantem arrepta
he-bids and-me even now with-modesty hesitating with-seized
lacinia detrahens "Asside" inquit "Istic: nam prae metu
garment drawing-down sit he-says there for for fear
latronum nulla sessibula ac ne sufficientem supellectilem
of-robbers no seats and not-even sufficient furniture
parare nobis licet." Feci, et "Sic ego te" inquit
to-provide for-us it-is-allowed I-did and so I you he-says
"Etiam de ista corporis speciosa habitudine deque hac
even from that of-body handsome bearing and-from this
virginali prorsus verecundia generosa stirpe proditum et
maidenly quite modesty of-noble stock sprung and
recte conicerem, sed et meus Demeas eadem litteris
rightly would-guess but also my Demeas the-same in-his-letter
pronuntiat. Ergo brevitatem gurgustioli nostri ne spernas
declares therefore the-smallness of-hovel our not that-you-despise
peto. Erit tibi adiacens et ecce illud cubiculum
I-ask there-will-be for-you adjoining and behold that bedroom
honestum receptaculum: fac libenter deverseris in nostro.
a-decent lodging make-it gladly you-lodge in ours
Nam et maiorem domum dignatione tua feceris
for both greater the-house by-condescension your you-shall-have-made
et tibi specimen gloriosum arrogaris, si contentus
and for-yourself an-example glorious you-will-claim if content
Lare parvulo Thesei illius cognominis patris tui
with-a-household-god tiny of-Theseus that of-the-same-name father your

virtutes aemulaveris, qui non est aspernatus Hecales
the-virtues you-shall-have-rivaled who not has despised of-Hecale
anus hospitium tenue": et vocata ancillula, "Fotis,"
the-old-woman the-hospitality slender and with-called the-little-maid Fotis
inquit "Sarcinulas hospitis susceptas cum fide conde in
he-says the-little-packs of-the-guest taken-up with fidelity put into
illud cubiculum, ac simul ex promptuario oleum
that bedroom and at-the-same-time from the-storeroom oil
unctui et lintea tersui et cetera huic eidem usui
for-anointing and towels for-drying and the-rest for-this same use
profer ociter et hospitem meum produc ad proximas
bring quickly and guest my lead to the-nearest
balneas: satis arduo itinere atque prolixo fatigatus
baths enough by-a-steep journey and long wearied
est."
he-is
His ego auditis mores atque parsimoniam ratiocinans 24
these-things I heard the-habits and thrift reckoning
Milonis, volensque me artius ei conciliare, "Nihil" inquam
of-Milo and-wishing me more-closely to-him to-commend nothing I-say
"Rerum istarum, quae itineris ubique nos comitantur,
of-things those which on-a-journey everywhere us accompany
indigemus. Sed et balneas facile percontabimur. Plane quod
we-lack but also the-baths easily we-shall-inquire-out certainly what
est mihi summe praecipuum, equo, qui me strenue
is to-me supremely chief for-the-horse which me vigorously
pervexit, faenum atque hordeum acceptis istis nummulis
has-carried hay and barley with-received these little-coins
tu, Fotis, emito." His actis et rebus meis in illo
you Fotis buy these-things done and things my in that
cubiculo conditis pergens ipse ad balneas, ut prius aliquid
bedroom stored going myself to the-baths that first something

nobis cibatui prospicerem, forum cupidinis peto inque eo
for-us for-food I-might-provide the-market of-delicacies I-seek and-in it
piscatum opiparem expositum video et percontato pretio,
fish splendid displayed I-see and with-asked the-price
quod centum nummis indicaret, aspernatus viginti denariis
which at-a-hundred coins he-set refusing at-twenty denarii
praestinavi. Inde me commodum egredientem continuatur
I-bought-it then me just going-out meets
Pythias condiscipulus apud Athenas Atticas meus, qui me
Pythias fellow-pupil at Athens Attic my who me
post aliquam multum temporis amanter agnitum invadit,
after some-amount much of-time lovingly recognized falls-upon
amplexusque ac comiter deosculatus "Mi Luci," ait "Sat
and-embraced and genially kissed my Lucius he-says enough
Pol diu est quod intervisimus te, at Hercule exinde
by-Pollux long it-is since we-have-seen you but by-Hercules since-then
cum a Vestio magistro digressi sumus. Quae autem tibi
when from Vestius our-teacher parted we-have what however to-you
causa peregrinationis huius?" "Crastino die scies:" inquam
the-cause of-traveling this tomorrow day you-will-know I-say
"Sed quid istud? Voti gaudeo: nam et lixas et virgas
but what that of-my-wish I-am-glad for both attendants and rods
et habitum prorsus magistratui congruentem in te video."
and dress quite a-magistrate befitting on you I-see
"Annonam curamus," ait "Et aedilem gerimus, et si
the-grain-supply we-manage he-says and aedile we-act and if
quid obsonare cupis, utique commodabimus." Abnuebam,
anything to-buy-food you-want certainly we-shall-help I-declined
quippe qui iam cenae affatim piscatum prospexeramus:
since who already for-dinner plenty of-fish had-provided
sed enim Pythias visa sportula, succussisque in aspectum
but indeed Pythias with-seen the-basket and-shaken into a-view

planiorem piscibus, “At has quisquilias quanti parasti?”
clearer the-fish but this trash for-how-much did-you-buy
“Vix” inquam “Piscatori extorsimus accipere viginti
scarcely I-say from-the-fisherman we-forced to-accept twenty
denarios.”
denarii
Quo audito statim arrepta dextera postliminio me in 25
which heard at-once with-seized right-hand by-way-of-return me into
forum cupidinis reducens “Et a quo” inquit “Istorum
the-market of-delicacies leading-back and from whom he-says of-those
nugamenta haec comparasti?” Demonstro seniculum: in
the-trifles these did-you-buy I-point-out an-old-fellow in
angulo sedebat. Quem confestim pro aedilitatis imperio
a-corner he-sat whom at-once by of-the-aedileship authority
voce asperrima increpans “Iam iam” inquit “Nec amicis
with-voice very-harsh rebuking now now he-says not friends
quidem nostris vel omnino ullis hospitibus parcitis,
even our or at-all any guests you-spare
quod tam magnis pretiis pisces frivolos indicatis et
that at-such great prices fish worthless you-set and
florem Thessalicae regionis ad instar solitudinis et
the-flower of-the-Thessalian region to the-likeness of-a-desert and
scopuli edulium caritate deducitis? Sed non impune:
of-a-crag of-food by-the-dearness bring-down but not unpunished
iam enim faxo scias quemadmodum sub meo
now for I-shall-see-that you-may-know how under my
magisterio mali debent coerceri,” et profusa in
magistracy the-wicked ought to-be-restrained and with-poured-out into
medium sportula iubet officialem suum insuper pisces
the-middle the-basket he-orders attendant his on-top the-fish
inscendere ac pedibus suis totos obterere. Qua contentus
to-climb and with-feet his whole to-trample with-which content

morum severitudine meus Pythias, ac mihi ut abirem
of-character severity my Pythias and me to go-off
suadens, "Sufficit mihi, o Luci," inquit "Seniculi tanta
advising it-is-enough for-me O Lucius he-says of-the-old-fellow such
haec contumelia." His actis consternatus ac prorsus
this humiliation these-things done dismayed and quite
obstupidus ad balneas me refero, prudentis condiscipuli
stupefied to the-baths myself I-take-back of-the-prudent of-my-fellow-pupil
valido consilio et nummis simul privatus et cena,
by-strong counsel both of-money at-once deprived and of-dinner
lautusque ad hospitium Milonis ac dehinc cubiculum me
and-washed to the-lodging of-Milo and thence to-the-bedroom myself
reporto.
I-carry-back

26 Et ecce Fotis ancilla "Rogat te" inquit "Hospes." At
and behold Fotis the-maid he-asks-for you she-says your-host but
ego iam inde Milonis abstinentiae cognitor excusavi
I already then of-Milo's abstinence aware excused-myself
comiter, quod viae vexationem non cibo sed somno
genially that of-the-road the-fatigue not with-food but with-sleep
censerem diluendam. Isto accepto pergit ipse et iniecta
I-thought to-be-washed-away this received goes himself and with-laid-on
dextera clementer me trahere adoritur: ac dum cunctor,
right-hand gently me to-drag sets-about and while I-hesitate
dum modeste renitor, "Non prius" inquit "Discedam
while modestly I-resist not before he-says I-shall-go-away
quam me sequaris," et dictum iureiurando secutus iam
than me you-follow and the-word by-oath having-followed now
obstinationi suae me ingratis oboedientem perducit ad
to-the-obstinacy his me unwillingly obeying he-leads to
illum suum grabatulum, et residenti "Quam salve agit"
that his little-bed and to-me-sitting how well fares

inquit “Demeas noster? Quid uxor? Quid liberi? Quid
he-says Demeas our what his-wife what his-children what
vernaculi?” Narro singula. Percontatur accuratius causas
the-house-slaves I-tell each he-inquires more-carefully the-causes
etiam peregrinationis meae; quas ubi probe protuli, iam
also of-traveling my which when properly I-had-set-forth now
et de patria nostra et eius primoribus ac denique
also about country our and its leading-men and finally
de ipso praeside scrupulosissime explorans, ubi me
about the-very governor most-scrupulously exploring when me
post itineris tam saevi vexationem sensit fabularum
after a-journey so savage fatigue he-felt of-tales
quoque serie fatigatum in verba media somnolentum
also by-the-series wearied in words midway sleepy
desinere ac nequicquam, defectum iam, incerta verborum
to-break-off and in-vain worn-out now with-uncertain of-words
salebra balbutire, tandem patitur cubitum concederem.
roughness to-stammer at-last he-allows to-bed I-should-go
Evasi aliquando rancidi senis loquax et famelicum
I-escaped at-last of-the-rancid old-man talkative and starving
convivium somno, non cibo, gravatus, cenatus solis
banquet with-sleep not with-food loaded having-dined on-only
fabulis et in cubiculum reversus optatae me quieti
tales and into the-bedroom returned to-the-longed-for me rest
reddidi.
I-gave

BOOK II

VII · BYRRHENA

At dawn Lucius walks through Hypata, the land of magic, half believing that stones, birds, and statues are men transformed. He meets Byrrhena, a kinswoman of his mother, who knew him as a child. In her house he admires a sculpture of Diana and Actaeon, and she warns him that Pamphile is a witch who seduces young men and turns those who refuse her into beasts.

Ut primum nocte discussa sol novus diem fecit, et 1
as soon-as with-the-night dispersed the-sun new day made and
somno simul emersus et lectulo, anxius alioquin et nimis
from-sleep at-once emerged and from-my-little-bed anxious otherwise and too
cupidus cognoscendi quae rara miraque sunt, reputansque
eager of-knowing what rare and-wonderful are and-reflecting
me media Thessaliae loca tenere, quo artis magicae
that-I the-middle of-Thessaly regions hold where of-the-art magic
nativa cantamina totius orbis consono ore celebrentur,
native the-enchantments of-the-whole world with-harmonious mouth are-celebrated
fabulamque illam optimi comitis Aristomenis de situ civitatis
and-the-tale that of-the-best companion Aristomenes about the-site of-the-city
huius exortam, suspensus alioquin et voto simul et studio,
this sprung in-suspense otherwise both with-desire at-once and with-zeal
curiose singula considerabam. Nec fuit in illa civitate quod
curiously each-thing I-was-examining nor was-there in that city what
aspiciens id esse crederem quod esset, sed omnia prorsus
looking-at that to-be I-believed what it-was but all-things utterly
ferali murmure in aliam effigiem translata, ut et lapides
by-a-deadly murmur into another shape transformed so-that both the-stones
quos offenderem de homine duratos, et aves quas audirem
which I-came-upon from a-man hardened and the-birds which I-heard

indidem plumatas, et arbores quae pomerium ambirent
from-the-same-place feathered and the-trees which the-boundary surrounded
similiter foliatas, et fontanos latices de corporibus humanis
similarly leaved and the-spring waters from bodies human
fluxos crederem. Iam statuas et imagines incessuras, parietes
flowed I-believed now the-statues and pictures going-to-walk the-walls
locuturos, boves et id genus pecua dicturas praesagium, de
going-to-speak the-oxen and of-that kind cattle going-to-utter a-prophecy from
ipso vero caelo et iubaris orbe subito venturum oraculum.
the-very indeed sky and of-the-sun's disk suddenly going-to-come an-oracle
2 Sic attonitus, immo vero cruciabili desiderio stupidus, nullo
thus astounded nay indeed with-agonizing desire stupefied with-no
quidem initio vel omnino vestigio cupidinis meae reperto
indeed beginning or at-all trace of-desire my found
cuncta circumibam tamen, dum luxum nepotalem simulantia
all-things I-went-round still while luxury prodigal imitating
ostiatim singula pererro, repente me nescius forum
door-by-door each I-wander-through suddenly myself unawares into-the-market
cupidinis intuli; et ecce mulierem quampiam frequenti
of-delicacies I-brought and behold a-woman some-certain by-a-numerous
stipatam famulitione ibidem gradientem accelerate vestigio
thronged retinue there walking with-quickened step
comprehendo: aurum in gemmis et in tunicis, ibi inflexum,
I-overtake gold in gems and in tunics there worked-in
hic intextum, matronam profecto confitebatur. Huius adhaerebat
here woven-in a-matron certainly proclaimed of-her clung
lateri senex iam gravis in annis, qui, ut primum me
to-the-side an-old-man now heavy in years who as soon-as me
conspexit, "Est" inquit "Hercule Lucius," et offert osculum et
he-saw it-is he-says by-Hercules Lucius and offers a-kiss and
statim incertum quidnam in aurem mulieris obganniit. "Quin"
at-once uncertain something into the-ear of-the-woman muttered why-not

inquit “Etiam ipse parentem tuam accedis et salutas?”
he-says even yourself mother your you-approach and greet
“Vereor” inquam “Ignotae mihi feminae,” et statim rubore
I-am-shy I-say unknown to-me of-a-woman and at-once with-a-blush
suffusus deiecto capite restiti. At illa obtutum in me conversa
suffused with-lowered head I-stood-still but she her-gaze on me turned
“En” inquit “Sanctissimae Salviae matris generosa probitas. Sed
behold she-says of-most-revered Salvia his-mother the-noble goodness but
et cetera corporis execrabiliter ad regulam sunt congruentia:
also the-rest of-the-body accursedly to the-rule are fitting
inenormis proceritas, succulenta gracilitas, rubor temperatus,
moderate tallness sappy slenderness a-blush tempered
flavum et inaffectatum capillitium, oculi caesii quidem
blond and unaffected hair eyes gray indeed
sed vigiles et in aspectu micantes, prorsus aquilini, os
but watchful and in their-look flashing quite eagle-like the-face
quoquoversum floridum, speciosus et immeditatus incessus.”
everywhere blooming handsome and unstudied the-gait
Et adiecit “Ego te, O Luci, meis istis manibus educavi; quidni? 3
and she-added I you O Lucius with-my these hands brought-up why-not
Parentis tuae non modo sanguinis, verum alimoniarum etiam
of-mother your not only of-blood but of-upbringing also
socia; nam et familia Plutarchi ambae prognatae sumus, et
a-partner for both of-the-family of-Plutarch both sprung we-are and
eandem nutricem simul bibimus, et in nexu germanitatis una
the-same nurse together we-drank and in the-bond of-sisterhood together
coaluimus: nec aliud nos quam dignitas discernit, quod illa
we-grew-up nor other-thing us than rank separates that she
clarissimas, ego privatas nuptias fecerimus. Ego sum Byrrhaena
most-illustrious I private a-marriage made I am Byrrhaena
illa, cuius forte saepicule nomen inter tuos frequentatum
that whose perhaps quite-often the-name among your often-repeated

educatores retines. Accede itaque hospitium fiducia, immo
guardians you-retain come and-so to-my-house with-confidence nay
vero iam tuum proprium Larem." Ad haec ego, iam sermonis
indeed now your own household-god to this I now of-the-talk
ipsius mora rubore digesto, "Absit" inquam "Parens, ut
itself by-the-delay with-blush dispersed far-be-it I-say mother that
Milonem hospitem sine ulla querela deseram; sed plane quod
Milo my-host without any complaint I-should-desert but certainly what
officiis integris potest effici, curabo sedulo: quoties itineris
with-duties intact can to-be-done I-shall-take-care diligently whenever of-journey
huius ratio nascetur, numquam erit ut non apud te
this the-occasion shall-arise never it-will-be that not with you
devertar." Dum hunc et huiusmodi sermonem altercamur, paucis
I-lodge while this and of-this-kind talk we-exchange with-few
admodum confectis passibus ad domum Byrrhaenae pervenimus.
very finished steps to the-house of-Byrrhaena we-arrive
4 Atria longe pulcherrima columnis quadrifariam per singulos
the-atrium by-far most-beautiful with-columns four-square through each
angulos stantibus attolerabant statuas, palmaris deae
corner standing were-raising statues palm-bearing of-the-goddess
facies, quae pinnis explicitis sine gressu, pilae volubilis
figures which with-wings unfolded without step of-a-ball rolling
instabile vestigium plantis roscidis delibantes, nec ut maneant
the-unstable footing with-soles dewy grazing nor that they-may-stay
inhaerent, et iam volare creduntur. Ecce lapis Parius in
do-they-cling and already to-fly are-believed behold stone Parian into
Dianam factus tenet libratam totius loci medietatem, signum
Diana made holds balanced of-the-whole place the-middle a-statue
perfecte luculentum, veste reflatum, procursu vegetum,
perfectly brilliant with-garment blown-back in-forward-motion lively
introeuntibus obvium et maiestate numinis venerabile: canes
to-those-entering facing and with-majesty of-divinity venerable dogs

utrimquesecus deae latera muniunt, qui canes et ipsi
on-both-sides of-the-goddess the-flanks guard which dogs also themselves
lapis erant; his oculi minantur, aures rigent, nares hiant, ora
stone were their eyes threaten ears stiffen nostrils gape mouths
saeviunt et sicunde de proximo latratus ingruerit,
rage and if-from-anywhere from nearby barking shall-have-broken-in
eum putabis de faucibus lapidis exire, et, in quo
it you-will-think from the-jaws of-the-stone to-come-out and in which
summum specimen operae fabrilis egregius ille signifex
the-highest proof of-work of-craftsmanship the-excellent that sculptor
prodidit, sublatis canibus in pectus arduis pedes imi
displayed with-raised dogs onto breast steep feet the-lowest
resistunt, currunt priores. Pone tergum deae saxum
stand-firm run the-front-ones behind the-back of-the-goddess rock
insurgit in speluncae modum, muscis et herbis et foliis et
rises-up into of-a-cave the-manner with-mosses and grasses and leaves and
virgulis et sicubi pampinis et arbusculis alibi de lapide
twigs and somewhere with-vine-shoots and little-trees elsewhere from the-stone
florentibus: splendet intus umbra signi de nitore lapidis.
blossoming shines within the-shadow of-the-statue from the-gleam of-the-stone
Sub extrema saxi margine poma et uvae faberrime politae
under the-lowest of-the-rock edge apples and grapes most-skillfully polished
dependent, quas ars aemula naturae veritati similes explicuit;
hang-down which art rival of-nature to-truth like has-unfolded
putes ad cibum inde quaedam, cum mustulentus
you-would-think for food from-there some when must-filled
autumnus maturum colorem afflaverit, posse decerpi,
autumn ripe color shall-have-breathed-on to-be-able to-be-plucked
et si fontem, qui deae vestigio discurrens in lenem
and if the-spring which from-the-goddess's foot running-off into a-gentle
vibratur undam, pronus aspexeris, credes illos
quivers wave bending-forward you-shall-have-looked-at you-will-believe them

ut rure pendentes racemos inter cetera veritatis
as in-the-country hanging bunches among the-other-things of-truth
nec agitationis officio carere. Inter medias frondes lapidis
not-even of-movement the-function to-lack amid the-middle leaves of-stone
Actaeon curioso obtutu in deam sursum proiectus,
Actaeon with-curious gaze toward the-goddess upward leaning
iam in cervum ferinus et in saxo simul et in fonte
already into a-stag become-wild and in the-rock at-once and in the-spring
loturam Dianam opperiens visitur.
going-to-bathe Diana awaiting is-seen
5 Dum haec identidem rimabundus eximie delector, "Tua
while these-things repeatedly searching exceedingly I-delight yours
sunt" ait Byrrhaena "Cuncta quae vides"; et cum dicto
are she-says Byrrhaena all-things which you-see and with the-word
ceteros omnes sermone secreto decedere praecipit. Quibus
the-others all for-talk secret to-withdraw she-orders whom
dispulsis omnibus, "Per hanc" inquit "Deam, O Luci carissime,
dispersed all by this she-says goddess O Lucius dearest
ut anxie tibi metuo et ut pote pignori meo longe
how anxiously for-you I-fear and as indeed for-a-pledge my far
provisum cupio; cave tibi, sed cave fortiter, a malis artibus
provided-for I-desire beware for-yourself but beware stoutly of the-evil arts
et facinorosis illecebris Pamphiles illius, quae cum Milone
and criminal allurements of-Pamphile that who with Milo
isto, quem dicis hospitem, nupta est: maga primi nominis
that whom you-call your-host married is a-witch of-the-first name
et omnis carminis sepulchralis magistra creditur, quae surculis
and of-every spell sepulchral the-mistress is-believed who with-twigs
et lapillis et id genus frivolis inhalatis omnem istam lucem
and pebbles and of-that kind trifles breathed-on all that light
mundi sideralis imis Tartari et in vetustum chaos
of-the-world starry into-the-depths of-Tartarus and into ancient chaos

submergere novit. Nam simul quemque conspexerit speciosae
to-plunge knows for as-soon-as anyone she-shall-have-seen of-handsome
formae iuvenem, venustate eius sumitur et illico in eum
form young-man by-the-charm his she-is-taken and at-once on him
et oculum et animum detorquet: serit blanditias, invadit
both eye and mind she-twists she-sows endearments she-assails
spiritum, amoris profundi pedicis aeternis alligat. Tunc minus
his-spirit of-love deep with-fetters eternal she-binds then the-less
morigeros et viles fastidio in saxa et in pecua et quodvis
compliant and the-cheap with-disgust into stones and into cattle and any-you-like
animal puncto reformat, alios vero prorsus extinguit.
animal in-a-moment she-reshapes others indeed utterly she-extinguishes
Haec tibi trepido et cavenda censeo: nam et
these-things for-you I-tremble-at and to-be-guarded-against I-judge for both
illa urit perpetuum et tu per aetatem et pulchritudinem
she burns perpetually and you through your-age and beauty
capax eius es." Haec mecum Byrrhaena satis anxia.
capable of-her are these-things with-me Byrrhaena quite anxious

VIII · FOTIS IN THE KITCHEN

Eager for magic, Lucius resolves to win Pamphile's secrets through Fotis. He finds her stirring a stew in the kitchen; she warns him of the fire she can kindle, and he, who holds hair a woman's crowning beauty, kisses hers until she promises to come to him at night. Byrrhena sends gifts, and at dinner Pamphile reads tomorrow's rain in the lamp, which Milo mocks.

At ego curiosus alioquin, ut primum artis magicae semper 6
but I curious otherwise as soon-as of-the-art magic always
optatum nomen audivi, tantum a cautela Pamphiles afui
longed-for the-name I-heard so-far from caution of-Pamphile I-was-away

ut etiam ultro gestirem tali magisterio me vel
that even of-my-own-accord I-was-eager to-such a-teaching myself even
ampla cum mercede tradere et prorsus in ipsum barathrum
ample with fee to-hand-over and utterly into the-very abyss
saltu concito praecipitare. Festinus denique et vecors
with-a-leap headlong to-throw hurried in-short and crazy
animi, manu eius velut catena quadam memet expedio
in-mind from-the-hand her as-if from-a-chain some myself I-free
et, "Salve" propere addito, ad Milonis hospitium perniciter
and goodbye hastily added to of-Milo the-lodging swiftly
evolo; ac dum amenti similis celero vestigium, "Age"
I-fly-off and while madman like I-quicken my-step come-on
inquam "Luci, evigila et tecum esto: habes exoptatam
I-say Lucius wake-up and with-yourself be you-have the-longed-for
occasionem et voto diutino potiris. Fabulis miris
opportunity and of-your-wish long-standing you-are-master with-tales wonderful
explere pectus, aufer formidines pueriles, comminus cum
fill your-breast take-away fears boyish at-close-quarters with
re ipsa naviter congredere, et a nexu quidem venerio
the-thing itself energetically engage and from the-bond indeed of-Venus
hospitis tuae tempera et probi Milonis genialem torum
of-hostess your refrain and of-honest Milo the-marriage bed
religiosus suspice; verum enimvero Fotis famula petatur
religiously respect but indeed Fotis the-maid let-be-sought
enixe. Nam et forma scitula et moribus ludicra et prorsus
strenuously for both in-form pretty and in-manners playful and quite
argutula est. Vesperi quoque cum somno concederes, et
clever she-is in-the-evening also when to-sleep you-went both
in cubiculum te deduxit comiter, et blande lectulo,
into the-bedroom you she-led genially and coaxingly in-the-little-bed
collocavit, et satis amanter cooperuit, et osculato tuo capite
laid and quite lovingly covered and with-kissed your head

quam invita discederet vultu prodidit, denique saepe
how unwillingly she-went-away by-her-face she-betrayed finally often
retrorsa respiciens substitit. Quod bonum felix et faustum
backward looking-around she-stopped which good fortunate and auspicious
itaque, licet salutare non erit, Fotis illa temptetur."
and-so although salutary not it-will-be Fotis that let-be-tried
Haec mecum ipse disputans fores Milonis accedo et, quod 7
these-things with-me myself arguing to-the-doors of-Milo I-approach and as
aiunt, pedibus in sententiam meam vado. Nec tamen domi
they-say with-feet into opinion my I-go nor still at-home
Milonem vel uxorem eius offendo, sed tantum caram meam
Milo or wife his I-find but only dear my
Fotidem: suis parabat viscum fartim concisum et
Fotis for-her-masters was-preparing meat stuffing-fashion chopped and
pulpam frustatim consectam et abacum pascuae iurulentae et
pulp in-bits cut-up and a-dish of-hash gravied and
quod naribus iam inde ariolabar, tuccetum perquam
what with-my-nostrils already from-there I-was-divining a-sausage very
sapidissimum. Ipsa linea tunica mundule amicta et russea
most-savory she-herself in-a-linen tunic neatly clad and with-a-red
fasceola praenitente altiuscule sub ipsas papillas succinctula,
little-band shining rather-high under the-very breasts girt-up
illud cibarium vasculum floridis palmulis rotabat in circulum
that food-preparing little-pot with-rosy little-hands was-turning in a-circle
et in orbis flexibus crebra succutiens et simul
and in of-the-round the-bends frequently shaking and at-the-same-time
membra sua leniter illubricans, lumbis sensim vibrantibus,
limbs her gently gliding with-loins gradually quivering
spinam mobilem quatiens placide decenter undabat. Isto
her-spine supple shaking gently becomingly she-swayed at-this
aspectu defixus obstupui et mirabundus steti, steterunt et
sight transfixed I-was-stunned and wondering I-stood stood also

membra quae iacebant ante. Et tandem ad illam "Quam pulchre
the-limbs which lay before and at-last to her how prettily
quamque festive" inquam "Fotis mea, ollulam istam cum
and-how gaily I-say Fotis my little-pot that with
natibus intorques! Quam mellitum pulmentum apparas! Felix
your-buttocks you-twist how honeyed a-stew you-prepare happy
et certius beatus cui permiseris illuc digitum intingere!"
and more-surely blessed whom you-shall-have-allowed there a-finger to-dip
Tunc illa lepida alioquin et dicacula puella "Discede" inquit
then she charming otherwise and witty girl go-away she-says
"Miselle, quam procul a meo foculo discede. Nam si
poor-wretch as far from my little-hearth go-away for if
te vel modice meus igniculus afflaverit, ureris
you even moderately my little-fire shall-have-breathed-on you-will-be-burned
intime nec ullus extinguet ardorem tuum nisi ego, quae
inwardly nor any-one will-extinguish ardor your except I who
dulce condiens et ollam et lectulum suave quatere novi."
sweetly seasoning both the-pot and the-little-bed pleasantly to-shake know-how
8 Haec dicens in me respexit et risit. Nec tamen ego
these-things saying at me she-looked-back and laughed nor still I
prius inde discessi, quam diligenter omnem eius explorassem
before from-there went-away than carefully all her I-had-explored
habitudinem. Vel quid ego de ceteris aio? Cum semper
bearing or what I about the-other-things say since always
mihi unica cura fuerit caput capillumque sedulo et publice
to-me the-sole care has-been the-head and-hair carefully and in-public
prius intueri et domi postea perfrui, sitque iudicii huius
first to-view and at-home afterward to-enjoy and-there-be of-judgment this
apud me certa et statuta ratio, vel quod praecipua pars
with me a-fixed and settled reason either because the-chief part
ista corporis in aperto et perspicuo posita prima nostris
that of-the-body in the-open and visible placed first to-our

luminibus occurrit, et quod in ceteris membris floridae vestis
eyes comes and because in the-other limbs of-flowery clothing
hilaris color, hoc in capite nitor nativus operatur: denique
the-cheerful color this in the-head the-luster native works in-short
pleraeque indolem gratiamque suam probaturae lacinias
most their-nature and-charm their-own going-to-prove their-clothes
omnes exuunt, amicula dimovent, nudam pulchritudinem
all strip-off their-wraps put-aside naked beauty
suam praebere se gestiunt, magis de cutis roseo rubore
their to-show themselves are-eager more by of-the-skin the-rosy blush
quam de vestis aureo colore placiturae. At vero (quod
than by of-the-dress the-golden color going-to-please but indeed what
nefas dicere, ne quid sit ullum huius rei tam dirum
it-is-wrong to-say lest any there-be at-all of-this thing so dire
exemplum) si cuiuslibet eximiae pulcherrimaeque feminae
an-example if of-any-you-please outstanding and-most-beautiful woman
caput capillo spoliaveris et faciem nativa specie nudaveris,
the-head of-hair you-strip and the-face of-its-native beauty you-bare
licet illa caelo deiecta, mari edita, fluctibus educata —
though she from-heaven cast-down from-the-sea born by-the-waves reared
licet, inquam, Venus ipsa fuerit, licet omni Gratiarum
though I-say Venus herself she-be though by-the-whole of-the-Graces
choro stipata et toto Cupidinum populo comitata et
choir thronged and by-the-whole of-Cupids people accompanied and
balteo suo cincta, cinnama fragrans et balsama rorans,
with-girdle her-own girt with-cinnamon fragrant and with-balsam dripping
calva processerit, placere non poterit nec Vulcano suo.
bald she-come-forth to-please not she-will-be-able not-even Vulcan her-own
Quid cum capillis color gratus et nitor splendidus illucet 9
what when in-the-hair a-color pleasing and a-gleam splendid shines-out
et contra solis aciem vegetus fulgurat vel placidus renitet,
and against of-the-sun the-ray lively flashes or gentle shines-back

aut in contrariam gratiam variat aspectum, et nunc aurum
or into a-contrary grace varies its-look and now gold
coruscans in lenem mellis deprimitur umbram, nunc corvina
flashing into a-soft of-honey is-lowered shade now with-raven
nigredine caeruleos columbarum collis flosculos aemulatur,
blackness the-blue of-doves on-the-necks little-flowers rivals
vel cum guttis Arabicis obunctus et pectinis arguti dente
or when with-drops Arabian anointed and of-a-comb fine with-the-tooth
tenui discriminatus et pone versum coactus amatoris oculis
thin parted and behind turned gathered of-a-lover to-the-eyes
occurrens ad instar speculi reddit imaginem gratiorem? Quid
meeting to the-likeness of-a-mirror gives-back an-image more-pleasing what
cum frequenti subole spissus cumulat verticem vel prolixa serie
when with-frequent offshoot thick it-heaps-up the-crown or in-a-long series
porrectus dorsa permanat? Tanta denique est capillamenti
stretched-out down-the-back flows so-great in-short is of-the-hair
dignitas, ut quamvis auro, veste, gemmis, omnique
the-dignity that although with-gold dress gems and-every
cetero mundo exornata mulier incedat, tamen, nisi capillum
other finery adorned a-woman go-forth still unless her-hair
distinxerit, ornata non possit audire. Sed in mea Fotide non
she-have-arranged adorned not she-can to-be-called but in my Fotis not
operosus sed inordinatus ornatus addebat gratiam. Uberes enim
elaborate but disordered adornment added grace abundant for
crines leniter remissos et cervice dependulos ac dein per
locks gently let-down and from-the-nape hanging and then over
colla dispositos sensimque sinuato patagio residentes paulisper
the-neck spread and-gradually in-a-curved border resting a-little-while
ad finem conglobatos in summum verticem nodus astrinxerat.
at the-end gathered-in-a-ball on the-top of-the-crown a-knot had-bound

Nec diutius quivi tantum cruciatum voluptatis eximiae 10
nor longer could-I such torture of-pleasure exceptional
sustinere, sed pronus in eam, qua fine summum
to-endure but bending-forward on her where at-the-end the-highest
cacumen capillus ascendit, mellitissimum illud savium impressi.
summit the-hair rises most-honeyed that kiss I-pressed
Tum illa cervicem intorsit, et ad me conversa limis et
then she her-neck twisted and to me turned with-sidelong and
morsicantibus oculis "Heus tu, scholastice," ait "Dulce et
biting eyes hey you schoolboy she-says a-sweet and
amarum gustulum carpis. Cave ne nimia mellis dulcedine
bitter little-taste you-pluck beware lest by-too-much of-honey sweetness
diutinam bilis amaritudinem contrahas." "Quid istic" inquam
lasting of-bile bitterness you-contract what there I-say
"Est, mea festivitas, cum sim paratus vel uno saviolo interim
is my darling when I-am ready even by-one little-kiss meanwhile
recreatus super istum ignem porrectus assari?" et cum
revived over that fire stretched-out to-be-roasted and with
dicto artius eam complexus coepi saviari. Iamque aemula
the-word more-tightly her embracing I-began to-kiss and-now with-rival
libidine in amoris parilitatem congermanescenti mecum, iam
lust into of-love equality growing-as-one with-me now
patentis oris inhalatu cinnameo et occursantis linguae
of-her-open mouth with-the-breath cinnamon and of-her-meeting tongue
illisu nectareo prona cupidine adlibescenti, "Pereo,"
with-the-thrust nectar-like with-bent desire yielding-to-pleasure I-perish
inquam "Immo iam dudum perii, nisi tu propitiaris."
I-say nay now long-ago I-have-perished unless you are-gracious
Ad haec illa rursum me deosculato "Bono animo esto,"
to this she again me having-kissed good spirit be
inquit "Nam ego tibi mutua voluntate mancipata sum, nec
she-says for I to-you by-mutual will made-over am nor

voluptas nostra differetur ulterius, sed prima face cubiculum
pleasure our will-be-put-off further but at-first torch to-bedroom
tuum adero. Abi ergo ac te compara, tota
your I-shall-come go therefore and yourself prepare through-the-whole
enim nocte tecum fortiter et ex animo proeliabor."
for night with-you stoutly and from the-heart I-shall-battle
11 His et talibus obgannitis sermonibus inter nos discessum
with-these and such muttered talks between us parting
est. Commodum meridies accesserat, et mittit mihi
was-made just midday had-come-on and sends to-me
Byrrhaena xeniola, porcum opimum et quinque gallinulas
Byrrhaena little-gifts a-pig fat and five little-hens
et vini cadum in aetate pretiosi. Tunc ego vocata Fotide,
and of-wine a-jar in age precious then I with-called Fotis
"Ecce" inquam "Veneris hortator et armiger Liber advenit
behold I-say of-Venus the-encourager and armor-bearer Liber has-come
ultro. Vinum istud hodie sorbamus omne, quod nobis
of-his-own-accord wine this today let-us-drink all which for-us
restinguat pudoris ignaviam et alacrem vigorem libidinis
may-quench of-modesty the-cowardice and brisk vigor of-lust
incutiat. Hac enim sitarchia navigium Veneris indiget sola, ut
may-strike-in of-this for victualing the-ship of-Venus has-need alone that
in nocte pervigili et oleo lucerna et vino calix abundet."
in the-night wakeful both with-oil the-lamp and with-wine the-cup may-abound
Diem ceterum lavacro ac dein cenae dedimus: nam Milonis
the-day for-the-rest to-the-bath and then to-dinner we-gave for of-Milo
boni concinnaticiam mensulam rogatus accubueram quam
good the-patched-up little-table asked I-had-reclined-at as
pote tutus ab uxoris eius aspectu, Byrrhaenae monitorum
possible safe from of-wife his the-sight of-Byrrhaena's warnings
memor, et perinde in eius faciem oculos meos ac si in
mindful and accordingly onto her face eyes my as if into

Avernum lacum formidans deieceram, sed assidue respiciens
the-Avernian lake fearing I-had-cast-down but constantly looking-back-at
praeministrantem Fotidem inibi recreabar animi; cum ecce
the-serving Fotis there I-was-refreshed in-spirit when behold
iam vespera lucernam intuens Pamphile, "Quam largus"
now in-the-evening the-lamp looking-at Pamphile how heavy
inquit "Imber aderit crastino," et percontanti marito qui
she-says a-shower will-be-here tomorrow and to-her-asking husband how
comperisset istud, respondit sibi lucernam praedicere. Quod
she-had-learned that she-answered to-her the-lamp to-foretell which
dictum ipsius Milo risu secutus, "Grandem" inquit
saying of-hers Milo with-laughter following a-great he-says
"Istam lucernam Sibyllam pascimus, quae cuncta caeli
that lamp Sibyl we-feed which all of-the-sky
negotia et solem ipsum de specula candelabri contuetur."
the-business and the-sun itself from the-watchtower of-its-lampstand observes

IX · THE CHALDAEAN DIOPHANES

At dinner Lucius takes up Pamphile's forecast of rain from the lamp and tells of the Chaldaean Diophanes at Corinth, who foretold that he would become a great story, an incredible tale, and books. Milo knows the man: once, while he was taking a merchant's fee, a friend arrived and Diophanes told of his own shipwreck, so exposing himself as a fraud. Lucius escapes to bed.

Ad haec ego subiciens, "Sunt" aio "Prima huiusce divinationis 12
to this I adding these-are I-say the-first of-this divination
experimenta, nec mirum licet modicum istum igniculum et
the-trials nor a-wonder though small that little-fire and
manibus humanis laboratum, memorem tamen illius maioris
by-hands human wrought mindful still of-that greater

et caelestis ignis velut sui parentis, quid is esset editurus
and heavenly fire as-if of-its parent what it was going-to-produce
in aetheris vertice divino praesagio et ipsum scire et nobis
in of-the-ether the-summit by-divine presentiment both itself to-know and to-us
enuntiare. Nam et Corinthi nunc apud nos passim Chaldaeus
to-announce for also at-Corinth now among us everywhere a-Chaldaean
quidam hospes miris totam civitatem responsis turbulentat,
certain a-stranger with-wonderful the-whole city answers stirs-up
et arcana fatorum stipibus emerendis edicit in vulgus: qui
and the-secrets of-the-fates for-coins to-be-earned proclaims to the-crowd which
dies copulas nuptiarum affirmet, qui fundamenta moenium
day the-bonds of-marriages confirms which the-foundations of-walls
perpetuet, qui negotiatori commodus, qui viatori celebris,
makes-lasting which for-the-trader convenient which for-the-traveler crowded
qui navigiis opportunus; mihi denique proventum huius
which for-ships suitable to-me in-short the-outcome of-this
peregrinationis inquirenti multa respondit et oppido mira
journey inquiring many-things he-answered and very wonderful
et satis varia: nunc enim gloriam satis floridam, nunc historiam
and quite various now for a-glory quite flowering now a-history
magnam et incredundam fabulam et libros me futurum."
great and an-incredible tale and books me going-to-be

13 Ad haec renidens Milo "Qua" inquit "Corporis habitudine
to this smiling-broadly Milo with-what he-says of-body bearing
praeditus quove nomine nuncupatus hic iste Chaldaeus
endowed or-by-what name called this that Chaldaean
est?" "Procerus" inquam "Et suffusculus, Diophanes nomine."
is tall I-say and darkish Diophanes by-name
"Ipse est," ait "Nec ullus alius: nam et hic apud nos
he-himself it-is he-says nor any other for also here among us
multa multis similiter effatus non parvas stipes, immo
many-things to-many similarly having-uttered not small coins nay

vero mercedes opimas iam consecutus fortunam scaevam,
indeed fees rich already having-gained a-fortune perverse
an saevam verius dixerim, miser incidit. Nam die
or savage more-truly I-should-say wretched he-fell-into for on-a-day
quadam cum frequentis populi circulo consaeptus coronae
a-certain when of-a-crowded of-people by-the-circle hedged-in to-the-ring
circumstantium fata donaret, Cerdo quidam nomine negotiator
of-the-bystanders fates he-was-giving Cerdo a-certain by-name a-trader
accessit eum diem commodum peregrinationi cupiens: quem
came-up him a-day favorable for-traveling desiring which
cum electum destinasset ille, iam deposita crumena, iam
when chosen he-had-fixed he now with-laid-down his-purse now
profusis nummulis, iam dinumeratis centum denarium, quos
with-poured-out the-little-coins now with-counted a-hundred of-denarii which
mercedem divinationis auferret, ecce quidam de nobilibus
as-the-fee of-the-divination he-would-take behold a-certain of the-nobles
adulescentulus a tergo arrepens eum lacinia prehendit
young-man from behind creeping-up him by-the-cloak seizes
et conversum amplexus exosculatur artissime. At ille ubi
and turned embracing kisses most-tightly but he when
primum consaviatus eum iuxtim se ut assidat effecit, et
first he-had-kissed him beside himself that he-might-sit made and
attonitus repentinae visionis stupore et praesentis negotii
astonished of-the-sudden sight with-the-stupor and of-the-present business
quod gerebat oblitus, infit ad eum 'Quam olim equidem
which he-was-doing forgetful begins to him how long-since indeed
exoptatus nobis advenis?' Respondit ad haec ille alius,
longed-for to-us you-come answered to this he the-other
'Commodum vespera oriente: sed vicissim tu quoque, frater,
just with-evening rising but in-turn you too brother

mihi memora quemadmodum exinde ut de Euboea insula
to-me tell how from-the-time when from Euboea island
festinus enavigasti, et maris et viae confeceris iter.'"
hastily you-sailed-off both of-sea and of-road you-have-accomplished the-journey
14 "Ad haec Diophanes ille Chaldaeus egregius, mente viduus
to this Diophanes that Chaldaean excellent of-mind bereft
necdum suus, 'Hostes' inquit 'Et omnes inimici nostri
and-not-yet himself enemies he-says and all foes our
tam diram immo vero Ulixeam peregrinationem incidant.
so dire nay indeed Ulyssean a-journey may-fall-into
Nam et navis ipsa qua vehebamur, variis turbinibus
for both the-ship itself by-which we-were-carried by-various whirlwinds
procellarum quassata, utroque regimine amisso, aegre ad
of-storms shaken with-each rudder lost with-difficulty to
ulterioris ripae marginem detrusa praeceps demersa est, et
of-the-farther shore the-edge thrust headlong sunk was and
nos omnibus amissis vix enatavimus. Quodcunque vel
we with-all-things lost scarcely swam-out whatever either
ignotorum miseratione vel amicorum benivolentia contraximus,
of-strangers by-pity or of-friends by-the-goodwill we-gathered
id omne latrocinalis invasit manus, quorum audaciae
that all a-robber's attacked band whose audacity
repugnans etiam Arignotus unicus frater meus sub istis
resisting even Arignotus the-only brother my before these
oculis miser iugulatus est.' Haec eo adhuc narrante
eyes wretched murdered was these-things with-him still telling
maesto Cerdo ille negotiator correptis nummulis suis, quos
sad Cerdo that trader with-snatched-up little-coins his which
divinationis mercedi destinaverat, protinus aufugit. Ac dehinc
for-the-divination's fee he-had-intended at-once fled and thereupon
tunc demum Diophanes expergitus sensit imprudentiae suae
then at-last Diophanes awakened perceived of-imprudence his

labem, cum etiam nos omnes circumsecus astantes in
the-blunder when also us all round-about standing into
clarum cachinnum videret effusos. Sed tibi plane, Luci
clear guffaw be-saw poured-out but to-you surely Lucius
domine, soli omnium Chaldaeus ille vera dixerit,
my-lord alone of-all Chaldaean that true-things may-have-spoken
sisque felix et iter dexterum porrigas."
and-may-you-be happy and a-journey favorable may-you-stretch-out
Haec Milone diutine sermocinante tacitus ingemescebam, 15
these-things with-Milo at-length chattering silently I-groaned
mihique non mediocriter suscensebam quod ultro
and-with-myself not moderately I-was-angry that of-my-own-accord
inducta serie inopportunarum fabularum partem bonam
with-introduced series of-untimely tales part good
vesperae eiusque gratissimum fructum amitterem; et tandem
of-the-evening and-its most-pleasing fruit I-was-losing and at-last
denique devorato pudore ad Milonem aio "Ferat suam
finally with-swallowed shame to Milo I-say let-him-bear his-own
Diophanes ille fortunam et spolia populorum rursum
Diophanes that fortune and the-spoils of-peoples again
conferat mari pariter ac terrae, mihi vero fatigationis
let-him-bring to-sea equally and to-land to-me indeed of-fatigue
hesternae etiamnunc saucio da veniam maturius concedam
of-yesterday even-now wounded give pardon earlier let-me-go
cubitum," et cum dicto facesso, et cubiculum meum
to-bed and with the-word I-make-off and to-bedroom my
contendo atque illic deprehendo epularum dispositiones
I-hasten and there I-find of-the-feast the-arrangements
satis concinnas. Nam et pueris extra limen, credo
quite neat for both for-the-boys outside the-threshold I-believe
ut arbitrio nocturni gannitus ablegarentur, humi
that from-the-witness of-nightly chatter they-might-be-sent-away on-the-ground

quam procul distratum fuerat, et grabatulum meum astitit
as far spread had-been and by-little-bed my stood
mensula cenae totius honestas reliquias tolerans, et calices
a-little-table of-dinner the-whole decent remains bearing and cups
boni, iam infuso latice semipleni, solam temperiem
good already with-poured-in liquid half-full only the-mixing
sustinentes, et lagoena iuxta orificio caesim dehiscente
awaiting and a-flagon near with-its-mouth cut-wise gaping
patescens facilis hauritu, prorsus gladiatoriae Veneris antecenia.
lying-open easy for-drawing quite of-gladiatorial Venus the-appetizers

X · THE NIGHT WITH FOTIS

Fotis comes to Lucius' room with wine and roses, and they spend the night in love's wrestling. Byrrhena then invites Lucius to dinner, and Fotis warns him to come home early, since gangs of young nobles murder people in the streets at night.

16 Commodum cubueram, et ecce Fotis mea, iam domina
just I-had-lain-down and behold Fotis my now with-her-mistress
cubitum reddita, laeta proximat rosa serta et rosa
to-bed put glad approaches with-roses garlanded and with-roses
soluta in sinu tuberante: ac me pressim deosculato et
loose in her-bosom swelling and with-me closely kissed and
corollis revincto ac flore persperso arripit poculum ac
with-little-garlands bound and with-flowers strewn she-seizes a-cup and
desuper aqua calida iniecta porrigit bibam, idque modico
on-top with-water hot thrown-in holds-out that-I-may-drink and-it a-little
prius quam totum exsorberem clementer invadit ac relictum
before than all I-drained gently she-takes-over and the-rest
pullulatim labellis minuens meque respiciens sorbillat dulciter.
little-by-little with-her-lips diminishing and-me looking-at sips sweetly

Sequens et tertium inter nos vicissim et frequens alternat
following and a-third between us in-turn and frequent exchanges
poculum, cum ego iam vino madens nec animo tantum verum
the-cup when I now with-wine soaked not in-mind only but
etiam corpore ipso ad libidinem inquies, alioquin et petulans
also in-body itself for lust restless otherwise and wanton
et iam saucius paulisper inguinum fine lacinia remota
and now wounded a-little of-my-groin at-the-border with-the-garment removed
impatientiam Veneris Fotidi meae monstrans, "Miserere," inquam
my-impatience for-Venus to-Fotis my showing pity-me I-say
"Et subveni maturius: nam, ut vides, proelio, quod nobis sine
and help sooner for as you-see for-the-battle which on-us without
fetiali officio indixeras, iam proximante vehementer intentus,
the-herald's office you-had-declared now approaching vehemently strained
ubi primam sagittam saevi Cupidinis in ima praecordia
when the-first arrow of-savage Cupid into the-lowest heart
mea delapsam excepi, arcum meum et ipse vigorate tetendi
my fallen I-received bow my also myself vigorously I-have-drawn
et oppido formido ne nervus rigoris nimietate rumpatur.
and very-much I-fear lest the-string of-stiffness by-the-excess may-be-broken
Sed ut mihi morem plenius gesseris, in effusum laxa
but that to-me the-humor more-fully you-may-do into flowing loosen
crinem et capillo fluente undanter ede complexus amabiles."
your-hair and with-hair flowing wave-like give embraces lovable
Nec mora, cum omnibus illis cibariis vasculis raptim remotis, 17
nor delay when with-all those food vessels hastily removed
laciniis cunctis suis renudata, crinibus quam dissolutis
with-clothes all her stripped with-her-hair how loosened
ad hilarem lasciviam in speciem Veneris quae marinos
to merry wantonness into the-likeness of-Venus who the-sea
fluctus subit pulchre reformata, paulisper etiam glabellum
waves goes-under beautifully remade a-little-while even her-smooth

feminal rosea palmula potius obumbrans de industria quam
groin with-rosy little-palm rather shading on purpose than
tegens verecundia, "Proeliare," inquit "Et fortiter proeliare,
covering from-modesty fight she-says and stoutly fight
nec enim tibi cedam nec terga vortam. Comminus in
nor for to-you I-shall-yield nor my-back I-shall-turn at-close-quarters into
aspectum, si vir es, derige et grassare naviter et
the-face if a-man you-are direct and attack energetically and
occide moriturus. Hodierna pugna non habet missionem."
kill going-to-die today's fight not has release
Haec simul dicens, inscenso grabatulo super me sessim
these-things at-once saying with-climbed the-little-bed over me squatting
residens ac crebra subsiliens, lubricisque gestibus mobilem
sitting and frequently springing-up and-with-slippery movements her-supple
spinam quatiens, pendulae Veneris fructu me satiavit,
spine shaking of-hanging Venus with-the-fruit me she-filled
usque dum lassis animis et marcidis artubus defatigati
right until with-tired spirits and drooping limbs exhausted
simul ambo corruimus inter mutuos amplexus animas
together both we-collapsed amid mutual embraces our-souls
anhelantes. His et huiusmodi colluctationibus ad confinia
panting with-these and such wrestlings to the-borders
lucis usque pervigiles egimus, poculis interdum lassitudinem
of-light right wakeful we-passed with-cups sometimes weariness
refoventes et libidinem incitantes et voluptatem integrantes:
reviving and lust exciting and pleasure renewing
ad cuius noctis exemplar similes astruximus alias plusculas.
to of-which night the-model like we-added others several
18 Forte quadam die de me magno opere Byrrhaena contendit
by-chance on-a-certain day of me great by-effort Byrrhaena insisted
apud eam cenulae ut interessem, et cum impendio
with her at-a-little-dinner that I-should-be-present and when strongly

excusarem, negavit veniam. Ergo igitur Fotis erat adeunda
I-excused-myself she-refused pardon therefore then Fotis was to-be-approached
deque nutu eius consilium velut auspicium petendum: quae
and-from nod her counsel like an-auspice to-be-sought who
quanquam invita quod a se ungue latius digrederer,
although unwilling that from her by-a-nail more-widely I-should-depart
tamen comiter amatoriae militiae brevem commeatum indulsit.
still genially from-amorous service a-brief leave granted
Sed "Heus tu" inquit "Cave regrediare cena maturius:
but hey you she-says beware you-return from-dinner early
nam vesana factio nobilissimorum iuvenum pacem publicam
for a-mad faction of-most-noble youths the-peace public
infestat: passim trucidatos per medias plateas videbis
infests everywhere butchered through the-middle streets you-will-see
iacere, nec praesidis auxilia longinqua levare civitatem
to-lie nor of-the-governor the-forces distant to-relieve the-city
tanta clade possunt. Tibi vero fortunae splendor insidias,
from-such disaster can to-you indeed of-fortune the-splendor plots
contemptus etiam peregrinationis poterit afferre." "Fac sine
the-contempt also of-strangerhood will-be-able to-bring do-it without
cura" inquam "Sis, Fotis mea: nam praeter quod epulis
care I-say please Fotis my for besides that to-the-feasts
alienis voluptates meas anteferrem, metum etiam istum
of-others pleasures my I-should-prefer fear also that
tibi demam maturata regressione. Nec tamen incomitatus
from-you I-shall-take with-hastened return nor still unaccompanied
ibo: nam gladiolo solito cinctus altrinsecus ipse salutis
I-shall-go for with-little-sword usual girt on-my-side I-myself of-safety
meae praesidia gestabo." Sic paratus cenae me committo.
my the-protection shall-carry thus prepared to-the-dinner myself I-entrust

Frequens ibi numerus epulonum et utpote apud primatem
numerous there the-number of-diners and as at a-leading
feminam flos ipse civitatis.
woman the-flower itself of-the-city

XI · BYRRHENA'S BANQUET

Byrrhena's dinner is splendid with citron and ivory, gold cups, and many guests. Asked how he likes the town, Lucius praises it but fears its magic, since witches rob even the dead; a guest adds that not even the living are spared. Amid laughter Byrrhena presses the mutilated Thelyphron to tell his story.

19 Mensae opipare citro et ebore nitentes, lecti aureis
the-tables sumptuously with-citrus-wood and ivory shining the-couches with-golden
vestibus intecti, ampli calices variae quidem gratiae sed
coverlets covered large cups of-various indeed grace but
pretiositatis unius. Hic vitrum fabre sigillatum, ibi crystallum
of-preciousness one here glass skillfully figured there crystal
impunctum, argentum alibi clarum et aurum fulgurans et
unflawed silver elsewhere bright and gold flashing and
succinum mire cavatum et lapides ut bibas, et quicquid
amber wonderfully hollowed and stones that you-may-drink and whatever
fieri non potest, ibi est. Diribitores plusculi splendide
to-be-done not can there is servers several splendidly
amicti fercula copiosa scitule subministrare, pueri calamistrati
clad dishes abundant neatly served boys curled
pulchre indusiati gemmas formatas in pocula vini vetusti
handsomely in-tunics gems shaped into cups of-wine old
frequenter offerre. Iam illatis luminibus epularis sermo
frequently offered now with-brought-in lights the-table talk
percrebruit, iam risus affluens et ioci liberales et cavillus
grew-louder now laughter flowing and jokes free and banter

hinc inde; tum infit ad me Byrrhaena: "Quam commode
on-this-side and-that then begins to me Byrrhaena how comfortably
versaris in nostra patria? Quod sciam, templis et lavacris et
do-you-get-on in our country as-far-as I-know in-temples and baths and
ceteris operibus longe cunctas civitates antecellimus, utensilium
the-other works far all cities we-surpass in-utensils
praeterea pollemus affatim. Certe libertas otioso, et negotioso
besides we-are-strong abundantly certainly freedom for-the-idle and for-the-busy
quidem advenae Romana frequentia, modesto vero hospiti quies
indeed stranger Roman thronging for-the-modest indeed guest quiet
villatica; omni denique provinciae voluptarii secessus sumus."
of-a-villa for-the-whole in-short province of-pleasure the-retreat we-are
Ad haec ego subiciens: "Vera memoras, nec usquam gentium 20
to this I adding true-things you-relate nor anywhere in-the-world
magis me liberum quam hic fuisse credidi. Sed oppido
more myself free than here to-have-been I-believed but very-much
formido caecas et inevitabiles latebras magicae disciplinae:
I-fear the-blind and unavoidable lurking-places of-the-magic discipline
nam ne mortuorum quidem sepulchra tuta dicuntur sed ex
for not of-the-dead even the-tombs safe are-said but from
bustis et rogis reliquiae quaedam et cadaverum praesegmina
tombs and pyres remains certain and of-corpses clippings
ad exitiabiles viventium fortunas petuntur; et cantatrices
for the-deadly of-the-living fortunes are-sought and enchantress
anus in ipso momento choragii funebris praepeti
old-women at the-very moment of-the-pageant funeral with-winged
celeritate alienam sepulturam antevortunt." His meis addidit
speed another's burial forestall to-these my added
alius: "Immo vero istic nec viventibus quidem ullis parcitur:
another nay indeed here not to-the-living even any are-spared
et nescioqui simile passus ore undique omnifariam
and I-know-not-who something-like having-suffered with-face on-all-sides in-every-way

deformato truncatus est." Inter haec convivium totum in
disfigured mutilated was among these the-banquet whole into
licentiosos cachinnos effunditur, omniumque ora et obtutus
licentious guffaws pours-out and-of-all the-faces and gazes
in unum quempiam angulo secubantem conferuntur: qui
onto one certain-man in-a-corner lying-apart are-turned who
cunctorum obstinatione confusus indigna murmurabundus
of-all by-the-insistence confused indignant-things muttering
cum vellet exsurgere, "Immo mi Thelyphron" Byrrhaena
when he-wished to-get-up nay my Thelyphron Byrrhaena
inquit "Et subsiste paulisper et more tuae urbanitatis
says both stay a-little and by-the-custom of-your urbanity
fabulam illam tuam remetire, ut et filius meus iste
tale that your tell-again so-that both son my this
Lucius lepidi sermonis tui perfruatur comitate." At ille
Lucius of-pleasant talk your may-enjoy the-charm but he
"Tu quidem domina" ait "In officio manes sanctae tuae
you indeed my-lady he-says in duty remain holy of-your
bonitatis: sed ferenda non est quorundam, insolentia."
goodness but to-be-borne not is of-certain-people the-insolence

XII · THELYPHRON'S TALE

At Larissa, short of money, Thelyphron hired himself to guard a corpse through the night against witches. A weasel crept in, and he fell into a deathlike sleep. In the morning the widow paid him, but his ill-omened offer of further service had him beaten out of the house; at the funeral an old man accused her of poisoning, and the Egyptian prophet Zatchlas recalled the dead man, who confirmed it and revealed that the witches had cut off Thelyphron's nose and ears, because he bore the dead man's name; at a touch his wax nose and ears fell off.

Sic ille commotus; sed instantia Byrrhaenae, quae eum 21
thus he disturbed but by-the-insistence of-Byrrhaena who him
adiuratione suae salutis ingratis cogebat effari, perfecit
by-adjuration of-her-own safety unwillingly compelled to-speak-out brought-about
ut vellet, ac sic aggeratis in cumulum stragulis et effultus
that he-wished and so with-heaped into a-pile coverlets and propped
in cubitum suberectusque in torum porrigit dexteram, et
on his-elbow and-half-raised on the-couch stretches-out his-right-hand and
ad instar oratorum conformat articulum duobusque infimis
to the-likeness of-orators shapes his-finger and-with-two lowest
conclusis digitis ceteros eminus porrigens et infesto
closed fingers the-rest at-a-distance stretching and with-hostile
pollice subrigens infit Thelyphron:
thumb raising-up begins Thelyphron
"Pupillus ego Mileto profectus ad spectaculum Olympicum,
a-ward I from-Miletus having-set-out for the-games Olympic
cum haec etiam loca provinciae famigerabilis adire cuperem,
when these also places of-the-province famous to-visit I-desired
peragrata cuncta Thessalia fuscis avibus Larissam accessi.
with-traveled-through all Thessaly with-dark birds to-Larissa I-came
Ac dum singula pererrans, tenuato admodum viatico,
and while each-place wandering-through with-thinned very travel-money

paupertati meae fomenta conquiro, conspicor medio foro
for-poverty my relief I-seek I-catch-sight-of in-the-middle forum
procerum quendam senem: insistebat lapidem claraque
a-tall certain old-man he-was-standing-on a-stone and-with-clear
voce praedicabat, si qui mortuum servare vellet, de pretio
voice he-proclaimed if any a-dead-man to-guard wished about the-price
liceretur; et ad quempiam praetereuntium 'Quid hoc' inquam
he-should-bid and to some-one of-the-passers-by what this I-say
'comperior? Hicine mortui solent aufugere?' 'Tace' respondit
do-I-learn here dead-men are-wont to-run-away hush answered
ille, 'Nam oppido puer et satis peregrinus es, meritoque
he for very a-boy and quite a-stranger you-are and-deservedly
ignoras Thessaliae te consistere, ubi sagae mulieres
you-do-not-know in-Thessaly yourself to-stand where witch women
ora mortuorum passim demorsitant, eaque sunt illis
the-faces of-the-dead everywhere gnaw-off and-those are for-them
artis magicae supplementa.'
of-the-art magic the-supplies

22 "Contra ego 'Et quae, tu' inquam 'Dic sodes, custodela illa
in-reply I and what you I-say tell please guard that
feralis?' 'Iam primum' respondit ille 'Perpetem noctem eximie
funereal now first answered he the-whole night exceedingly
vigilandum est exertis et inconnivis oculis semper in cadaver
to-be-watched it-is with-strained and unblinking eyes always on the-corpse
intentis, nec acies usquam devertenda, immo ne obliquanda
intent nor the-gaze anywhere to-be-turned-aside nay not to-be-slanted
quidem, quippe cum deterrimae versipelles in quodvis animal
even since when the-worst shape-shifters into any animal
ore converso latenter arrepant, ut ipsos etiam oculos
with-face turned secretly creep-in so-that the-very even eyes
solis et Iustitiae facile frustrentur; nam et aves et
of-the-sun and of-Justice easily they-may-cheat for both birds and

rursum canes et mures, immo vero etiam muscas induunt.
again dogs and mice nay indeed even flies they-put-on
Tunc diris cantaminibus somno custodes obruunt: nec
then with-dire enchantments with-sleep the-guards they-overwhelm nor
satis quisquam definire poterit quantas latebras nequissimae
enough anyone to-define will-be-able what-great hiding-places the-most-wicked
mulieres pro libidine sua comminiscuntur. Nec tamen huius
women for lust their devise nor still of-this
tam exitiabilis operae merces amplior quam quaterni vel seni
so deadly of-a-task the-fee greater than four or six
ferme offeruntur aurei. Ehem, et quod paene praeterieram,
about are-offered gold-pieces ah and what almost I-had-passed-over
si qui non integrum corpus mane restituerit, quicquid
if anyone not whole the-body in-the-morning shall-have-restored whatever
inde decerptum deminutumque fuerit, id omne de facie
thence plucked-off and-diminished shall-have-been that all from face
sua desecto sarcire compellitur.'
his-own cut-off to-patch is-compelled
"His cognitis animum meum commasculo, et illico accedens 23
with-these learned spirit my I-make-manly and at-once approaching
praeconem 'Clamare' inquam 'Iam desine: adest custos
the-crier to-shout I-say now stop here-is the-guard
paratus, cedo praemium.' 'Mille' inquit 'Nummum deponentur
ready give the-reward a-thousand he-says of-coins will-be-deposited
tibi. Sed heus iuvenis, cave diligenter principum civitatis
for-you but hey young-man beware carefully of-the-leading-men of-the-city
filii cadaver a malis Harpyiis probe custodias.' 'Ineptias'
of-the-son the-corpse from the-evil Harpies well you-guard nonsense
inquam 'Mihi narras et nugas meras. Vides hominem
I-say to-me you-tell and trifles mere you-see a-man

ferreum et insomnem, certe perspicaciorem ipso Lynceo
of-iron and sleepless certainly more-sharp-sighted than-the-very Lynceus
vel Argo et oculeum totum.'
or Argus and all-eyes whole
"Vix finieram, et illico me perducit ad domum quampiam,
scarcely I-had-finished and at-once me he-leads to a-house some-certain
cuius ipsis foribus obsaeptis per quandam brevem
whose with-very doors blocked through a-certain small
posticulam intro vocat me et conclave quoddam obseratis
little-back-door within he-calls me and a-room a-certain with-shuttered
luminibus umbrosum demonstrat matronamque flebilem fusca
windows shadowy he-shows and-a-matron weeping in-dark
veste contectam, quam propter assistens 'Hic' inquit
garment covered whom beside standing this-man he-says
'Auctoratus ad custodiam mariti tui fidenter accessit.' At
hired for the-guard of-husband your confidently has-come but
illa crinibus antependulis hinc inde demotis etiam in
she with-her-locks hanging-in-front on-this-side and-that put-aside even in
maerore luculentam proferens faciem, meque respiciens 'Vide
grief beautiful showing her-face and-me looking-at see
oro' inquit 'Quam expergite munus obeas.' 'Sine cura
I-pray she-says how wakefully the-task you-undertake without care
sis'; inquam 'Modo corollarium idoneum compara.'
be-you I-say only a-tip suitable prepare
24 "Sic placito ocius surrexit et ad aliud me cubiculum inducit:
thus agreed quickly she-rose and to another me bedroom leads
ibi corpus splendentibus linteis coopertum introductis
there the-body with-shining linen-cloths covered with-brought-in
quibusdam septem testibus manu revelat et diutine
certain seven witnesses by-hand she-uncovers and long
insuper fleto obtestata fidem praesentium singula
moreover having-wept having-appealed-to the-good-faith of-those-present each-thing

demonstrat anxie, verba concepta de industria quodam
shows anxiously words framed on purpose with-a-certain-man
tabulis praenotante. 'Ecce' inquit 'Nasus integer, incolumes
on-tablets noting behold she-says the-nose whole unharmed
oculi, salvae aures, illibatae labiae, mentum solidum. Vos
the-eyes safe the-ears untouched the-lips the-chin solid you
in hanc rem, boni Quirites, testimonium perhibetote'; et
to this matter good citizens testimony bear and
cum dicto consignatis illis tabulis facessit.
with the-word sealed those tablets she-departs
"At ego, 'Iube' inquam 'Domina, cuncta quae sunt usui
but I order I-say my-lady all-things which are for-use
necessaria nobis exhiberi.' 'At quae' inquit 'Ista sunt?' 'Lucerna'
necessary to-us to-be-supplied but what she-says those are a-lamp
aio 'Praegrandis et oleum ad lucem luci sufficiens et
I-say very-large and oil for light to-daylight sufficient and
calida cum oenophoris et calice cenarumque reliquiis
warm-water with wine-jugs and a-cup and-of-dinners with-the-leftovers
discus ornatus.' Tunc illa capite quassato 'Abi' inquit 'Fatue,
a-dish furnished then she with-head shaken go she-says fool
qui in domo funesta cenas et partes requiris, in qua totiugis
who in a-house of-mourning dinners and portions you-ask-for in which for-so-many
iam diebus ne fumus quidem visus est ullus. An istic
now days not smoke even seen has-been any or here
comissatum te venisse credis? Quin sumis potius loco
to-revel yourself to-have-come do-you-believe why-not you-take rather to-the-place
congruentes luctus et lacrimas?' Haec simul dicens respexit
fitting mourning and tears this at-once saying she-looked-back-at
ancillulam, et 'Myrrhine' inquit 'Lucernam et oleum trade
her-little-maid and Myrrhine she-says the-lamp and oil hand-over
confestim et incluso custode cubiculo protinus facesse.'
at-once and with-shut-in the-guard in-the-bedroom immediately withdraw

25 “Sic desolatus ad cadaveris solacium perfrictis oculis
thus left-alone for of-the-corpse comfort with-rubbed eyes
et obarmatis ad vigilias animum meum permulcebam
and armed for the-watch spirit my I-soothed
cantationibus, cum ecce crepusculum et nox provecta et nox
with-chanting when behold twilight and night advanced and night
altior et dein concubia altiora et iam nox intempesta, mihique
deeper and then bedtime deeper and now night dead and-to-me
oppido formido cumulatior quidem, cum repente introrepens
very-much fear heaped-higher indeed when suddenly creeping-in
mustela contra me constitit obtutumque acerrimum in me
a-weasel opposite me stood and-a-gaze most-piercing on me
destituit, ut tantillula animalis prae nimia sui fiducia mihi
fixed so-that so-tiny an-animal for excessive of-itself confidence to-me
turbarit animum: denique sic ad illam ‘Quin abis’ inquam
disturbed my-spirit in-short so to her why-not go-off I-say
‘Impurata bestia, teque ad tui similes musculos recondis,
foul beast and-yourself to of-you like little-mice hide
antequam nostri vim praesentariam experiaris? Quin abis?’
before of-us the-force present you-experience why-not go-off
Terga vortit et cubiculo protinus exterminatur: nec
her-back she-turns and from-the-bedroom at-once is-driven nor
mora, cum me somnus profundus in imum barathrum
delay when me sleep deep into the-lowest abyss
repente demergit, ut ne deus quidem Delphicus ipse facile
suddenly plunges so-that not the-god even Delphic himself easily
discerneret, duobus nobis iacentibus, quis esset magis mortuus:
could-distinguish with-two us lying which was more dead
sic inanimis et indigens alio custode paene ibi non eram.
so lifeless and needing another guard almost there not I-was

"Commodum noctis inducias cantus perstrepebat cristatae 26
just of-the-night the-truce the-song was-resounding of-the-crested
cohortis; tandem expergitus et nimio pavore perterritus
cohort at-last awakened and with-excessive panic terrified
cadaver accurro et admoto lumine revelataque eius
to-the-corpse I-run and with-brought-near the-light and-uncovered its
facie rimabar singula, quae cuncta convenerant: ecce uxor
face I-examined each-thing which all agreed behold the-wife
misella flens cum hesternis testibus introrumpit anxia, et
poor weeping with yesterday's witnesses bursts-in anxious and
statim corpori superruens multumque ac diu deosculata sub
at-once on-the-body rushing and-much and long having-kissed under
arbitrio luminis recognoscit omnia. Et conversa Philodespotum
the-witness of-the-light recognizes all-things and turned Philodespotus
requirit actorem: ei praecipit, bono custodi redderet
asks-for her-steward to-him she-orders to-the-good guard to-pay
sine mora praemium, et oblato statim 'Summas' inquit
without delay the-reward and with-offered at-once the-highest she-says
'Tibi, iuvenis, gratias agimus et Hercule ob sedulum istud
to-you young-man thanks we-give and by-Hercules for diligent that
ministerium inter ceteros familiares dehinc numerabimus.' Ad
service among the-other intimates henceforth we-shall-count-you to
haec ego insperato lucro diffusus in gaudium et in
this I by-the-unhoped-for gain poured into joy and at
aureos refulgentes, quos identidem manu mea ventilabam
the-gold-pieces gleaming which repeatedly in-hand my I-was-tossing
attonitus, 'Immo' inquam 'Domina, de famulis tuis unum
astonished nay I-say my-lady of servants your one
putato, et quotiens operam nostram desiderabis, fidenter
think-me and as-often-as service our you-shall-need confidently
impera.' Vix effatum me statim familiares omnes nefarium
command scarcely said-it me at-once the-servants all the-wicked-one

exsecrati raptis cuiusquemodi telis insequuntur: pugnis
cursing with-snatched of-any-kind weapons pursue with-fists
ille malas offendere, scapulas alius cubitis impingere,
one my-jaws struck my-shoulders another with-elbows thrust
palmis infestis hic latera suffodere, calcibus insultare,
with-palms hostile this-one my-ribs dug with-heels trampled
capillos distrahere, vestem discindere. Sic in modum superbi
my-hair pulled-apart my-clothes tore-apart thus in the-manner of-the-proud
iuvenis Adonei vel musae vatis Pimpleidos laceratus
young-man Adonis or of-the-muse of-the-bard Pimplean lacerated
atque discerptus domo proturbor.
and torn-apart from-the-house I-am-driven

27 "Ac dum in proxima platea refovens animum infausti atque
and while in the-nearest street reviving my-spirit of-ill-omened and
improvidi sermonis mei sero reminiscor, dignumque me
improvident speech my late I-remember and-deserving myself
pluribus etiam verberibus fuisse merito consentio, ecce iam
of-more even blows to-have-been justly I-agree behold now
ultimum defletus atque conclamatus processerat mortuus,
for-the-last-time wept and called-on had-come-forth the-dead-man
rituque patrio, utpote unus de optimatibus, pompa funeris
and-by-rite ancestral as one of the-nobles in-a-procession of-funeral
publici ductabatur per forum. Occurrit atratus quidam
public was-led through the-forum there-meets-it a-man-in-black a-certain
maestus in lacrimis genialem canitiem revellens senex, et
sad in tears his-venerable gray-hair tearing an-old-man and
manibus ambabus invadens torum, voce contenta quidem
with-hands both seizing the-bier with-voice strained indeed
sed assiduis singultibus impedita, 'Per fidem vestram' inquit
but by-constant sobs hampered by good-faith your he-says
'Quirites, per pietatem publicam peremptо civi subsistite,
citizens by the-piety public for-the-slain citizen stand-by

et extremum facinus in nefariam scelestamque istam
and the-ultimate crime against wicked and-criminal that
feminam severiter vindicate. Haec enim, nec ullus alius,
woman severely punish she for nor any other
miserum adulescentem, sororis meae filium, in adulteri
the-wretched young-man of-sister my the-son for of-an-adulterer
gratiam et ob praedam hereditariam extinxit veneno.' Sic
the-sake and for plunder hereditary killed with-poison thus
ille senior lamentabiles questus singulis instrepebat. Saevire
that elder lamentable complaints to-each was-sounding raged
vulgus interdum et facti verisimilitudine ad criminis
the-crowd meanwhile and of-the-deed by-the-likelihood to the-charge's
credulitatem impelli: conclamant ignem, requirunt saxa,
belief was-pushed they-shout fire they-call-for stones
parvulos ad exitium mulieris hortantur. Emeditatis ad
the-little-ones to the-destruction of-the-woman they-urge with-rehearsed to
haec illa fletibus, quamque sanctissime poterat adiurans
this she with-weeping and-as solemnly as-she-could swearing-by
cuncta numina, tantum scelus abnuebat.
all the-gods such crime denied
"Ergo igitur senex ille: 'Veritatis arbitrium in divinam 28
therefore then old-man that of-truth the-judgment onto divine
providentiam reponamus. Zatchlas adest Aegyptius, propheta
providence let-us-put Zatchlas is-here the-Egyptian prophet
primarius, qui mecum iamdudum grandi praemio pepigit
first who with-me long-since for-a-great reward has-agreed
reducere paulisper ab inferis spiritum corpusque istud
to-bring-back for-a-little from the-underworld the-spirit and-body that
postliminio mortis animare'; et cum dicto iuvenem
by-return from-death to-animate and with the-word a-young-man
quempiam linteis amiculis iniectum pedesque palmeis baxeis
some-certain in-linen garments clothed and-his-feet in-palm-leaf sandals

inductum et adusque deraso capite producit in medium.
shod and to-the-skin shaved head he-brings-forth into the-middle
Huius diu manus deosculatus, et ipsa genua contingens,
of-this-man long the-hands having-kissed and the-very knees touching
'Miserere' ait 'Sacerdos, miserere, per caelestia sidera, per
have-pity he-says priest pity by the-heavenly stars by
inferna numina, per naturalia elementa, per nocturna silentia,
the-infernal gods by the-natural elements by the-nightly silences
et adyta Coptica, et per incrementa Nilotica, et arcana
and the-sanctuaries Coptic and by the-risings Nilotic and the-mysteries
Memphitica, et sistra Phariaca, da brevem solis usuram
Memphitic and the-rattles Pharian give brief of-the-sun the-use
et in aeternum conditis oculis modicam lucem infunde.
and for ever with-closed eyes a-little light pour
Non obnitimur, nec terrae rem suam denegamus, sed
not we-resist nor to-the-earth the-property its-own we-deny but
ad ultionis solacium exiguum vitae spatium deprecamur.'
for of-vengeance comfort a-small of-life space we-beg
"Propheta sic propitiatus herbulam quampiam ob os
the-prophet thus propitiated a-little-herb some-certain before the-mouth
corporis et aliam pectori eius imponit. Tunc orientem
of-the-corpse and another on-the-breast his places then to-the-east
obversus incrementa solis augusti tacitus imprecatus
turned the-increase of-the-sun august silently having-prayed-for
venerabilis scaenae facie studia praesentium ad
of-the-venerable scene by-the-appearance the-zeal of-those-present for
miraculum tantum certatim arrexit.
a-miracle so-great in-rivalry raised
29 "Immitto me turbae socium et pone ipsum lectulum
I-thrust myself into-the-crowd as-companion and behind the-very bier
editiorem quendam lapidem insistens cuncta curiosis oculis
a-higher certain stone standing-on all-things with-curious eyes

arbitrabar: iam tumore pectus extolli, iam salubris
I-watched now with-swelling the-breast to-be-raised now the-health-giving
vena pulsari, iam spiritu corpus impleri; et assurgit
vein to-be-beaten now with-breath the-body to-be-filled and rises
cadaver et profatur adolescens: 'Quid, oro, me post Lethaea
the-corpse and speaks the-young-man why I-pray me after the-Lethaean
pocula iam Stygiis paludibus innatantem ad momentariae
cups already in-the-Stygian marshes swimming to of-momentary
vitae reducitis officia? Desine iam, precor, desine, ac
life do-you-bring-back the-duties cease now I-pray cease and
me in meam quietem permitte.' Haec audita vox de
me into my rest let-go this heard a-voice from
corpore; sed aliquanto propheta commotior 'Quin refers'
the-body but somewhat the-prophet more-roused why-not you-relate
ait 'Populo singula, tuaeque mortis illuminas arcana? An
he-says to-the-people each-thing and-of-your death light-up the-secrets or
non putas devotionibus meis posse Diras invocari,
not do-you-think by-imprecations my to-be-able the-Furies to-be-invoked
posse tibi membra lassa torqueri?' Suscipit ille de lectulo
to-be-able for-you limbs weary to-be-tortured takes-it-up he from the-bier
et imo cum gemitu populum sic adorat: 'Malis
and from-the-depths with a-groan the-people thus addresses by-the-evil
novae nuptae peremptus artibus et addictus noxio
of-my-new bride slain arts and given-over to-a-poisonous
poculo torum tepentem adultero mancipavi.'
cup my-bed warm to-an-adulterer I-made-over
"Tunc uxor egregia capit praesentem audaciam et mente
then the-wife excellent takes-up a-ready audacity and with-mind
sacrilega coarguenti marito resistens altercat. Populus aestuat
sacrilegious to-her-accusing husband resisting quarrels the-people boils
diversa tendentes: hi pessimam feminam viventem statim
different-ways straining these the-worst woman living at-once

cum corpore mariti sepeliendam, alii mendacio cadaveris
with the-body of-her-husband to-be-buried others to-the-lie of-the-corpse
fidem non habendam.
credit not to-be-given

30 "Sed hanc cunctationem sequens adulescentis sermo distinxit;
but this hesitation following of-the-young-man the-speech decided
nam rursus altius ingemescens 'Dabo,' inquit 'Dabo vobis
for again more-deeply groaning I-will-give he-says I-will-give to-you
intemeratae veritatis documenta; perlucide quod prorsus alius
of-unblemished truth proofs most-clearly what utterly other
nemo cognoverit indicabo.' Tunc, digito me demonstrans:
no-one shall-have-known I-shall-reveal then with-finger me pointing-out
'Nam cum corporis mei custos hic sagacissimus exertam mihi
for when of-body my the-guard this most-shrewd strained over-me
teneret vigiliam, cantatrices anus exuviis meis imminentes
kept the-watch enchantress old-women over-remains my threatening
atque ob id reformatae frustra saepius, cum industriam
and on-account-of that changed-in-shape in-vain more-often when the-diligence
sedulam eius fallere nequivissent, postremum, iniecta
attentive his to-deceive they-could-not finally with-thrown-on
somni nebula eoque in profundam quietem sepulto, me
of-sleep a-mist and-with-him into deep rest buried me
nomine ciere non prius desierunt, quam dum hebetes artus
by-name to-call not before ceased than while my-sluggish joints
et membra frigida pigris conatibus ad artis magicae
and limbs cold with-sluggish efforts toward of-the-art magic
nituntur obsequia. Hic utpote vivus quidem sed tum
struggle the-obedience this-one as alive indeed but then
sopore mortuus, quod eodem mecum vocabulo nuncupatur,
by-sleep dead because with-the-same with-me name he-is-called
ad suum nomen ignarus exsurgit et in exanimis umbrae
at his-own name unknowing rises and in of-a-lifeless shade

modum ultroneus gradiens, quamquam foribus cubiculi
the-manner of-his-own-accord walking although with-the-doors of-the-bedroom
diligenter occlusis, per quoddam foramen prosectis naso
carefully closed through a-certain hole with-cut-off the-nose
prius ac mox auribus vicariam pro me lanienam sustentavit:
first and soon the-ears substitute for me the-mangling endured
utque fallaciae reliqua convenissent, ceram in modum
and-so-that of-the-deceit the-rest might-fit wax into the-manner
prosectarum formatam aurium ei applicant examussim
of-the-cut-off shaped ears to-him they-apply exactly
nasoque ipsius similem comparant. Et nunc assistit miser
and-to-the-nose his like they-provide and now stands-by wretched
hic praemium non industriae, sed debilitationis consecutus.'
this-man a-reward not of-diligence but of-mutilation having-gained
His dictis perterritus tentare fortunam aggredior: iniecta
these-things said terrified to-test my-fortune I-set-about with-laid-on
manu nasum prehendo, sequitur; aures pertracto, deruunt.
hand my-nose I-seize it-follows my-ears I-handle they-fall-off
Ac dum directis digitis et detortis nutibus praesentium
and while with-pointed fingers and twisted nods of-those-present
denotor, dum risus ebullit, inter pedes circumstantium
I-am-marked while laughter bubbles-up among the-feet of-those-standing-round
frigido sudore defluens evado. Nec postea debilis ac sic
with-cold sweat dripping I-escape nor afterward maimed and so
ridiculus Lari me patrio reddere potui sed capillis
ridiculous to-household-god me ancestral to-return I-could but with-my-hair
hinc inde laterum deiectis aurium vulnera celavi, nasi vero
hence thence of-the-sides let-down of-the-ears the-wounds I-hid of-the-nose indeed
dedecus linteolo isto pressim agglutinato decenter obtexi."
the-disgrace with-linen-cloth this closely glued decently I-covered

As the drunken guests laugh again and call for the libation to Laughter, Byrrhena tells Lucius of tomorrow's festival of the god of Laughter and asks him to invent something to honor the god. Going home drunk through the dark, Lucius finds three huge men attacking Milo's door, kills them with his sword, and stumbles to bed.

31 Cum primum Thelyphron hanc fabulam posuit, compotores
when first Thelyphron this tale laid-down the-drinking-companions
vino madidi rursum cachinnum integrant. Dumque bibere
with-wine soaked again a-guffaw renew and-while to-drink
solita Risui postulant, sic ad me Byrrhaena: "Solemnis"
the-customary to-Laughter they-demand thus to me Byrrhaena solemn
inquit "Dies a primis cunabulis huius urbis conditus
she-says a-day from the-first cradle of-this city founded
crastinus advenit, quo die soli mortalium sanctissimum deum
tomorrow comes on-which day alone of-mortals the-most-holy god
Risum hilaro atque gaudiali ritu propitiamus. Hunc tua
Laughter with-cheerful and joyful rite we-propitiate this-day by-your
praesentia nobis efficies gratiorem; atque utinam aliquid
presence for-us you-will-make more-pleasing and would-that something
de proprio lepore laetificum honorando deo comminiscaris,
from your-own wit gladdening for-the-to-be-honored god you-might-devise
quo magis pleniusque tanto numini litemus." "Bene"
by-which more and-more-fully so-great a-divinity we-may-propitiate good
inquam "Et fiet ut iubes. Et vellem Hercule materiam
I-say and it-will-be-done as you-bid and I-should-wish by-Hercules material
repperire aliquam, quam deus tantus affluenter indueret." Post
to-find some which the-god so-great abundantly might-put-on after
haec monitu famuli mei, qui noctis admonebat, iam
this at-the-warning of-servant my who of-the-night reminded already

et ipse crapula distentus, protinus exsurgo et appellata
and myself with-surfeit distended at-once I-rise and with-addressed
prospere Byrrhaena titubante vestigio domuitionem capesso.
prosperously Byrrhaena with-staggering step the-way-home I-take
Sed cum primam plateam invadimus, vento repentino 32
but when the-first street we-enter by-a-wind sudden
lumen, quo nitebamur, extinguitur, ut vix improvidae
the-light by-which we-were-relying is-extinguished so-that scarcely of-the-unforeseen
noctis caligine liberati, digitis pedum detunsis ob lapides,
night from-the-darkness freed with-toes of-the-feet bruised on stones
hospitium defessi rediremus, dumque iam iunctim proximamus,
to-the-lodging exhausted we-returned and-while now together we-approach
ecce tres quidam vegetes et vastulis corporibus fores nostras
behold three certain lusty and with-bulking bodies doors our
ex summis viribus irruentes ac ne praesentia quidem nostra
with utmost strength rushing-at and not by-the-presence even our
tantillum conterriti, sed magis cum aemulatione virium
in-the-least frightened but more with emulation of-strength
crebrius insultantes, ut nobis ac mihi potissimum non
more-frequently assailing so-that to-us and to-me most not
immerito latrones esse, et quidem saevissimi, viderentur.
undeservedly robbers to-be and indeed the-most-savage they-seemed
Statim denique gladium, quem veste mea contectum
at-once in-short the-sword which in-clothing my covered
ad hos usus extuleram, sinu liberatum arripio, nec
for these uses I-had-carried-out from-my-bosom freed I-seize nor
cunctatus medios latrones involo ac singulis, ut quemque
hesitating into-the-middle-of the-robbers I-fly and each as each
colluctantem offenderam, altissime demergo, quoad tandem
wrestling I-had-met most-deeply I-plunge until at-last
ante ipsa vestigia mea vastis et crebris perforati vulneribus
before the-very feet my with-vast and frequent pierced wounds

spiritus efflaverint. Sic proeliatus, iam tumultu eo Fotide
their-breath they-breathed-out thus having-battled now by-the-tumult that with-Fotis
suscitata, patefactis aedibus anhelans et sudore perlutus
aroused with-opened doors panting and with-sweat drenched
irrepo, meque statim utpote pugna trium latronum in vicem
I-creep-in and-myself at-once as by-a-fight of-three robbers in place
Geryoneae caedis fatigatum, lecto simul et somno tradidi.
of-the-Geryonean slaughter wearied to-bed at-once and to-sleep I-gave

BOOK III

XIV · THE TRIAL

At dawn Lucius is arrested and led through a laughing crowd to the theater, where the city sits as a court. The captain of the night watch accuses him of murdering three citizens, and Lucius, weeping, begins his defense: he bears the charge not by his own fault but by a chance outcome of righteous anger.

Commodum punicantibus phaleris Aurora roseum quatiens 1
just with-crimson trappings Aurora her-rosy shaking
lacertum caelum inequitabat et me securae quieti revulsum
arm the-sky was-riding-over and me from-carefree rest torn-away
nox diei reddidit. Aestus invadit animum vesperni
the-night to-the-day returned a-fever assails my-mind at-the-evening's
recordatione facinoris; complicitis denique pedibus ac palmulis
recollection of-the-crime folded in-short my-feet and little-palms
in alternas digitorum vicissitudines super genua connexis
in alternate of-the-fingers interlockings over my-knees joined
sic grabatum cossim insidens ubertim flebam, iam forum
thus on-the-bed squatting sitting abundantly I-wept now the-forum
et iudicia, iam sententiam, ipsum denique carnificem
and the-courts now the-sentence the-very finally executioner
imaginabundus. "An mihi quisquam tam mitis tamque
imagining or for-me anyone so mild and-so
benivolus iudex obtinget, qui me trinae caedis cruore
kind a-judge will-fall-to who me of-triple slaughter with-the-gore
perlitum et tot civium sanguine delibutum innocentem
smeared and with-so-many citizens' blood drenched innocent
pronuntiare poterit? Hanc illam mihi gloriosam peregrinationem
to-pronounce will-be-able this that to-me glorious journey
fore Chaldaeus Diophanes obstinate praedicabat."
to-be the-Chaldaean Diophanes obstinately foretold

2 Haec identidem mecum replicans fortunas meas eiulabam:
these-things repeatedly with-myself turning-over fortunes my I-was-wailing
quati fores interdum et frequenti clamore ianuae nostrae
were-shaken the-doors meanwhile and with-frequent shouting the-gate our
perstrepi; nec mora, cum magna irruptione patefactis aedibus
resounded nor delay when with-a-great irruption with-opened house
magistratibus eorumque ministris et turbae miscellaneae
by-magistrates and-their attendants and by-a-crowd motley
cuncta completa statimque lictores duo de iussu magistratuum
all-places filled and-at-once lictors two by order of-the-magistrates
immissa manu trahere me sane non renitentem occipiunt.
with-laid-on hand to-drag me truly not resisting begin
Ac dum primum angiportum insistimus, statim civitas omnis
and while the-first alley we-tread at-once the-city whole
in publicum effusa mira densitate nos insequitur, et
into the-public poured-out with-wonderful density us follows and
quamquam capite in terram, immo ad ipsos inferos iam
although with-head onto the-ground nay to the-very underworld now
deiecto maestus incederem, obliquato tamen aspectu rem
cast-down sad I-advanced with-sidelong still look a-thing
admirationis maximae conspicio; nam inter tot milia
of-astonishment the-greatest I-see for among so-many thousands
populi circumstrepentis nemo prorsum, qui non risu
of-the-people roaring-round no-one at-all who not with-laughter
dirumperetur, aderat. Tandem pererratis plateis omnibus
was-bursting was-present at-last with-traversed streets all
et in modum eorum, quibus lustralibus piamentis minas
and in the-manner of-those for-whom with-lustral expiations the-threats
portentorum hostiis circumforaneis expiant, circumductus
of-portents with-victims carried-around they-atone led-round
angulatim forum eiusque tribunal astituor: iamque
corner-by-corner the-forum and-its tribunal I-am-stationed-at and-now

sublimo suggestu magistratibus residentibus, iam praecone
on-a-lofty platform with-the-magistrates sitting now with-the-crier
publico silentium clamante, repente cuncti consona voce
public silence shouting suddenly all with-harmonious voice
flagitant, propter coetus multitudinem, quae pressurae
demand on-account-of of-the-assembly the-multitude which of-the-crush
nimia densitate periclitaretur, iudicium tantum theatro
with-excessive density was-endangered the-trial so-great to-the-theater
redderetur. Nec mora, cum passim populus procurrens
be-transferred nor delay when everywhere the-people running-forward
caveae consaeptum mira celeritate complevit: aditus
of-the-seating the-enclosure with-wonderful speed filled the-entrances
etiam et tectum omne fartim stipaverant; plerique columnis
also and the-roof all crammed had-packed many on-columns
implexi, alii statuis dependuli, nonnulli per fenestras et
twined others on-statues hanging some through windows and
lacunaria semiconspicui, miro tamen omnes studio visendi
ceiling-panels half-seen with-wonderful still all zeal of-seeing
pericula salutis neglegebant. Tunc me per proscaenium
the-dangers of-safety neglected then me through the-proscenium
medium velut quandam victimam publica ministeria producunt
middle like some victim the-public attendants lead-forth
et orchestrae mediae sistunt.
and in-the-orchestra's middle set
Sic rursum praeconis amplo boatu citatus accusator quidam 3
thus again by-the-crier's ample bellowing summoned an-accuser a-certain
senior exsurgit, et ad dicendi spatium vasculo quodam
elderly rises and for of-speaking the-space with-a-vessel a-certain
in vicem coli graciliter fistulato ac per hoc guttatim
in place of-a-strainer narrowly piped and through this drop-by-drop
defluo infusa aqua, populum sic adorat: "Neque parva
flowing-down with-poured-in water the-people thus addresses neither a-small

res ac praecipue pacem civitatis cunctae respiciens et exemplo
matter and especially the-peace of-the-city whole regarding and by-example
serio profutura tractatur, Quirites sanctissimi. Quare magis
serious going-to-profit is-treated citizens most-revered wherefore more
congruit sedulo singulos atque universos vos pro dignitate
it-befits diligently each and all you for the-dignity
publica providere, ne nefarius homicida tot caedium
public to-provide lest the-wicked murderer of-so-many slaughters
lanienam, quam cruenter exercuit, impune commiserit. Nec
the-butchery which bloodily he-practiced unpunished may-have-committed nor
me putetis privatis simultatibus instinctum odio proprio
me think by-private feuds driven with-hatred personal
saevire: sum namque nocturnae custodiae praefectus, nec in
to-rage I-am for of-the-night watch the-commander nor to
hodiernum credo quemquam pervigilem diligentiam meam
today I-believe anyone wakeful diligence my
culpare posse. Rem denique ipsam et quae nocte gesta
to-blame to-be-able the-matter in-short itself and what in-the-night done
sunt, cum fide proferam: nam cum fere iam tertia
were with good-faith I-shall-bring-forward for when about now the-third
vigilia scrupulosa diligentia cunctae civitatis ostiatim singula
watch with-scrupulous diligence of-the-whole city door-by-door each-thing
considerans circumirem, conspicio istum crudelissimum iuvenem
examining I-went-round I-see this most-cruel young-man
mucrone destricto passim caedibus operantem, iamque tres
with-sword drawn everywhere in-slaughters busy and-already three
numero saevitia eius interemptos ante pedes ipsius spirantibus
in-number by-savagery his slain before the-feet his-own with-breathing
adhuc corporibus in multo sanguine palpitantes. Et ipse
still bodies in much blood quivering and he-himself
quidem conscientia tanti facinoris merito permotus statim
indeed by-consciousness of-so-great a-crime deservedly moved at-once

profugit et in domum quandam praesidio tenebrarum
fled and into a-house a-certain by-the-protection of-darkness
elapsus perpetem noctem delituit; sed providentia deum,
slipped the-whole night hid but by-the-providence of-the-gods
quae nihil impunitum nocentibus permittit, priusquam
which nothing unpunished to-the-guilty allows before
iste clandestinis itineribus elaberetur, mane praestolatus
he by-secret ways could-slip-away in-the-morning having-waited
ad gravissimum iudicii vestri sacramentum eum curavi
for the-most-solemn of-judgment your oath him I-took-care
perducere. Habetis itaque reum tot caedibus impiatum,
to-lead you-have and-so a-defendant with-so-many slaughters defiled
reum coram deprensum, reum peregrinum: constanter
a-defendant in-person caught a-defendant a-stranger resolutely
itaque in hominem alienum ferte sententias de eo
and-so against a-man foreign bring votes about that
crimine, quod etiam in vestrum civem severiter vindicaretis."
crime which even against your citizen severely you-would-punish
Sic profatus accusator acerrimus immanem vocem repressit, 4
thus having-spoken the-accuser most-fierce his-monstrous voice checked
ac me statim praeco, si quid ad ea respondere vellem,
and me at-once the-crier if anything to those-things to-answer I-wished
iubebat incipere. At ego nihil tunc temporis amplius quam
bade to-begin but I nothing then of-time more than
flere poteram, non tam Hercule truculentam accusationem
to-weep could not so-much by-Hercules the-truculent accusation
intuens quam meam miseram conscientiam; sed tamen oborta
regarding as my wretched conscience but still arisen
divinitus audacia sic ad illa: "Nec ipse ignoro, quam
divinely with-audacity thus to that nor myself I-am-unaware how
sit arduum, trinis civium corporibus expositis eum qui
it-is hard with-three of-citizens bodies exposed for-him who

caedis arguatur, quamvis vera dicat et de facto
of-slaughter is-accused although true-things he-speak and about the-deed
confiteatur ultro, tamen tantae multitudini, quod sit
he-confess willingly still to-so-great a-multitude that he-is
innocens, persuadere. Sed si paulisper audientiam publica mihi
innocent to-persuade but if for-a-little a-hearing public to-me
tribuerit humanitas, facile vos edocebo me discrimen
shall-have-granted humanity easily you I-shall-teach that-I the-peril
capitis non meo merito, sed rationabilis indignationis
of-my-life not by-my desert but of-reasonable indignation
eventu fortuito tantam criminis invidiam frustra sustinere."
by-the-outcome accidental such of-the-charge odium in-vain to-bear

XV · THE BODIES UNCOVERED

Lucius pleads that he killed three robbers in defense of Milo's house, but sees the whole theater, Milo too, laughing at him. A widow with a baby and an old woman clamor for punishment, and Lucius is ordered to uncover the bodies laid under a cloth. He resists, then draws it back: the three are inflated wineskins, slashed where he struck them.

5 "Nam cum a cena me serius aliquanto reciperem
for when from dinner myself rather-late somewhat I-was-taking-back
potulentus alioquin, quod plane verum crimen meum non
tipsy besides which plainly a-true charge my not
diffitebor, ante ipsas fores hospitii (ad bonum autem
I-shall-deny before the-very doors of-my-lodging to good however
Milonem civem vestrum devorto) video quosdam saevissimos
Milo citizen your I-turn-aside I-see certain most-savage
latrones aditum temptantes et domus ianuas cardinibus
robbers entry attempting and of-the-house the-doors with-hinges

obtortis evellere gestientes claustrisque omnibus, quae
twisted to-tear-out eager and-with-bars all which
accuratissime affixa fuerant, violenter evulsis secum iam
most-carefully fastened had-been violently torn-out among-themselves already
de inhabitantium exitio deliberantes. Unus denique et
about of-the-inhabitants the-destruction deliberating one in-short both
manu promptior et corpore vastior his affatibus et ceteros
in-hand readier and in-body huger with-these addresses and the-rest
incitabat: 'Heus pueri, quam maribus animis et viribus
he-roused hey boys with-what manly spirits and strength
alacribus dormientes aggrediamur. Omnis cunctatio, ignavia
eager the-sleepers let-us-attack all hesitation cowardice
omnis facessat e pectore; stricto mucrone per totam
all let-it-depart from the-breast with-drawn sword through the-whole
domum caedes ambulet: qui sopitus iacebit, trucidetur;
house let-slaughter walk who asleep shall-lie let-him-be-butchered
qui repugnare temptaverit, feriatur. Sic salvi recedemus,
who to-resist shall-have-tried let-him-be-struck thus safe we-shall-withdraw
si salvum in domo neminem reliquerimus.' Fateor, Quirites,
if safe in the-house no-one we-shall-have-left I-confess citizens
extremos latrones (boni civis officium arbitratus, simul et
the-utmost robbers of-a-good citizen the-duty thinking at-once and
eximie metuens et hospitibus meis et mihi) gladiolo,
exceedingly fearing both for-hosts my and for-myself with-the-little-sword
qui me propter huiusmodi pericula comitabatur, armatus
which me on-account-of of-this-kind dangers accompanied armed
fugare atque proterrere eos aggressus sum: at illi barbari
to-put-to-flight and to-scare them set-about I-have but they barbarous
prorsus et immanes homines neque fugam capessunt et,
utterly and monstrous men neither flight take and
cum me viderent in ferro, tamen audaciter resistunt."
when me they-saw in steel still boldly resist

6 “Dirigitur proeliaris acies: ipse denique dux et signifer
is-drawn-up the-battle line himself in-short the-leader and standard-bearer
ceterorum validis me viribus aggressus illico manibus
of-the-rest with-strong me forces having-attacked at-once with-hands
ambabus capillo arreptum ac retro reflexum effligere
both by-the-hair seized and backward bent to-dash-out
lapide gestit; quem dum sibi porrigi flagitat, certa
with-a-stone is-eager which while to-himself to-be-handed he-demands with-sure
manu percussum feliciter prosterno. Ac mox alium pedibus
hand struck happily I-lay-low and soon another at-feet
meis mordicus inhaerentem per scapulas ictu
my with-his-teeth clinging through the-shoulder-blades with-a-blow
temperato, tertiumque improvide occurrentem pectore offenso
measured and-a-third rashly running-at-me in-the-breast struck
peremo. Sic pace vindicata, domoque hospitum ac salute
I-kill thus with-peace vindicated and-with-house of-my-hosts and with-safety
communi protecta, non tantum impunem me, verum etiam
common protected not only unpunished myself but also
laudabilem publice credebam fore, qui ne tantillo quidem
praiseworthy publicly I-believed to-be who not by-the-tiniest even
umquam crimine postulatus, sed probe spectatus apud
ever charge accused but well tried among
meos, semper innocentiam commodis cunctis antetuleram.
my-own always innocence to-advantages all had-preferred
Nec possum repperire cur iustae ultionis, qua contra
nor I-can to-find why for-just vengeance by-which against
latrones deterrimos commotus sum, nunc istum reatum
robbers most-worthless moved I-was now this charge
sustineam, cum nemo possit monstrare vel proprias inter
I-should-bear when no-one can to-show either personal between
nos inimicitias praecessisse ac ne omnino mihi notos illos
us enmities to-have-preceded and not at-all to-me known those

latrones usquam fuisse; vel certe ulla praeda monstretur,
robbers anywhere to-have-been or surely any booty be-shown
cuius cupidine tantum flagitium credatur admissum."
whose by-desire such a-crime may-be-believed committed
Haec profatus rursum lacrimis obortis, porrectisque in 7
these-things having-spoken again with-tears arisen and-stretched-out in
preces manibus, per publicam misericordiam, per pignorum
prayers hands by public pity by of-pledges
caritatem maestus tunc hos, tunc illos deprecabar. Cumque
the-love sad now these now those I-entreated and-when
iam humanitate commotos misericordia fletuum affectos omnes
now by-humanity moved by-pity of-tears affected all
satis crederem, solis et Iustitiae testatus oculum
enough I-believed of-the-sun and of-Justice having-called-to-witness the-eye
casumque praesentem meum commendans deum providentiae,
and-misfortune present my commending to-the-gods' providence
paulo altius aspectu relato conspicio prorsus totum
a-little higher with-my-look brought-back I-see utterly the-whole
populum (risu cachinnabili diffluebant) nec secus illum
people with-laughter guffawing they-were-dissolving nor otherwise that
bonum hospitem parentemque meum Milonem risu maximo
good host and-parent my Milo in-laughter greatest
dissolutum. At tunc sic tacitus mecum "En fides" inquam "En
dissolved but then thus silent with-myself behold good-faith I-say behold
conscientia: ego quidem pro hospitis salute et homicida sum
conscience I indeed for of-my-host the-safety both a-murderer am
et reus capitis inducor, at ille non contentus quod mihi nec
and accused of-life I-am-brought but he not content that to-me not-even
assistendi solacium perhibuit, insuper exitium meum cachinnat."
of-standing-by the-comfort he-has-given besides destruction my laughs-at

8 Inter haec quaedam mulier per medium theatrum
among these-things a-certain woman through the-middle-of the-theater
lacrimosa et flebilis, atra veste contecta, parvulum quendam
tearful and weeping in-black garment covered a-little-one a-certain
sinu tolerans decurrit, ac pone eam anus alia pannis
in-her-bosom carrying runs-down and behind her an-old-woman another with-rags
horridis obsita paribusque maesta fletibus, ramos oleagineos
rough covered and-with-equal sad tears branches of-olive
utraeque quatientes, quae circum fusae lectulum, quo
both shaking who around poured the-bier on-which
peremptorum cadavera contecta fuerant, plangore sublato
of-the-slain the-corpses covered had-been with-lamentation raised
se lugubriter eiulantes, "Per publicam misericordiam,
themselves mournfully wailing by public pity
per commune ius humanitatis" aiunt "Miseremini indigne
by the-common law of-humanity they-say pity the-unworthily
caesorum iuvenum nostraeque viduitati ac solitudini de vindicta
slain young-men and-to-our widowhood and solitude from vengeance
solacium date. Certe parvuli huius in primis annis destituti
comfort give certainly of-little-one this in his-first years left-destitute
fortunis succurrite et de latronis huius sanguine legibus
fortunes help and with of-robber this the-blood to-laws
vestris et disciplinae publicae litate." Post haec magistratus
your and to-discipline public make-atonement after this the-magistrate
qui natu maior assurgit et ad populum talia: "De scelere
who in-birth older rises and to the-people such-words about the-crime
quidem, quod serio vindicandum est, nec ipse qui
indeed which seriously to-be-punished is not-even he-himself who
commisit potest diffiteri, sed una tantum subseciva sollicitudo
committed-it can to-deny but one only spare anxiety
nobis relicta est, ut ceteros socios tanti facinoris requiramus:
to-us left is that the-other accomplices of-so-great a-deed we-seek-out

nec enim verisimile est hominem solitarium tres tam validos
nor for likely is a-man solitary three so strong
enecasse iuvenes. Prohinc tormentis veritas eruenda, nam et
to-have-killed young-men therefore by-tortures the-truth to-be-dug-out for also
qui comitabatur eum puer clanculo profugit, et res ad
he-who accompanied him a-boy secretly fled and the-matter to
hoc deducta est, ut per quaestionem sceleris sui participes
this brought is that through torture of-crime his the-sharers
indicet, ut tam dirae factionis funditus formido perematur."
he-may-reveal so-that of-so dire a-faction from-the-roots the-fear may-be-destroyed
Nec mora, cum ritu Graeciensi ignis et rota, tum omne 9
nor delay when by-rite Greek fire and wheel then every
flagrorum genus inferuntur. Augetur oppido, immo duplicatur
of-scourges kind are-brought-in is-increased very-much nay is-doubled
mihi maestitia quod integro saltem mori non licuerit. Sed
for-me sorrow that unharmed at-least to-die not was-allowed but
anus illa, quae fletibus cuncta turbaverat, "Prius" inquit
old-woman that who with-weeping all-things had-confused before she-says
"Optimi cives, quam latronem istum miserorum pignorum
best citizens than robber that of-wretched pledges
meorum peremptorem cruci affigatis, permittite corpora
my the-slayer to-a-cross you-fix allow the-bodies
necatorum revelari, ut et formae simul et aetatis
of-the-slain to-be-uncovered so-that both of-form at-once and of-age
contemplatione magis magisque ad iustam indignationem
by-the-contemplation more and-more to just indignation
arrecti pro modo facinoris saeviatis." His dictis
roused in-proportion-to the-measure of-the-crime you-may-rage these words-said
applauditur, et illico me magistratus ipsum iubet corpora, quae
is-applauded and at-once me the-magistrate myself orders the-bodies which
lectulo fuerant posita, mea manu detegere. Luctantem me ac
on-the-bier had-been placed with-my hand to-uncover struggling me and

diu renuentem praecedens facinus instaurare nova ostensione
long refusing the-preceding crime to-renew by-a-new showing
lictores iussu magistratuum quam instantissime compellunt,
the-lictors by-order of-the-magistrates as most-urgently compel
manum denique ipsam e regione lateris tundentes in
my-hand in-short itself from opposite my-side beating to
exitium suum super ipsa cadavera porrigunt. Evictus tandem
destruction its-own over the-very corpses they-stretch-out overcome at-last
necessitate succumbo, et ingratis licet arrepto pallio retexi
by-necessity I-yield and unwillingly though with-seized cloak I-uncovered
corpora. Di boni, quae facies rei! Quod monstrum! Quae
the-bodies gods good what appearance of-the-thing what portent what
fortunarum mearum repentina mutatio! Quamquam enim iam
of-fortunes my sudden change although for already
in peculio Proserpinae et Orci familia numeratus, subito
in the-property of-Proserpina and of-Orcus the-household counted suddenly
in contrariam faciem obstupefactus haesi nec possum novae
into the-contrary appearance stupefied I-stuck nor I-can of-new
illius imaginis rationem idoneis verbis expedire: nam cadavera
that image the-reason with-suitable words to-set-out for corpses
illa iugulatorum hominum erant tres utres inflati variisque
those of-murdered men were three wineskins inflated and-with-various
secti foraminibus et, ut vespertinum proelium meum recordabar,
cut holes and as evening battle my I-recalled
his locis hiantes, quibus latrones illos vulneraveram.
in-those places gaping in-which robbers those I-had-wounded

The theater empties in laughter while Lucius stands frozen like a statue, and Milo leads him home by back streets. There the magistrates reveal that the trial was the yearly festival of the god of Laughter and offer him honors and a bronze statue. He declines the statue with thanks.

Tunc ille quorundam astu paulisper cohibitus risus
then that of-certain-people by-the-cunning for-a-little restrained laughter
libere iam exarsit in plebem: hi gaudii nimietate gratulari,
freely now blazed-out among the-people these from-joy's excess rejoiced
illi dolorem ventris manuum compressione sedare, et
those the-pain of-the-belly by-the-pressing of-hands soothed and
certe laetitia delibuti meque respectantes cuncti theatro
certainly with-gladness drenched and-me looking-back-at all from-the-theater
facessunt. At ego, ut primum illam laciniam prenderam, fixus
depart but I as soon-as that cloak I-had-grasped fixed
in lapidem steti gelidus, nihil secus quam una de ceteris
into stone stood cold nothing otherwise than one of the-other
theatri statuis vel columnis: nec prius ab inferis
of-the-theater statues or columns nor before from the-underworld
emersi quam Milo hospes accessit et iniecta manu
I-emerged than Milo my-host approached and with-thrown-on hand
me renitentem lacrimisque rursum promicantibus crebra
me resisting and-with-tears again breaking-out frequently
singultientem clementi violentia secum attraxit et observatis
sobbing with-gentle violence with-himself dragged and with-observed
viae solitudinibus per quosdam anfractus domum suam
of-the-road the-solitudes through certain windings to-house his
perduxit, maestumque me atque etiam tunc trepidum variis
led and-sad me and even then trembling with-various

solatur affatibus; nec tamen indignationem iniuriae, quae
consoles addresses nor still the-indignation at-the-wrong which
inhaeserat altius meo pectori, ullo modo permulcere quivit.
had-stuck deeper in-my breast in-any way to-soothe could
11 Ecce illico etiam ipsi magistratus cum suis insignibus domum
behold at-once even the-very magistrates with their insignia house
nostram ingressi talibus me monitis delenire gestiunt: "Neque
our having-entered with-such me admonitions to-soothe are-eager neither
tuae dignitatis vel etiam prosapiae tuorum ignari sumus,
of-your rank or even of-the-lineage of-your-family ignorant we-are
Luci domine; nam et provinciam totam inclitae vestrae
Lucius sir for both the-province whole of-the-renowned your
familiae nobilitas complectitur. Ac ne istud quod vehementer
family the-nobility embraces and not that which vehemently
ingemescis contumeliae causa perpessus es: omnem itaque
you-groan-at of-insult for-the-sake suffered you-have all and-so
de tuo pectore praesentem tristitudinem mitte, et angorem
from your breast present sadness put-away and the-anguish
animi depelle, nam lusus iste quem publice gratissimo deo
of-mind drive-off for sport this which publicly to-the-most-gracious god
Risui per annua reverticula sollemniter celebramus, semper
Laughter by annual returns solemnly we-celebrate always
commenti novitate florescit: iste deus et auctorem suum
by-the-invention's novelty flourishes this god and author his
propitius ubique comitabitur amanter nec unquam patietur ut
favorable everywhere will-accompany lovingly nor ever will-allow that
ex animo doleas, sed frontem tuam serena venustate laetabit
from your-heart you-grieve but forehead your with-serene charm will-gladden
assidue. At tibi civitas omnis pro ista gratia honores egregios
constantly but to-you the-city whole for that favor honors outstanding
obtulit; nam et patronum scripsit et ut in aere stet
has-offered for both its-patron has-enrolled-you and that in bronze may-stand

imago tua decrevit." Ad haec dicta sermonis vicem refero:
image your has-decreed to these words of-speech the-turn I-return
"Tibi quidem" inquam "Splendidissima et unica Thessaliae
to-you indeed I-say most-splendid and unique of-Thessaly
civitas, honorum talium parem gratiam memini. Verum statuas
city for-honors such equal gratitude I-hold but statues
et imagines dignioribus meique maioribus reservare suadeo."
and images for-the-worthier and-my elders to-reserve I-advise

XVII · FOTIS CONFESSES

Lucius declines Byrrhena's invitation and goes with Milo to the baths, shamed by the crowd. That night Lucius, sure she never meant him harm, asks Fotis how the joke came about, and she confesses that it was her fault. Pamphile, in love with a young Boeotian, sent her for his hair from the barber's, but she was caught and brought back goat's hair instead, so that the wineskins came to life at Pamphile's spell and knocked at the door. She teases him as a slayer of wineskins.

Sic pudenter allocutus et paulisper hilaro vultu 12
thus modestly having-addressed-them and a-little with-cheerful face
renidens, quantumque poteram laetiorem me refingens,
beaming and-as-much-as I-could more-cheerful myself refashioning
comiter abeuntes magistratus appello.
genially the-departing magistrates I-greet
Et ecce quidam intro currens famulus "Rogat te" ait "Tua
and behold a-certain inside running servant asks-for you he-says your
parens Byrrhaena et convivii, cui te sero desponderas,
parent Byrrhaena and of-the-banquet to-which yourself late you-had-pledged
iam appropinquantis admonet." Ad haec ego formidans et
now approaching reminds to this I dreading and
procul perhorrescens etiam ipsam domum eius, "Quam
from-afar shuddering-at even the-very house her how

vellem" inquam "Parens, iussis tuis obsequium commodare,
I-would-wish I-say parent to-commands your obedience to-lend
si per fidem liceret id facere: hospes enim meus Milo
if by good-faith it-were-allowed that to-do my-host for my Milo
per hodierni diei praesentissimum numen adiurans effecit,
by of-today's day the-most-present divinity swearing brought-it-about
ut eius hodiernae cenae pignerarer, nec ipse discedit nec
that to-his today's dinner I-was-pledged nor he-himself departs nor
me digredi patitur. Prohinc epulare vadimonium differamus."
me to-go-away allows therefore the-feast's appointment let-us-postpone
Haec adhuc me loquente manu firmiter iniecta Milo
this still with-me speaking with-hand firmly laid-on Milo
iussis balneariibus assequi producit ad lavacrum proximum:
with-ordered the-bath-things to-follow leads-me to the-bath nearest
at ego vitans oculos omnium et quem ipse fabricaveram
but I avoiding the-eyes of-all and which I-myself had-fabricated
risum obviorum declinans lateri eius adambulabam obtectus,
the-laughter of-those-I-met declining at-side his I-walked hidden
nec qui laverim, qui terserim, qui domum rursum reverterim
nor how I-washed how I-dried how home again I-returned
prae rubore memini, sic omnium oculis nutibus ac denique
for blushing I-remember thus by-all's eyes nods and finally
manibus denotatus impos animi stupebam.
hands pointed-out not-master of-mind I-was-stupefied
13 Raptim denique paupertina Milonis cenula perfunctus,
hastily finally with-poor of-Milo little-dinner having-finished
causatusque capitis acrem dolorem, quem mihi lacrimarum
and-pleading of-my-head an-acute pain which in-me of-tears
assiduitas incusserat, concedo cubitum venia facile tributa,
the-constancy had-struck I-go to-bed with-leave easily granted
et abiectus in lectulo meo quae gesta fuerant singula maestus
and thrown on little-bed my what done had-been each-thing sadly

recordabar, quoad tandem Fotis mea, dominae suae cubitu
I-was-recalling until at-last Fotis my of-mistress her with-bedtime
procurato, sui longe dissimilis advenit: non enim laeta
seen-to herself far unlike arrives not for with-glad
facie nec sermone dicaculo, sed vultuosam frontem rugis
face nor with-talk witty but a-frowning forehead with-wrinkles
insurgentibus asseverabat. Cunctanter ac timide denique
rising she-maintained hesitantly and timidly finally
sermone prolato, "Ego" inquit "Ipsa confiteor ultro,
with-speech brought-forth I she-says myself I-confess of-my-own-accord
ego tibi huius molestiae fui," et cum dicto lorum
I to-you of-this vexation was-the-cause and with the-word a-strap
quempiam sinu suo depromit mihique porrigens, "Cape,"
some-certain from-bosom her she-brings-out and-to-me holding-it-out take
inquit "Oro te, et de perfida muliere vindictam, immo vero
she-says I-beg you and on the-treacherous woman vengeance nay indeed
licet maius quodvis supplicium sume. Nec tamen me putes,
though greater any-you-like punishment take nor still me think
oro, sponte angorem istum tibi concinnasse: di mihi
I-beg of-my-own-accord anguish that for-you to-have-contrived the-gods for-me
melius, quam ut mei causa vel tantillum scrupulum patiare,
better than that for-my sake even the-smallest pebble you-should-suffer
ac si quid adversi tuum caput respicit, id omne protinus
and if anything adverse your head regards that all at-once
meo luatur sanguine. Sed quod alterius rei causa facere
with-my let-it-be-atoned blood but what of-another thing for-the-sake to-do
iussa sum, mala quadam mea sorte in tuam recidit iniuriam."
ordered I-was by-some evil my lot onto your fell injury
Tunc ego familiaris curiositatis admonitus factique causam 14
then I by-familiar curiosity reminded and-of-the-deed the-cause
delitescentem nudari gestiens suscipio: "Omnium quidem
lying-hidden to-be-laid-bare eager I-reply of-all indeed

nequissimus audacissimusque lorus iste, quem tibi verberandae
the-most-worthless and-most-audacious strap this which for-you to-be-beaten
destinasti, prius a me concisus atque laceratus interibit
you-have-appointed sooner by me cut-up and lacerated will-perish
ipse quam tuam plumeam lacteamque contingat cutem. Sed
itself than your feathery and-milky it-touch skin but
mihi cum fide memora, quod tuum factum fati scaevitas
to-me with good-faith tell what your deed of-fate the-perversity
consecuta in meum convertit exitium. Adiuro enim tuum
following into my turned destruction I-swear-by for your
mihi carissimum caput, nulli me prorsus ac ne tibi
to-me dearest head to-no-one myself at-all and not to-you
quidem ipsi asseveranti posse credere, quod tu quicquam
even yourself asserting-it to-be-able to-believe that you anything
in meam cogitaveris perniciem: porro meditatus innoxios
against my have-planned ruin moreover intentions harmless
casus incertus vel etiam adversus culpae non potest addicere."
chance uncertain or even adverse to-guilt not can to-assign
Cum isto fine sermonis oculos Fotidis meae udos ac tremulos
with that end of-speech the-eyes of-Fotis my moist and trembling
et prona libidine marcidos iam iamque semiadopertulos
and by-bent-forward lust languid now now half-closed
adnixis et sorbillantibus saviis sitienter hauriebam.
with-pressed-on and sipping kisses thirstily I-drank-in
15 Sic illa laetitia recreata "Patere" inquit "Oro, prius fores
thus she with-gladness revived allow she-says I-beg first the-doors
cubiculi diligenter occludam, ne sermonis elapsi profana
of-the-bedroom carefully I-may-shut lest of-talk escaped by-the-profane
petulantia committam grande flagitium"; et cum dicto
wantonness I-commit a-great outrage and with the-word
pessulis iniectis et uncino firmiter immisso, sic ad me
with-bolts thrust-in and with-the-hook firmly let-down thus to me

reversa colloque meo manibus ambabus implexa voce
returned and-to-neck my with-hands both entwined with-voice
tenui et admodum diminuta, “Paveo” inquit “Et formido
thin and quite diminished I-dread she-says and I-fear
solide domus huius operta detegere et arcana dominae
thoroughly of-house this the-hidden-things to-uncover and the-secrets of-mistress
meae revelare secreta: sed melius de te doctrinaque tua
my to-reveal the-hidden-things but better of you and-learning your
praesumo, qui praeter generosam natalium dignitatem, praeter
I-presume who besides noble of-birth the-dignity besides
sublime ingenium, sacris pluribus initiatus profecto nosti
lofty talent into-rites many initiated surely you-know
sanctam silentii fidem. Quaecumque itaque commisero
the-holy of-silence faith whatever-things and-so I-shall-have-entrusted
huius religiosi pectoris tui penetralibus, semper haec intra
of-this religious breast your in-the-inner-chambers always these within
consaeptum clausa custodias oro, et simplicitatem relationis
the-enclosure shut keep I-beg and the-simplicity of-telling
meae tenacitate taciturnitatis tuae remunerare. Nam me, quae
my with-the-tenacity of-silence your repay for me who
sola mortalium novi, amor is, quo tibi teneor, indicare
alone of-mortals know the-love which by-which to-you I-am-held to-reveal
compellit; iam scies omnem domus nostrae statum, iam
compels now you-will-know all of-house our the-state now
scies herae meae miranda secreta, quibus obaudiunt
you-will-know of-mistress my the-wonderful secrets to-which obey
manes, turbantur sidera, coguntur numina, serviunt elementa.
the-shades are-disturbed the-stars are-compelled the-gods serve the-elements

Nec unquam magis artis huius violentia nititur, quam cum
nor ever more of-art this the-violence strains than when
scitulae formulae iuvenem quempiam libenter aspexit,
of-pretty form a-young-man some-certain gladly she-has-looked-at
quod quidem ei solet crebriter evenire.
which indeed to-her is-wont frequently to-happen
16 Nunc etiam adolescentem quendam Boeotium summe decorum
now also a-young-man certain Boeotian supremely handsome
efflictim deperit totasque artis manus, machinas omnes
to-distraction she-is-dying-for and-all of-her-art's forces engines all
ardenter exercet: audivi vesperi, meis his, inquam, auribus
ardently she-exercises I-heard in-the-evening with-my these I-say ears
audivi, quod non celerius sol caelo ruisset noctique
I-heard that not more-quickly the-sun from-the-sky had-rushed and-to-the-night
ad exercendas illecebras magiae maturius cessisset, ipsi
for exercising the-allurements of-magic earlier had-yielded to-the-very
soli nubilam caliginem et perpetuas tenebras comminantem.
sun cloudy darkness and perpetual shadows threatening
Hunc iuvenem, cum e balneis rediret ipsa, tonstrinae
this young-man when from the-baths she-was-returning she-herself in-the-barber's
residentem hesterna die forte conspexit, ac me capillos
sitting yesterday day by-chance caught-sight-of and me the-hair
eius, qui iam caede cultrorum desecti humi
his which already by-the-cutting of-razors cut-off on-the-ground
iacebant, clanculo praecepit auferre: quos me sedulo furtimque
lay secretly ordered to-carry-off which me diligently and-stealthily
colligentem tonsor invenit, et quod alioquin publicitus
gathering the-barber found and because otherwise publicly
maleficae disciplinae perinfames sumus, arreptam inclementer
of-evil discipline infamous we-are seized(-me) harshly
increpat: "Tune, ultima, non cessas subinde lectorum
he-rebukes you-whether worst-of-women not cease time-and-again of-choice

iuvenum capillamenta surripere? Quod scelus nisi tandem
young-men the-locks to-steal which crime unless at-last
desines, magistratibus te constanter obiciam." Et verbum
you-stop to-the-magistrates you resolutely I-shall-expose and the-word
facto secutus immissa manu scrutatus e mediis
with-the-deed following with-thrust-in hand having-searched from the-middle-of
papillis meis iam capillos absconditos iratus abripuit: quo
breasts my already the-hair hidden angry snatched-away which
gesto graviter affecta mecumque reputans dominae meae
done heavily affected and-with-myself reckoning of-mistress my
mores, quod huiusmodi repulsa satis acriter commoveri
the-habits that by-this-kind-of rebuff quite fiercely to-be-stirred
meque verberare saevissime consuevit, iam de fuga consilium
and-me to-beat most-savagely is-wont already of flight the-plan
tenebam, sed istud quidem tui contemplatione abieci statim.
I-held but that indeed of-you in-consideration I-cast-away at-once
Verum cum tristis inde discederem, conspicio quendam 17
but when sad thence I-was-departing I-catch-sight-of a-certain-man
forficulis attondentem caprinos utres; quos cum probe
with-shears clipping goat wineskins which when well
constrictos inflatosque et iam pendentes cernerem, ne prorsus
tied-up and-inflated and already hanging I-saw lest utterly
vacuis manibus redirem, capillos eorum humi iacentes,
with-empty hands I-should-return the-hair of-them on-the-ground lying
flavos ac per hoc illi Boeotio iuveni consimiles, plusculos
blond and through this to-that Boeotian young-man most-like several
aufero eosque dominae meae dissimulata veritate trado.
I-carry-off and-them to-mistress my with-concealed truth I-hand-over
Sic noctis initio, priusquam cena te reciperes, Pamphile
thus at-night's beginning before from-dinner yourself you-took-back Pamphile
mea iam vecors animi tectam scandulare conscendit, quod
my already crazed in-mind to-the-roof shingled climbs which

altrinsecus aedium patore perflabili nudatum ad omnes,
on-the-other-side of-the-house with-an-opening airy bared to all
orientales ceterosque, aspectus pervium, maxime his artibus
eastern and-other views open most for-these arts
suis commodatum, secreto colit, priusque apparatu
her suited in-secret she-frequents and-first with-equipment
solito instruit feralem officinam, omne genus aromatis, et
usual furnishes her-deadly workshop every kind of-spice and
ignorabiliter laminis litteratis et infelicium avium durantibus
with-unintelligibly plates lettered and of-unlucky birds with-the-lasting
damnis, defletorum sepultorum etiam cadaverum expositis
remains of-the-wept-for buried even corpses set-out
multis admodum membris: hic nares et digiti, illic carnosi
many very limbs here noses and fingers there fleshy
clavi pendentium, alibi trucidatorum servatus cruor et
nails of-the-hanged elsewhere of-the-murdered preserved blood and
extorta dentibus ferarum trunca calvaria.
wrenched by-the-teeth of-wild-beasts maimed skulls

18 Tunc, decantatis spirantibus fibris, litat vario latice,
then with-chanted-over breathing entrails she-sacrifices with-various liquid
nunc rore fontano, nunc lacte vaccino, nunc melle
now with-dew of-springs now with-milk of-cows now with-honey
montano, libat et mulsa. Sic illos capillos in mutuos
of-the-mountains she-pours-libation and with-mead thus those hairs into mutual
nexus obditos atque nodatos cum multis odoribus dat vivis
knots put and tied with many perfumes she-gives to-living
carbonibus adolendos: tunc protinus inexpugnabili magicae
coals to-be-burned then at-once by-the-invincible of-magic
disciplinae potestate et caeca numinum coactorum violentia
discipline's power and by-the-blind of-the-gods coerced violence
illa corpora, quorum fumabant stridentes capilli, spiritum
those bodies whose were-smoking hissing hair breath

mutuantur humanum et sentiunt et audiunt et ambulant,
borrow human and feel and hear and walk
et qua nidor suarum ducebat exuviarum veniunt et
and where the-smell of-their-own drew the-remains they-come and
pro illo iuvene Boeotio aditum gestientes fores insiliunt;
instead-of that young-man Boeotian entry eager the-doors they-leap-at
cum ecce crapula madens et improvidae noctis deceptus
when behold with-surfeit soaked and of-the-unforeseen night deceived
caligine, audacter mucrone destricto in insani modum Aiacis
by-the-darkness boldly with-sword drawn in of-mad the-manner Ajax
armatus, non ut ille vivis pecoribus infestus tota laniavit
armed not as he on-living cattle hostile whole butchered
armenta, sed longe fortius, qui tres inflatos caprinos
herds but far more-bravely you-who three inflated goat
utres exanimasti, ut ego te prostratis hostibus sine macula
wineskins killed that I you with-prostrate enemies without a-stain
sanguinis non homicidam nunc sed utricidam amplecterer."
of-blood not a-man-slayer now but a-wineskin-slayer might-embrace

XVIII · THE OWL

Lucius begs Fotis to show him her mistress's magic. Some nights later she lets him watch through a crack as Pamphile strips, rubs herself with ointment, and turns into an owl that flies out of the house. Lucius begs for the same ointment, and Fotis tells him that dill and laurel leaves in spring water will restore him.

Et sic lepido sermone Fotis, at invicem cavillatus ego 19
and thus with-witty talk Fotis but in-turn having-bantered I
"Igitur iam et ipse possum" inquam "Mihi primam istam
therefore now also myself can I-say to-myself first this
virtutis adoream ad exemplum duodeni laboris Herculei
of-valor the-glory after the-pattern of-the-twelvefold labor Herculean

numerare, vel trigemino corpori Geryonis vel triplici
to-count either to-the-triple body of-Geryon or to-the-threefold
formae Cerberi, totidem peremptos utres coaequando. Sed
form of-Cerberus as-many slain wineskins equating but
ut ex animo tibi volens omne delictum, quo me tantis
that from my-heart to-you willingly all the-fault in-which me in-such
angoribus implicasti, remittam, praesta quod summis votis
anguish you-entangled I-may-forgive provide what with-the-highest wishes
expostulo et dominam tuam, cum aliquid huius divinae
I-demand and mistress your when something of-this divine
disciplinae molitur, ostende, cum deos invocat, certe cum
discipline she-works show-me when the-gods she-invokes surely when
reformatur, ut videam: sum namque coram magiae noscendae
she-is-transformed that I-may-see I-am for in-person of-magic to-be-known
ardentissimus cupitor, quamquam mihi nec ipsa tu videare
a-most-ardent desirer although to-me not-even yourself you you-seem
rerum rudis vel expers. Scio istud et plane sentio,
in-these-matters unskilled or inexperienced I-know that and plainly I-feel
cum semper alioquin spretorem matronalium amplexuum,
since always otherwise a-despiser of-matronly embraces
sic tuis istis micantibus oculis et rubentibus bucculis et
thus by-your those flashing eyes and reddening little-cheeks and
renidentibus crinibus et hiantibus osculis et fragrantibus
shining hair and gaping kisses and fragrant
papillis in servilem modum addictum atque mancipatum
breasts in a-slave's manner made-over and bound
teneas volentem: iam denique nec Larem requiro
you-hold-me willing now in-short neither the-household-god I-seek
nec domuitionem paro et nocte ista nihil antepono."
nor the-homecoming I-prepare and than-night this nothing I-put-before

"Quam vellem" respondit illa, "Praestare tibi, Luci, 20
how I-would-wish answered she to-provide for-you Lucius
quod cupis, sed propter invidos mores in solitudinem
what you-desire but on-account-of her-jealous ways into solitude
semper abstrusa et omnium praesentia viduata solet
always withdrawn and of-all-people of-the-presence deprived she-is-wont
huiusmodi secreta perficere. Sed tuum postulatum praeponam
of-this-kind secrets to-perform but your request I-shall-put-before
periculo meo idque observatis opportunis temporibus sedulo
than-danger my and-it with-watched-for favorable times carefully
perficiam, modo, ut initio praefata sum, rei tantae
I-shall-accomplish only as at-the-beginning said-before I-have to-a-matter so-great
fidem silentiumque tribue." Sic nobis garrientibus libido mutua
faith and-silence grant thus with-us chattering desire mutual
et animos simul et membra suscitat: omnibus abiectis amiculis
both minds at-once and limbs rouses with-all cast-off wraps
ac tandem denique intecti atque nudati bacchamur in Venerem,
and at-last finally uncovered and stripped we-revel in Venus
cum quidem mihi iam fatigato de propria liberalitate Fotis
when indeed to-me already wearied of her-own liberality Fotis
puerile obtulit corollarium, iamque luminibus nostris vigilia
a-boyish offered tip and-now on-eyes our with-wakefulness
marcidis infusus sopor etiam in altum diem nos attinuit.
drooping poured sleep even into high day us held
Ad hunc modum transactis voluptarie paucis noctibus, 21
in this manner with-spent pleasurably a-few nights
quadam die percita Fotis ac satis trepida me accurrit
on-a-certain day roused Fotis and quite trembling to-me runs-up
indicatque dominam suam, quod nihil etiam tunc in
and-tells that-mistress her because nothing even then toward
suos amores ceteris artibus promoveret, nocte proxima
her loves by-her-other arts she-was-advancing in-the-night next

in avem sese plumaturam atque ad suum cupitum sic
into a-bird herself going-to-feather and to her desired-one so
devolaturam; proin memet ad rei tantae speculam caute
going-to-fly-down therefore myself for of-the-thing so-great the-viewing cautiously
praepararem. Iamque circa primam noctis vigiliam ad illud
I-should-prepare and-now about the-first of-the-night watch to that
superius cubiculum suspenso et insono vestigio me perducit
upper bedroom with-suspended and soundless step me she-leads
ipsa, perque rimam ostiorum quampiam iubet arbitrari quae
herself and-through a-chink of-the-doors some-certain bids-me to-watch what
sic gesta sunt. Iam primum omnibus laciniis se devestit
thus done were now first of-all clothes herself strips
Pamphile et arcula quadam reclusa pyxides plusculas
Pamphile and with-a-little-box a-certain opened little-boxes several
inde depromit, de quis unius operculo remoto atque indidem
thence brings-out of which of-one the-lid removed and from-there
egesta unguedine diuque palmulis suis affricta ab imis
taken-out ointment and-long with-palms her rubbed from the-lowest
unguibus sese totam adusque summos capillos perlinit,
nails herself whole right-to the-top hair smears
multumque cum lucerna secreto collocuta membra tremulo
and-much with the-lamp in-secret having-talked her-limbs with-trembling
succussu quatit: quis leniter fluctuantibus promicant molles
jerking shakes on-which gently fluttering shine-out soft
plumulae crescunt et fortes pinnulae, duratur nasus incurvus,
little-feathers grow and strong little-wings is-hardened the-nose hooked
coguntur ungues adunci, fit bubo Pamphile. Sic edito
are-drawn-together the-nails curved becomes an-owl Pamphile thus with-uttered
stridore querulo, iam sui periclitabunda paulatim terra
a-screech plaintive now herself testing little-by-little from-the-earth
resultat, mox in altum sublimata forinsecus totis alis evolat.
she-bounces soon into high raised outward with-whole wings flies-off

Et illa quidem magicis suis artibus volens reformatur, at ego, 22
and she indeed by-magic her arts willingly is-transformed but I
nullo decantatus carmine, praesentis tantum facti stupore
by-no enchanted spell of-the-present only deed by-the-stupor
defixus quidvis aliud magis videbar esse quam Lucius, sic
transfixed anything else rather I-seemed to-be than Lucius so
exterminatus animi, attonitus in amentiam vigilans somniabar;
driven-out of-mind astounded into madness waking I-was-dreaming
defrictis adeo diu pupulis an vigilarem scire quaerebam.
with-rubbed so long my-eyes whether I-was-awake to-know I-sought
Tandem denique reversus ad sensum praesentium, arrepta manu
at-last finally returned to the-sense of-the-present with-seized the-hand
Fotidis et admota meis luminibus, "Patere, oro te," inquam
of-Fotis and brought-to my eyes allow I-beg you I-say
"Dum dictat occasio, magno et singulari me affectionis tuae
while dictates the-opportunity a-great and singular me of-affection your
fructu perfrui et impertire nobis unctulum indidem, per istas
fruit to-enjoy and share with-us a-little-ointment from-there by those
tuas papillas, mea mellitula, tuumque mancipium irremunerabili
your breasts my honey-sweet and-your slave with-unrepayable
beneficio sic tibi perpetuo pignera, ac iam perfice ut
kindness so to-you perpetually bind and now bring-it-about that
meae Veneri Cupido pinnatus assistam tibi." "Ain?" inquit
to-my Venus as-a-Cupid winged I-may-stand-by you do-you-say-so she-says
"Vulpinaris amasio, meque sponte asceam cruribus meis
you-play-the-fox lover and-me of-my-own-accord an-axe on-legs my
illidere compellis? Sic inermem vix a lupulis conservo
to-dash you-compel thus unarmed scarcely from she-wolves I-keep-you
Thessalis; hunc alitem factum ubi quaeram, videbo quando?"
Thessalian this-one bird become where shall-I-seek shall-I-see when

23 “At mihi scelus istud depellant caelites,” inquam “Ut
but from-me crime that may-drive-off the-heavenly-ones I-say that
ego quamvis ipsius aquilae sublimis volatibus toto
I although of-the-very eagle with-lofty flights over-the-whole
caelo pervius et supremi Iovis certus nuntius vel laetus
sky traversing and of-highest Jupiter a-sure messenger or glad
armiger, tamen non ad meum nidulum post illam pinnarum
armor-bearer still not to my little-nest after that of-wings
dignitatem subinde devolem! Adiuro per dulcem istum
dignity repeatedly should-fly-down I-swear by sweet that
capilli tui nodulum, quo meum vinxisti spiritum, me
of-hair your little-knot with-which my you-have-bound spirit that-I
nullam aliam meae Fotidi malle. Tunc etiam istud meis
no other than-my Fotis prefer then also this to-my
cogitationibus occurrit, cum semel avem talem perunctus
thoughts occurs when once bird such anointed
induero, domus omnes procul me vitare debere: quam
I-shall-have-put-on houses all far me to-avoid to-be-bound for-how
pulchro enim quamque festivo matronae perfruentur amatore
handsome for and-how gay matrons will-enjoy a-lover
bubone! Quid, quod istas nocturnas aves, cum penetraverint
an-owl what that those nightly birds when they-have-penetrated
Larem quempiam, sollicite prehensas foribus videmus
a-household some-one anxiously seized to-doors we-see
affigi ut, quod infaustis volatibus familiae minantur
to-be-fastened that what by-unlucky flights to-the-family they-threaten
exitium, suis luant cruciatibus? Sed, quod sciscitari
destruction by-their-own they-may-atone tortures but what to-ask
paene praeterivi, quo dicto factove rursum exutis
I-almost passed-over by-what word or-deed again with-stripped-off
pinnulis illis ad meum redibo Lucium?” “Bono animo
little-wings those to my-own shall-I-return Lucius good spirit

es quod ad huius rei curam pertinet" ait. "Nam mihi
be as-to-what to of-this matter the-care pertains she-says for to-me
domina singula monstravit, quae possunt rursus in facies
my-mistress each-thing showed which can again into the-forms
hominum tales figuras reformare: nec istud factum putes ulla
of-men such figures to-reshape nor that done think by-any
benivolentia, sed ut ei redeunti medela salubri possem
goodwill but that to-her on-returning with-a-remedy healthful I-could
subsistere. Specta denique quam parvis quamque futilibus
to-stand-by look in-short with-how small and-how worthless
tanta res procuretur herbulis: anethi modicum cum lauri
so-great a-thing is-procured little-herbs of-dill a-little with of-laurel
foliis immissum rore fontano datur lavacrum et poculum."
leaves put-in in-dew of-spring is-given as-a-bath and a-cup

XIX · LUCIUS BECOMES AN ASS

Fotis brings a box, and Lucius rubs himself with the ointment and flaps his arms, but turns not into a bird but an ass. Fotis, in despair, tells him that roses will restore him, but none can be had before morning.

Haec identidem asseverans summa cum trepidatione 24
these-things repeatedly asserting the-highest with alarm
irrepit cubiculum et pyxidem depromit arcula; quam
she-creeps-into the-bedroom and a-little-box brings-out from-the-casket which
ego amplexus ac deosculatus prius, utque mihi prosperis
I having-embraced and kissed first and-that me with-prosperous
faveret volatibus deprecatus, abiectis propere laciniis totis,
it-might-favor flights having-prayed with-thrown-off hastily clothes all
avide manus immersi et haurito plusculo uncto corporis
greedily my-hands I-plunged and with-drawn-out a-goodly of-ointment of-body

mei membra perfricui. Iamque alternis conatibus libratis
my the-limbs I-rubbed and-now with-alternate efforts balanced
brachiis in avem similem gestiebam: nec ullae plumulae nec
my-arms into a-bird like I-was-eager nor any little-feathers nor
usquam pinnulae, sed plane pili mei crassantur in saetas,
anywhere little-wings but plainly hairs my thicken into bristles
sed cutis tenella duratur in corium et in extimis palmulis
but skin tender hardens into hide and in the-outermost little-palms
perdito numero toti digiti coguntur in singulas
with-lost their-number all the-fingers are-drawn-together into single
ungulas et de spinae meae termino grandis cauda procedit:
hoofs and from of-spine my the-end a-great tail comes-forth
iam facies enormis et os prolixum et nares hiantes et
now my-face huge and mouth long and nostrils gaping and
labiae pendulae, sic et aures immodicis horripilant auctibus;
lips hanging thus also ears with-immoderate bristle growths
nec ullum miserae reformationis video solacium nisi quod
nor any of-wretched transformation I-see comfort except that
mihi iam nequeunti tenere Fotidem natura crescebat.
in-me now not-able to-hold Fotis nature was-growing
25 Ac dum salutis inopia cuncta corporis mei considero, non avem
and while of-help in-want all of-body my I-examine not a-bird
me sed asinum video, querens de facto Fotidis, sed iam
myself but an-ass I-see complaining about the-deed of-Fotis but now
humano gestu simul et voce privatus, quod solum poteram,
of-human gesture at-once and voice deprived what alone I-could
postrema deiecta labia humidis tamen oculis obliquum respiciens
with-lowest let-down lips with-moist still eyes askance looking-back
ad illam tacitus expostulabam. Quae ubi primum me talem
at her silently I-remonstrated who when first me such
aspexit, percussit faciem suam manibus infestis, et "Occisa
she-saw struck face her with-hands hostile and killed

sum misera" clamavit: "Me trepidatio simul et festinatio
I-am wretched she-cried me alarm at-once and haste
fefellit et pyxidum similitudo decepit. Sed bene, quod facilior
deceived and of-the-boxes the-likeness misled but well that an-easier
reformationis huius medela suppeditat; nam rosis tantum
of-transformation this the-remedy is-at-hand for with-roses only
demorsitatis exibis asinum statimque in meum Lucium
bitten you-will-come-out-of the-ass and-at-once into my Lucius
postliminio redibis. Atque utinam vesperi de more nobis
by-return you-will-come-back and would-that in-the-evening by custom for-us
parassem corollas aliquas, ne moram talem patereris vel
I-had-prepared garlands some lest a-delay such you-should-suffer even
noctis unius: sed primo diluculo remedium festinabitur tibi."
of-night one but at-earliest dawn the-remedy will-be-hastened for-you

XX · ROBBERS IN THE NIGHT

In the stable his own horse and Milo's ass shut him out from the barley. Trying to reach the roses on a shrine of Epona, he is beaten by a groom. Then robbers break into the house, load him and the other beasts with Milo's goods, and lead them off into the mountains. When he tries to call on Caesar, he gets out only "O," and when he finds roses in a garden, he leaves them for fear the robbers would kill him as a magician.

Sic illa maerebat, ego vero quamquam perfectus asinus 26
thus she was-grieving I indeed although a-complete ass
et pro Lucio iumentum sensum tamen retinebam
and instead-of Lucius a-beast-of-burden the-sense still I-kept
humanum. Diu denique ac multum mecum ipse deliberavi
human long in-short and much with-myself I deliberated
an nequissimam facinerosissimamque feminam illam spissis
whether most-worthless and-most-criminal woman that with-thick

calcibus feriens et mordicus appetens necare deberem: sed ab
kicks striking and with-my-teeth attacking to-kill I-ought but from
incepto temerario melior me sententia revocavit, ne morte
the-undertaking rash a-better me opinion called-back lest by-death
multata Fotide salutares mihi suppetias rursus extinguerem.
punished Fotis salutary for-me the-help again I-should-extinguish
Deiecto itaque et quassanti capite ac demussata temporali
with-lowered and-so and shaking head and with-swallowed temporary
contumelia durissimo casui meo serviens ad equum illum
insult to-the-harshest misfortune my submitting to horse that
vectorem meum probissimum in stabulum concedo, ubi alium
carrier my most-honest into the-stable I-withdraw where another
etiam Milonis quondam hospitis mei asinum stabulantem inveni;
also of-Milo once host my an-ass stabled I-found
atque ego rebar, si quod inesset mutis animalibus tacitum
and I thought if any were-in dumb animals a-silent
ac naturale sacramentum, agnitione ac miseratione quadam
and natural bond by-recognition and pity some-certain
inductum equum illum meum hospitium ac loca lautia
induced horse that my lodging and quarters entertaining
mihi praebiturum: sed pro Iupiter hospitalis et Fidei secreta
to-me going-to-provide but O Jupiter of-hospitality and of-Faith secret
numina! Praeclarus ille vector meus cum asino capita conferunt
powers splendid that carrier my with the-ass heads put-together
in meamque perniciem illico consentiunt et, verentes
against and-my ruin at-once agree and fearing
scilicet cibariis suis, vix me praesepio videre proximantem;
evidently for-the-food their scarcely me to-the-manger they-saw approaching
deiectis auribus iam furentes infestis calcibus insequuntur,
with-lowered ears now raging with-hostile kicks pursue

et abigor quam procul ab hordeo quod apposueram
and I-am-driven as far from the-barley which I-had-set-before
vesperi meis manibus illi gratissimo famulo.
in-the-evening with-my-own hands to-that most-grateful servant
Sic affectus atque in solitudinem relegatus angulo stabuli 27
thus treated and into solitude banished to-a-corner of-the-stable
concesseram, dumque de insolentia collegarum meorum
I-had-withdrawn and-while about the-insolence of-colleagues my
mecum cogito atque in alterum diem auxilio rosario Lucius
with-myself I-think and on the-next day by-the-help of-roses Lucius
denuo futurus equi perfidi vindictam meditor, respicio
again going-to-be on-the-horse treacherous vengeance I-plan I-look-back
pilae mediae, quae stabuli trabes sustinebat, in ipso fere
of-the-pillar middle which of-the-stable the-beams supported in the-very almost
meditullio Eponae deae simulacrum residens aediculae,
center of-Epona the-goddess a-statue sitting in-a-little-shrine
quod accurate corollis roseis equidem recentibus fuerat
which carefully with-garlands of-roses indeed fresh had-been
ornatum. Denique agnito salutari praesidio, pronus spei,
adorned in-short with-recognized the-saving help bent-forward in-hope
quantum extensis prioribus pedibus anniti poteram, insurgo
as-much-as with-stretched front feet to-strain I-could I-rise
valide et cervice prolixa nimiumque porrectis labiis, quanto
vigorously and with-neck long and-too-much stretched lips with-whatever
maxime nisu poteram corollas appetebam. Quod me pessima
greatest effort I-could the-garlands I-reached-for which me with-the-worst
scilicet sorte conantem servulus meus, cui semper equi
evidently luck trying servant my to-whom always of-the-horse
cura mandata fuerat, repente conspiciens, indignatus exsurgit,
the-care entrusted had-been suddenly seeing indignant leaps-up
et “Quousque tandem” inquit, “Cantherium patiemur
and how-long at-last he-says the-gelding shall-we-endure

istum paulo ante cibariis iumentorum, nunc etiam simulacris
that a-little before to-the-food of-the-beasts now even to-the-images
deorum infestum? Quin iam ego istum sacrilegum debilem
of-the-gods hostile why-not now I that sacrilege-one weak
claudumque reddam," et statim telum aliquod quaeritans
and-lame shall-render and at-once weapon some seeking
temere fascem lignorum positum offendit, rimatusque
at-random a-bundle of-sticks placed comes-on and-having-searched
frondosum fustem cunctis vastiorem non prius miserum
a-leafy cudgel than-all bigger not before wretched
me tundere desiit, quam sonitu vehementi et largo
me to-beat ceased than with-a-sound violent and great
strepitu percussis ianuis, trepido etiam rumore viciniae
noise with-struck doors alarmed also by-the-rumor of-the-neighborhood
conclamatis latronibus profugit territus.
with-cried-out robbers he-fled terrified

28 Nec mora, cum vi patefactis aedibus globus latronum
nor delay when by-force with-opened house a-band of-robbers
invadit omnia, et singula domus membra cingit armata
invades all-places and each of-the-house part surrounds the-armed
factio, et auxiliis hinc inde convolantibus obsistit
faction and the-helpers from-here and-there flying-together resists
discursus hostilis: cuncti gladiis et facibus instructi
the-running-about hostile all with-swords and torches equipped
noctem illuminant; coruscat in modum ortivi solis
the-night light-up flashes in the-manner of-the-rising sun
ignis et mucro. Tunc horreum quoddam satis validis
fire and blade then a-storeroom certain with-quite strong
claustris obsaeptum obseratumque, quod mediis aedibus
bars barricaded and-locked which in-the-middle-of the-house
constitutum gazis Milonis fuerat refertum, securibus
set with-the-treasures of-Milo had-been crammed with-axes

validis aggressi diffindunt, quo passim recluso totas opes
strong having-attacked they-split which everywhere opened the-whole wealth
vehunt raptimque constrictis sarcinis singuli partiuntur.
they-carry-off and-hastily with-tied-up packs individually they-share
Sed gestaminum modus numerum gerulorum excedit: tunc
but of-the-loads the-measure the-number of-the-carriers exceeds then
opulentiae nimiae nimio ad extremas incitas deducti, nos
of-wealth excessive by-the-excess to the-last straits brought us
duos asinos et equum meum productos e stabulo quantum
two asses and horse my brought-out from the-stable as-much-as
potest gravioribus sarcinis onerant et domo iam vacua
can-be with-heavier packs they-load and from-the-house now empty
minantes baculis exigunt, unoque de sociis ad speculandum,
threatening with-sticks drive-out and-one of their-fellows for spying
qui de facinoris inquisitione nuntiaret, relicto, nos crebra
who about of-the-crime the-inquiry might-report left us constantly
tundentes per avia montium ducunt concitos.
beating through the-trackless-places of-the-mountains they-lead hurried
Iamque rerum tantarum pondere et montis ardui vertice
and-now of-goods so-great by-the-weight and of-the-mountain steep by-the-peak
et prolixo satis itinere nihil a mortuo differebam.
and long enough journey in-nothing from a-dead-one I-differed
Sed mihi sero quidem, serio tamen subvenit ad auxilium 29
but to-me late indeed seriously still it-occurred to help
civile decurrere et interposito venerabili principis nomine
civil to-run and with-interposed venerable of-the-emperor name
tot aerumnis me liberare: cum denique iam luce
from-so-many miseries myself to-free when finally now with-light
clarissima vicum quempiam frequentem et nundinis celebrem
brightest a-village some-certain crowded and with-markets thronged
praeteriremus, inter ipsas turbelas, Graecorum genuino
we-were-passing among the-very crowds of-the-Greeks in-the-native

sermone nomen augustum Caesaris invocare temptavi, et
tongue the-name august of-Caesar to-invoke I-tried and
"O" quidem tantum disertum ac validum clamitavi, reliquum
O indeed only eloquent and strong I-cried the-rest
autem Caesaris nomen enuntiare non potui: aspernati latrones
however of-Caesar the-name to-utter not I-could despising the-robbers
clamorem absonum meum, caedentes hinc inde miserum
cry discordant my beating from-here and-there my-wretched
corium nec cribris iam idoneum relinquunt. Sed tandem mihi
hide nor for-sieves now fit leave but at-last to-me
inopinatam salutem Iupiter ille tribuit: nam cum multas
unexpected salvation Jupiter that granted for when many
villulas et casas amplas praeteriremus, hortulum quendam
little-farms and cottages large we-were-passing a-little-garden certain
prospexi satis amoenum, in quo praeter ceteras gratas herbulas
I-saw quite pleasant in which besides the-other pleasing herbs
rosae virgines matutino rore florebant. His inhians et
roses maiden with-morning dew were-blooming at-these gaping and
spe salutis alacer ac laetus propius accessi, dumque iam
with-hope of-salvation eager and glad nearer I-approached and-while now
labiis undantibus affecto, consilium me subit longe salubrius,
with-lips watering I-reach a-plan me comes-to far more-salutary
ne si rursum asino remoto prodirem in Lucium, evidens
lest if again with-the-ass removed I-came-forth into Lucius evident
exitium inter manus latronum offenderem vel artis magicae
destruction among the-hands of-the-robbers I-should-meet either of-art magic
suspectione vel indicii futuri criminatione. Tunc igitur
by-suspicion or of-information future by-the-charge then therefore
a rosis, et quidem necessario, temperavi, et casum
from the-roses and indeed of-necessity I-refrained and the-misfortune
praesentem tolerans in asini faciem faena rodebam.
present bearing in of-an-ass the-face hay I-gnawed

BOOK IV

XXI · THE LAUREL-ROSES

At noon the robbers rest in a village with old men they know, and Lucius, seeking roses, finds only oleander, which would poison him, and is beaten by a gardener whose vegetables he has eaten, then by the villagers. He resolves to collapse on the road, but seeing his fellow ass do so and be thrown from a cliff, he goes on.

Diem ferme circa medium, cum iam flagrantia solis 1
day about around midday when already by-the-blaze of-the-sun
caleretur, in pago quodam apud notos ac familiares
it-was-hot in a-village certain among acquaintances and friends
latronibus senes devertimus; sic enim primus aditus et sermo
to-the-robbers old-men we-turned-aside so for the-first approach and talk
prolixus et oscula mutua, quamvis asino, sentire praestabant:
long and kisses mutual although to-an-ass to-perceive allowed
nam et rebus eos quibusdam dorso meo depromptis
for both with-things them certain from-back my brought-out
munerabantur, et secretis gannitibus, quod essent latrocinio
they-presented and with-secret mutterings that they-were by-brigandage
partae, videbantur indicare. Iamque nos omni sarcina levigatos
gotten they-seemed to-indicate and-now us of-every pack lightened
in pratum proximum passim libero pastui tradidere, nec me
into a-meadow nearby everywhere to-free grazing they-handed-over nor me
cum asino vel equo meo compascuus coetus attinere potuit
with the-ass or horse my a-grazing-together company to-hold could
adhuc insolitum alioquin prandere faenum; sed plane pone
still unaccustomed otherwise to-lunch-on hay but plainly behind
stabulum prospectum hortulum iam fame perditus fidenter
the-stable seen a-little-garden now with-hunger ruined confidently
invado et, quamvis crudis holeribus, affatim tamen ventrem
I-invade and although with-raw vegetables abundantly still my-belly

sagino, deosque comprecatus omnes cuncta prospectabam loca,
I-fatten and-the-gods having-prayed-to all all I-surveyed places
sicubi forte conterminis in hortulis candens repperirem
if-anywhere by-chance neighboring in little-gardens shining I-might-find
rosarium. Nam et ipsa solitudo iam mihi bonam fiduciam
a-rose-bed for also the-very solitude now to-me good confidence
tribuebat, si devius et frutectis absconditus sumpto remedio
gave if off-the-road and by-thickets hidden with-taken the-remedy
de iumenti quadripedis incurvo gradu rursum erectus in
from of-a-beast four-footed stooping gait again raised into
hominem, inspectante nullo, resurgerem.
a-man with-watching no-one I-might-rise-again

2 Ergo igitur cum in isto cogitationis salo fluctuarem, aliquanto
therefore then when in that of-thought sea I-was-tossing somewhat
longius video frondosi nemoris convallem umbrosam, cuius
farther I-see of-a-leafy grove a-valley shady whose
inter varias herbulas et laetissima virecta fulgentium rosarum
among various little-herbs and most-luxuriant greenery of-gleaming roses
mineus color renidebat: iamque apud mea non usquequaque
the-vermilion color shone and-now in my not altogether
ferina praecordia Veneris et Gratiarum lucum illum arbitrabar,
bestial heart of-Venus and of-the-Graces grove that I-thought
cuius inter opaca secreta floris genialis regius nitor
whose among dark secret-places of-the-flower nuptial the-royal gleam
relucebat. Tunc invocato hilaro atque prospero Eventu cursu
shone then with-invoked cheerful and prosperous Success with-a-run
me concito proripio, ut Hercule ipse sentirem non asinum
myself hurried I-rush-forth so-that by-Hercules myself I-felt not an-ass
me, verum etiam equum currulem nimio velocitatis refectum.
myself but even a-horse racing by-excess of-speed renewed
Sed agilis atque praeclarus ille conatus fortunae meae
but nimble and splendid that effort of-fortune my

scaevitatem anteire non potuit; iam enim loco proximus
the-perversity to-outrun not could already for to-the-place nearest
non illas rosas teneras et amoenas, madidas divini roris
not those roses tender and pleasant wet with-divine dew
et nectaris, quas rubi felices beatae spinae generant, at
and nectar which brambles fortunate blessed thorns produce but
ne convallem quidem usquam, nisi tantum ripae fluvialis
not a-valley even anywhere except only of-the-bank of-the-river
marginem densis arboribus saeptam video: hae arbores in
the-edge with-thick trees hedged I-see these trees into
lauri faciem prolixe foliatae pariunt in modum floris
of-laurel the-likeness abundantly leaved bear in the-manner of-a-flower
inodori porrectos caliculos modice punicantes, quos equidem
scentless stretched-out little-cups moderately reddening which indeed
fragrantes minime rurestri vocabulo vulgus indoctum rosas
fragrant least by-a-rustic name the-crowd unlearned roses
laureas appellant, quarumque cuncto pecori cibus letalis est.
laurel call and-of-which for-all cattle food deadly is
Talibus fatis implicitus et iam ipsam salutem recusans 3
by-such fates entangled and now the-very safety refusing
sponte illud venenum rosarium sumere gestiebam; sed
of-my-own-accord that poison rosy to-take I-was-eager but
dum cunctanter accedo decerpere, iuvenis quidam, ut mihi
while hesitantly I-approach to-pluck-it a-young-man certain as to-me
videbatur, hortulanus, cuius omnia prorsus holera vastaveram,
it-seemed the-gardener whose all utterly vegetables I-had-laid-waste
tanto damno cognito, cum grandi baculo furens decurrit,
with-so-great the-damage learned with a-great stick raging runs-down
arreptumque me totum plagis obtundit adusque vitae ipsius
and-seized me whole with-blows batters right-to of-life itself
periculum, nisi tandem sapienter alioquin ipse mihi tulissem
the-peril unless at-last wisely otherwise I-myself to-myself had-brought

auxilium: nam lumbis elevatis in altum, pedum posterioribus
help for with-loins raised on high of-the-feet the-hind
calcibus iactatis in eum crebriter, iam mulcato graviter atque
hoofs thrown at him frequently now with-beaten heavily and
iacente contra proclive montis attigui, fuga me liberavi.
lying against the-slope of-the-mountain adjoining by-flight myself I-freed
Sed illico mulier quaepiam, uxor eius scilicet, simul eum
but at-once a-woman some-one wife his evidently as-soon-as him
prostratum et semianimem ex edito despexit, eiulabili
prostrate and half-alive from above looked-down-on wailing
cum plangore ad eum statim prosilit, ut sui videlicet
with lamentation to him at-once leaps-forth so-that of-her evidently
miseratione mihi praesens crearet exitium: cuncti enim
pity for-me immediate she-might-create destruction all for
pagani, fletibus eius exciti, statim conclamant canes atque
the-villagers by-weeping her roused at-once shout-for dogs and
ad me laniandum rabie perciti ferrent impetum passim
to me to-tear by-madness driven-on to-bring an-attack everywhere
cohortantur. Tunc igitur procul dubio iam morti proximus,
they-urge then therefore far-from doubt now to-death nearest
cum viderem canes et modo magnos et numero multos
when I-saw dogs both in-measure large and in-number many
et ursis ac leonibus ad compugnandum idoneos in me
and for-bears and lions for fighting fit against me
convocatos exasperari, e re nata capto consilio, fugam
summoned to-be-maddened as the-situation arose with-taken plan flight
desino ac me retrorsus celeri gradu rursum in stabulum
I-stop and myself backward with-swift step again into the-stable
quo deverteramus recipio. At illi, canibus iam aegre
where we-had-put-up I-take but they with-the-dogs now with-difficulty
cohibitis, arreptum me loro quam valido ad ansulam
restrained seized me with-a-strap very strong to a-ring

quandam destinatum rursum caedendo confecissent profecto,
certain tied again by-beating would-have-finished surely
nisi dolore plagarum alvus artata crudisque illis oleribus
unless from-the-pain of-the-blows my-belly constricted and-with-raw those vegetables
abundans et lubrico fluxu saucia, fimo fistulatim excusso,
abounding and by-slippery flux wounded with-dung pipe-fashion shot-out
quosdam extremi liquoris aspergine, alios putore
some with-the-extreme liquid's sprinkling others with-the-stench
nidoris faetidi, a meis iam quassis scapulis abegisset.
of-the-smell fetid from my now shaken shoulders had-driven-off
Nec mora, cum iam in meridiem prono iubare rursum nos 4
nor delay when already toward afternoon sloping with-the-sun again us
ac praecipue me longe gravius onustum producunt illi latrones
and especially me far more-heavily loaded lead-out those robbers
stabulo: iamque confecta bona parte itineris et viae
from-the-stable and-now with-finished a-good part of-the-journey and of-the-road
spatio defectus et sarcinae pondere depressus ictibusque
by-the-length exhausted and of-the-pack by-the-weight pressed-down and-by-the-blows
fustium fatigatus atque etiam ungulis extritis iam claudus et
of-cudgels wearied and also with-hoofs worn now lame and
titubans, rivulum quendam serpentis leniter aquae propter
staggering a-little-stream certain of-creeping gently water beside
insistens, subtilem occasionem feliciter nactus cogitabam
standing a-fine opportunity happily having-gained I-thought
totum memet flexis scite cruribus pronum abicere, certus
whole myself with-bent cleverly legs prone to-throw-down certain
atque obstinatus nullis verberibus ad ingrediundum exsurgere,
and determined by-no blows for walking-on to-rise
immo etiam paratus non fusti tantum sed machaera
nay even prepared not by-a-cudgel only but by-a-sword
perfossus occumbere. Rebar enim iam me prorsus exanimatum
pierced to-fall-dead I-thought for now me utterly exhausted

ac debilem mereri causariam missionem, certe latrones partim
and weak to-deserve a-sick-leave discharge surely the-robbers partly
impatientia morae, partim studio festinatae fugae, dorsi mei
from-impatience of-delay partly from-zeal of-hastened flight of-back my
sarcinam duobus ceteris iumentis distributuros, meque in
the-pack to-the-two other beasts going-to-distribute and-me in
altioris vindictae vicem lupis et vulturiis praedam relicturos.
of-higher vengeance place to-wolves and vultures as-prey going-to-leave
Sed tam bellum consilium meum praevertit sors deterrima;
but so pretty a-plan my forestalled lot the-worst
namque ille alius asinus, divinato et antecapto meo cogitatu,
for that other ass with-divined and anticipated my thought
statim se mentita lassitudine cum rebus totis offudit,
at-once himself with-feigned weariness with things all threw-down
iacensque in mortuum non fustibus, non stimulis, ac
and-lying like a-dead-one not by-cudgels not by-goads and
ne cauda et auribus cruribusque undique versum elevatis
not by-tail and ears and-legs everywhere turned raised
temptavit exsurgere, quoad tandem fustibus, postumae spei
tried to-get-up until at-last with-the-cudgels of-a-posthumous hope
fatigati secumque collocuti, ne tam diu mortuo, immo
wearied and-among-themselves having-talked lest so long on-a-dead nay
vero lapideo asino servientes fugam morarentur, sarcinis
indeed stone ass attending their-flight they-should-delay with-the-packs
eius mihi equoque distributis, destricto gladio poplites
his to-me and-to-the-horse distributed with-drawn sword the-hamstrings
eius totos amputant, ac paululum a via retractum per
his whole they-cut and a-little from the-road dragged through
altissimum praeceps in vallem proximam etiam nunc spirantem
the-deepest headlong into the-valley nearest even then breathing
praecipitant. Tunc ego miseri commilitonis fortunam cogitans
they-hurl then I of-wretched comrade the-fortune thinking-on

statui iam dolis abiectis et fraudibus asinum me
I-resolved now with-tricks cast-off and frauds an-ass myself
bonae frugi dominis exhibere: nam et secum eos
of-good worth to-my-masters to-show for also among-themselves them
animadverteram colloquentes, quod in proximo nobis esset
I-had-noticed talking that in the-nearest for-us was
habenda mansio et totius viae finis quieta eorumque esset
to-be-had a-lodging and of-the-whole road the-end quiet and-their was
sedes illa et habitatio. Clementi denique transmisso clivulo,
seat that and dwelling with-a-gentle in-short crossed little-slope
pervenimus ad locum destinatum, ubi rebus totis exsolutis
we-arrive at the-place appointed where with-things all unloaded
atque intus conditis, iam pondere liberatus lassitudinem
and inside stored now from-weight freed my-weariness
vice lavacri pulvereis volutatibus digerebam.
in-place of-a-bath with-dusty rollings I-dispersed

XXII · THE ROBBERS' CAVE

The robbers bring the beasts to their cave in a wooded mountain, ringed by ravines and a stream, with a tower for a sheepfold and a lookouts' hut. They abuse the old woman who keeps house, bathe, and feast. A second band arrives with rich plunder, and the first jeers at it for losing its leader Lamachus.

Res ac tempus ipsum locorum speluncaeque illius quam 6
the-matter and the-time itself of-the-places and-of-the-cave that which
latrones inhabitabant, descriptionem exponere flagitat: nam
the-robbers inhabited a-description to-set-out demands for
et meum simul periclitabor ingenium, et faxo vos
both my at-once I-shall-test talent and I-shall-see-that you
quoque an mente etiam sensuque fuerim asinus sedulo
too whether in-mind also and-sense I-was an-ass carefully

sentiatis. Mons horridus silvestribusque frondibus umbrosus
may-perceive a-mountain rugged and-with-woodland foliage shady
et in primis altus fuit; huius per obliqua devexa,
and among the-first high there-was of-this along the-slanting slopes
qua saxis asperrimis et ob id inaccessis cingitur,
where with-rocks most-rough and on-account-of that inaccessible it-is-girt
convalles lacunosae cavaeque nimium spinetis aggeratae
valleys full-of-pits and-hollow exceedingly with-thorn-brakes heaped
et quaquaversus repositae naturalem tutelam praebentes
and on-every-side placed natural protection affording
ambiebant. De summo vertice fons afluens bullis
surrounded-it from the-highest peak a-spring flowing with-bubbles
ingentibus scaturribat, perque prona delapsus evomebat undas
huge was-gushing and-down the-slopes slipping it-spewed waters
argenteas, iamque rivulis pluribus dispersus ac valles illas
silver and-now into-streams many dispersed and valleys those
agminibus stagnantibus irrigans in modum stipati maris vel
with-masses standing watering in the-manner of-a-packed sea or
ignavi fluminis cuncta cohibebat. Insurgit speluncae, qua
of-a-sluggish river all-things it-enclosed rises at-the-cave where
margines montanae desinunt, turris ardua caulae firma solidis
the-edges mountain end a-tower lofty a-fold strong with-solid
cratibus, ovili stabulationi commoda, porrectis undique
hurdles for-sheep stabling suitable with-stretched-out everywhere
lateribus; ante fores exigui tramites vice structi parietis
sides before the-doors narrow paths in-place of-a-built wall
attenduntur: ea tu bono, certe meo periculo, latronum
are-stretched that you with-good surely my peril of-robbers
dixeris atria. Nec iuxta quicquam quam parva casula
you-might-call the-halls nor near-by anything except a-small little-hut

cannulis temere contecta, quo speculatores e numero
with-little-reeds carelessly covered where lookouts from the-number
latronum, ut postea comperi, sorte ducti noctibus excubabant.
of-the-robbers as afterward I-learned by-lot drawn by-nights kept-watch
Ibi cum singuli derepsissent stipatis artubus, nobis ante 7
there when one-by-one they-had-crept-down with-packed limbs with-us before
ipsas fores loro valido destinatis, anum quandam
the-very doors with-a-strap strong tied an-old-woman certain
curvatam gravi senio, cui soli salus atque tutela tot
bent by-heavy old-age to-whom alone the-safety and protection of-so-many
numero iuvenum commissa videbatur, sic infesti compellant:
in-number young-men entrusted seemed thus hostile they-address
"Etiamne tu, busti cadaver extremum et vitae dedecus
even you of-the-tomb corpse the-last and of-life the-disgrace
primum et Orci fastidium solum, sic nobis otiosa domi
first and of-Orcus the-disgust only thus to-us idle at-home
residens lusitabis, nec nostris tam magnis tamque periculosis
sitting will-you-play nor to-our so great and-so dangerous
laboribus solacium de tam sera refectione tribues? Quae diebus
labors comfort from so late refreshment will-you-give who by-days
ac noctibus nil quicquam rei quam merum saevienti
and nights nothing anything of-a-thing than unmixed-wine into-raging
ventri tuo soles aviditer ingurgitare." Tremens ad haec et
belly your are-wont greedily to-guzzle trembling to this and
stridenti vocula pavida sic anus: "At vobis, fortissimi
with-shrill little-voice frightened thus the-old-woman but for-you bravest
fidelissimique mei hospitatores iuvenes, affatim cuncta suavi
and-most-faithful my guests young-men abundantly all-things with-sweet
sapore percocta pulmenta praesto sunt, panis numerosus,
flavor cooked stews ready are bread abundant
vinum probe calicibus exfricatis affluenter immissum, et
wine well with-cups scoured plentifully poured and

ex more calida tumultuario lavacro vestro praeparata." In
by custom hot-water for-the-hurried bath your prepared at
fine sermonis huius statim sese devestiunt, nudatique et
end of-speech this at-once themselves they-undress and-stripped and
flammae largissimae vapore recreati calidaque perfusi et
by-the-flame's very-copious heat refreshed and-with-hot-water drenched and
oleo peruncti mensas dapibus largiter instructas accumbunt.
with-oil anointed at-tables with-dishes plentifully furnished they-recline
8 Commodum cubuerant, et ecce quidam longe plures
just they-had-lain-down and behold certain far more
numero iuvenes adveniunt alii, quos incunctanter adaeque
in-number young-men arrive others whom without-hesitation equally
latrones arbitrarere, nam et ipsi praedas aureorum
robbers you-would-judge for also they-themselves booty of-gold
argentariorumque nummorum ac vasculorum vestisque
and-silver coins and of-vessels and-of-clothing
sericae et intextae filis aureis invehebant: hi simili
silken and woven with-threads golden brought-in these by-a-similar
lavacro refoti inter toros sociorum sese reponunt.
bath refreshed among the-couches of-their-comrades themselves place
Tunc sorte ducti ministerium faciunt: estur ac potatur
then by-lot drawn service they-do it-is-eaten and it-is-drunk
incondite pulmentis acervatim, panibus aggeratim, poculis
in-disorder with-stews in-heaps with-loaves in-piles with-cups
agminatim ingestis; clamore ludunt, strepitu cantillant,
in-troops thrown-in with-shouting they-play with-noise they-sing
conviciis iocantur, ac iam cetera semiferis Lapithis evantibus
with-insults they-jest and now the-rest to-the-half-wild Lapiths reveling
Centaurisque similia. Tunc inter eos unus, qui robore ceteros
and-Centaurs like-things then among them one who in-strength the-rest
antistabat, "Nos quidem" inquit "Milonis Hypatini domum
surpassed we indeed he-says Milo's of-Hypata the-house

fortiter expugnavimus. Praeter tantam fortunae copiam,
bravely have-stormed besides so-great of-fortune the-abundance
quam nostra virtute nacti sumus, et incolumi numero
which by-our valor gained we-have also with-unharmed number
castra nostra petivimus et, si quid ad rem facit, octo
camp our we-have-sought and if anything to the-matter it-makes by-eight
pedibus auctiores remeavimus. At vos qui Boeotias urbes
feet richer we-have-returned but you who the-Boeotian cities
appetistis, ipso duce vestro fortissimo Lamacho deminuti
attacked with-the-very leader your bravest Lamachus diminished
debilem numerum reduxistis, cuius salutem merito sarcinis
a-weakened number have-brought-back whose safety deservedly to-packs
istis quas advexistis omnibus antetulerim. Sed illum quidem
those which you-have-brought all I-would-prefer but him indeed
utcumque nimia virtus sua peremit; inter inclitos reges ac
somehow excessive valor his destroyed among famous kings and
duces proeliorum tanti viri memoria celebrabitur: enim vos
leaders of-battles of-so-great a-man the-memory will-be-celebrated for you
bonae frugi latrones inter furta parva atque servilia timidule
of-good worth robbers among thefts small and servile timidly
per balneas et aniles cellulas reptantes scrutariam facitis."
through baths and old-women's little-rooms creeping rummaging you-do

Taunted by the first band, one of the second tells its losses. At Thebes their leader Lamachus, putting his hand through a miser's keyhole, was nailed to the door and had his arm cut off before he threw himself on his sword; Alcimus was pushed from a window by an old woman he was robbing.

9 Suscipit unus ex illo posteriore numero: "Tune solus ignoras
takes-up one from that latter number do-you alone not-know
longe faciliores ad expugnandum domus esse maiores? Quippe
far easier for storming houses to-be larger since
quod, licet numerosa familia latis deversetur aedibus, tamen
because though a-numerous household in-broad dwells halls still
quisque magis suae saluti quam domini consulat
each more for-his-own safety than for-the-master's takes-thought
opibus: frugi autem et solitarii homines fortunam parvam, vel
for-the-wealth thrifty however and solitary men a-fortune small or
certe satis amplam, dissimulanter obtectam protegunt acrius
surely quite large secretly hidden protect more-keenly
et sanguinis sui periculo muniunt. Res ipsa denique
and of-blood their-own at-the-risk fortify the-matter itself in-short
fidem sermoni meo dabit: vix enim Thebas heptapylos
credit to-speech my will-give scarcely for Thebes seven-gated
accessimus, quod est huic disciplinae primarium studium, sedulo
we-approached which is for-this discipline the-chief study carefully
fortunas inquirebamus popularium. Nec nos denique latuit
the-fortunes we-inquired-into of-the-inhabitants nor us in-short escaped
Chryseros quidam nummularius, copiosae pecuniae dominus,
Chryseros a-certain money-changer of-abundant money master
qui metu officiorum ac munerum publicorum magnis artibus
who from-fear of-offices and of-duties public with-great arts

magnam dissimulabat opulentiam: denique solus ac solitarius
great concealed wealth in-short alone and solitary
parva sed satis munita domuncula contentus, pannosus
with-a-small but quite fortified little-house content ragged
alioquin ac sordidus aureos folles incubabat. Ergo placuit
besides and filthy gold bags he-brooded-over therefore it-was-resolved
ad hunc primum ferremus aditum, ut contempta pugna
on this-man first we-should-make our-attack so-that with-scorned fight
manus unicae nullo negotio cunctis opibus otiose potiremur.
of-hand single with-no trouble all the-wealth at-leisure we-might-possess
"Nec mora, cum noctis initio foribus eius praestolamur, 10
nor delay when at-night's beginning at-the-doors his we-wait
quas neque sublevare neque dimovere ac ne perfringere
which neither to-lift nor to-move-aside and not to-break-down
quidem nobis videbatur, ne valvarum sonus cunctam
even to-us it-seemed lest of-the-folding-doors the-sound the-whole
viciniam nostro suscitaret exitio. Tunc itaque sublimis
neighborhood to-our might-rouse destruction then and-so lofty
ille vexillarius noster Lamachus spectatae virtutis suae
that standard-bearer our Lamachus of-proven valor his
fiducia, qua clavi immittendae foramen patebat sensim
with-confidence where of-the-key to-be-inserted the-hole lay-open gradually
immissa manu, claustrum evellere gestiebat: sed dudum
with-inserted hand the-bolt to-tear-out was-eager but long-since
scilicet omnium bipedum nequissimus Chryseros vigilans
evidently of-all two-footed-things the-most-worthless Chryseros waking
et singula rerum sentiens, lenem gradum et obnixum
and each of-the-things perceiving a-soft step and strained
silentium tolerans paulatim arrepit, grandique clavo manum
silence keeping little-by-little creeps-up and-with-a-great nail the-hand
ducis nostri repente nisu fortissimo ad ostii tabulam
of-leader our suddenly with-effort most-strong to of-the-door the-plank

offigit et exitiabili nexu patibulatum relinquens gurgustioli
fixes and with-a-deadly bond gibbeted leaving of-hovel
sui tectum ascendit atque inde contentissima voce clamitans
his the-roof climbs and from-there with-most-strained voice shouting
rogansque vicinos et unumquemque proprio nomine ciens
and-asking the-neighbors and each by-his-own name calling
et salutis communis admonens, diffamat incendio repentino
and of-safety common warning he-spreads-word by-a-fire sudden
domum suam possideri: sic unusquisque proximi periculi
the-house his to-be-seized thus each of-nearby danger
confinio territus suppetiatum decurrunt anxii.
by-the-nearness terrified to-help run-down anxious

11 "Tunc nos in ancipiti periculo constituti vel opprimendi nostri
then we in two-headed danger placed either of-being-crushed ourselves
vel deserendi socii remedium e re nata validum eo
or of-deserting our-comrade a-remedy as the-situation arose strong with-him
volente comminiscimus: antesignani nostri partem, qua manus
willing we-devise of-front-ranker our the-part where the-hand
humerum subit, ictu per articulum medium temperato
the-shoulder meets with-a-blow through the-joint middle measured
prorsus abscidimus atque ibi brachio relicto, multis laciniis
utterly we-cut-off and there with-the-arm left with-many rags
offulto vulnere, ne stillae sanguinis vestigium proderent,
packed the-wound lest the-drops of-blood a-trace should-betray
ceterum Lamachum raptim reportamus; ac, dum trepidi
the-rest Lamachus hastily we-carry-back and while trembling
religionis urguemur gravi tumultu et instantis periculi metu
by-scruple we-are-pressed by-heavy tumult and of-imminent danger by-fear
terremur ad fugam, nec vel sequi propere vel remanere tuto
are-terrified to flight nor either to-follow quickly or to-remain safely
potest vir sublimis animi virtutisque praecipuus, multis nos
can the-man of-lofty spirit and-in-valor outstanding with-many us

affatibus multisque precibus querens adhortatur per dexteram
addresses and-many prayers complaining exhorts by the-right-hand
Martis, per fidem sacramenti bonum commilitonem cruciatu
of-Mars by the-faith of-the-oath a-good fellow-soldier from-torture
simul et captivitate liberaremus: cur enim manui, quae rapere
at-once and captivity we-should-free why for the-hand which to-seize
et iugulare sola posset, fortem latronem supervivere? Sat
and to-cut-throats alone could the-brave robber to-survive enough
se beatum qui manu socia volens occumberet. Cumque
himself blessed who by-a-hand comradely willingly should-fall and-when
nulli nostrum spontale parricidium suadens persuadere posset,
no-one of-us a-voluntary parricide urging to-persuade could
manu reliqua sumptum gladium suum diuque deosculatum,
with-hand remaining taken sword his and-long kissed
per medium pectus ictu fortissimo transadigit. Tunc nos
through the-middle-of the-breast with-a-blow most-strong he-drives-through then we
magnanimi ducis vigore venerato corpus reliquum veste
of-the-great-souled leader with-the-vigor revered the-body remaining in-a-garment
lintea diligenter convolutum mari celandum commisimus,
of-linen carefully wrapped to-the-sea to-be-hidden we-entrusted
et nunc iacet noster Lamachus elemento toto sepultus.
and now lies our Lamachus in-an-element whole buried
"Et ille quidem dignum virtutibus suis vitae terminum posuit: 12
and he indeed worthy of-virtues his of-life an-end set
enimvero Alcimus sollertibus coeptis minus saevum Fortunae
but Alcimus with-shrewd undertakings a-less savage of-Fortune
nutum non potuit adducere. Qui cum dormientis anus
nod not could to-bring who when of-a-sleeping old-woman
perfracto tuguriolo conscendisset cubiculum superius iamque
with-broken-into the-hut had-climbed the-bedroom upper and-now
protinus oblisis faucibus interstinguere eam debuisset, prius
at-once with-crushed throat to-extinguish her he-ought first

maluit rerum singula per latiorem fenestram forinsecus
he-preferred of-things each through a-broad-enough window outside
nobis scilicet rapienda dispergere. Cumque iam cuncta
to-us evidently to-be-snatched to-scatter and-when now all
rerum naviter emolitus nec toro quidem aniculae
of-things energetically had-heaved-out nor the-bed even of-the-little-old-woman
quiescentis parcere vellet, eaque lectulo suo devoluta
resting to-spare wished and-with-her from-little-bed her rolled-off
vestem stragulam subductam scilicet iactare similiter
the-garment covering pulled-from-under evidently to-throw similarly
destinaret, genibus eius profusa sic nequissima illa deprecatur:
intended at-knees his prostrated thus most-worthless she entreats
'Quid, oro, fili, paupertinas pannosasque resculas miserrimae
why I-pray son poor and-ragged little-things of-a-most-wretched
anus donas vicinis divitibus, quorum haec fenestra
old-woman do-you-give to-neighbors rich whose this window
domum prospicit?' Quo sermone callido deceptus astu, et
onto-house looks-out by-this talk cunning deceived by-the-trick and
vera quae dicta sunt credens Alcimus, verens scilicet ne
true-things what said were believing Alcimus fearing evidently lest
et ea, quae prius miserat quaeque postea missurus foret,
both those-things which before he-had-sent and-which later going-to-send he-was
non sociis suis sed in alienos Lares iam certus erroris
not to-comrades his but into another's household-gods now sure of-his-error
abiceret, suspendit se fenestra sagaciter perspecturus
he-might-throw he-hangs himself from-the-window shrewdly going-to-survey
omnia, praesertim domus attiguae, ut dixerat illa, fortunas
all-things especially of-the-house adjoining as had-said she the-fortunes
arbitraturus. Quod eum strenue quidem sed satis improvide
going-to-reckon which him vigorously indeed but quite incautiously
conantem senile illud facinus quamquam invalido, repentino
trying senile that crime although with-weak sudden

tamen et inopinato pulsu, nutantem ac pendulum et in
still and unexpected push wavering and hanging and in
prospectu alioquin attonitum praeceps inegit; qui praeter
looking-out besides astonished headlong drove who besides
altitudinem nimiam super quendam etiam vastissimum lapidem
height excessive on a-certain also most-huge stone
propter iacentem recidens, perfracta diffissaque crate costarum
near-by lying falling-back broken and-split the-frame of-his-ribs
rivos sanguinis vomens imitus, narratisque nobis quae gesta
streams of-blood vomiting from-inside and-with-told to-us what done
sunt, non diu cruciatus vitam evasit: quem prioris exemplo
had-been not long tortured from-life escaped whom by-the-former's example
sepulturae traditum bonum secutorem Lamacho dedimus.
to-burial handed-over a-good follower to-Lamachus we-gave

XXIV · THRASYLEON THE BEAR

Leaving Thebes for Plataea, the robbers found Democharesꝰ preparing a gladiatorial show, but plague was killing his bears. They disguised their comrade Thrasyleon in a dead bear's skin to be let into his house. At night they plundered it, but Thrasyleon was hunted by dogs and men and died still playing the bear, for the band's honor.

"Tunc orbitatis duplici plaga petiti, iamque Thebanis 13
then by-bereavement's double blow struck and-now from-the-Theban
conatibus abnuentes, Plataeas proximam conscendimus
attempts refraining Plataea the-nearest we-climb-to
civitatem. Ibi famam celebrem super quodam Democharе
city there a-report widespread about a-certain Democharesꝰ
munus edituro gladiatorium deprehendimus: nam vir et
a-show going-to-give gladiatorial we-detect for a-man both
genere primarius et opibus plurimus et liberalitate praecipuus
in-birth first and in-wealth most-ample and in-liberality outstanding

digno fortunae suae splendore publicas voluptates instruebat.
with-worthy of-fortune his splendor public pleasures he-was-furnishing
Quis tantus ingenii, quis facundiae, qui singulas species
who of-such-great talent who of-eloquence that each form
apparatus multiiugi verbis idoneis posset explicare? Gladiatores
of-the-display manifold in-words suitable could to-unfold gladiators
isti famosae manus, venatores illi probatae pernicitatis, alibi
these of-famous hand hunters those of-proven swiftness elsewhere
noxii perdita securitate suis epulis bestiarum saginas
criminals with-lost security for-their banquets of-the-beasts fattenings
instruentes; confixilis machinae sublicae, turres tabularum
preparing of-fastened-together machinery pile-built towers with-planks'
nexibus ad instar circumforaneae domus, floridae picturae,
joinings to the-likeness of-a-traveling house with-flowery painting
decora futurae venationis receptacula. Qui praeterea numerus,
ornaments of-the-future hunt receptacles what besides number
quae facies ferarum! Nam praecipuo studio forinsecus etiam
what forms of-beasts for with-special zeal from-abroad even
advexerat generosa illa damnatorum capitum funera. Sed
he-had-brought-in noble those of-condemned heads funerals but
praeter ceteram speciosi muneris supellectilem totis utcumque
besides the-other of-the-splendid show equipment with-all somehow
patrimonii viribus immanis ursae comparabat numerum
of-his-patrimony strength of-huge she-bears he-was-procuring a-number
copiosum: nam praeter domesticis venationibus captas, praeter
abundant for besides in-domestic hunts caught besides
largis emptionibus partas, amicorum etiam donationibus
by-generous purchases acquired of-friends also by-gifts
variis certatim oblatas tutela sumptuosa sollicite nutriebat.
various in-rivalry offered with-care costly anxiously he-was-feeding

"Nec ille tam clarus tamque splendidus publicae voluptatis 14
nor that so famous and-so splendid of-public pleasure
apparatus invidiae noxios effugit oculos: nam diutina
the-apparatus of-envy the-harmful escaped eyes for by-long
captivitate fatigatae simul et aestiva flagrantia maceratae,
captivity wearied at-once and by-summer's heat wasted
pigra etiam sessione languidae, repentina correptae pestilentia
by-sluggish also sitting languid by-a-sudden seized plague
paene ad nullum redivere numerum. Passim per plateas
almost to no they-returned number everywhere through the-streets
plurimas cerneres iacere semivivorum corporum ferina
very-many you-would-see to-lie of-half-living bodies bestial
naufragia: tunc vulgus ignobile, quos inculta pauperies sine
shipwrecks then the-crowd base which squalid poverty without
delectu ciborum tenuato ventri cogit sordentia supplementa
choice of-foods for-a-thinned belly compels filthy supplements
et dapes gratuitas conquirere, passim iacentes epulas accurrunt.
and feasts free to-seek-out everywhere lying feasts run-to
"Tunc e re nata subtile consilium ego et iste
then as the-situation arose a-subtle plan I and that
Babulus tale comminiscimur: unam, quae ceteris sarcina
Babulus such devise one which over-the-rest in-bulk
corporis praevalebat, quasi cibo parandam portamus ad
of-body was-superior as-if for-food to-be-prepared we-carry to
nostrum receptaculum eiusque probe nudatum carnibus
our hideout and-its well stripped of-flesh
corium, servatis sollerter totis unguibus, ipso etiam
the-hide with-preserved skillfully all the-claws with-the-very also
bestiae capite adusque confinium cervicis solido relicto,
beast's head right-to the-border of-the-neck solid left
tergus omne rasura studiosa tenuamus et minuto cinere
the-hide all with-scraping careful we-thin and with-fine ash

perspersum soli siccandum tradimus. Ac dum caelestis
sprinkled to-the-sun to-be-dried we-hand-over and while of-the-heavenly
vaporis flammis examurgatur, nos interdum pulpis eius
heat by-the-flames it-is-drained we meanwhile with-the-flesh its
valenter saginantes, sic instanti militiae disponimus
vigorously fattening thus for-the-imminent campaign we-arrange
sacramentum, ut unus e numero nostro, non qui corporis
the-oath that one from number our not who of-body
adeo sed animi robore ceteris antistaret, atque is in
so-much but of-mind in-strength the-rest surpassed and he among
primis voluntarius, pelle illa contectus ursae subiret
the-first a-volunteer with-hide that covered of-the-she-bear should-go-under
effigiem, domumque Democharis illatus per opportuna
the-likeness and-into-the-house of-Democharis brought-in through the-opportune
noctis silentia nobis ianuae faciles praestaret aditus.
of-night silences for-us of-the-door easy should-provide the-approaches
15 "Nec paucos fortissimi collegii sollers species ad munus
nor few of-the-bravest company the-clever scheme for the-task
obeundum arrexerat: quorum prae ceteris Thrasyleon
to-be-undertaken had-roused of-whom before the-rest Thrasyleon
factionis optione delectus ancipitis machinae subivit aleam,
by-the-faction's choice chosen of-the-perilous device undertook the-gamble
iamque habili corio et mollitie tractabili vultu sereno
and-now in-the-handy hide and in-softness manageable with-face serene
sese recondit. Tunc tenui sarcimine summas oras eius
himself hides then with-fine stitching the-top edges of-it
adaequamus, et iuncturae rimam, licet gracilem, saetae
we-make-even and of-the-seam the-crack though slender of-the-bristle
circumfluentis densitate saepimus; ad ipsum confinium
flowing-round by-the-thickness we-hedge to the-very border
gulae, qua cervix bestiae fuerat exsecta, Thrasyleonis
of-the-throat where the-neck of-the-beast had-been cut-out Thrasyleon's

caput subire cogimus, parvisque respiratui circa nares et
head to-go-under we-compel and-with-small for-breathing around the-nostrils and
oculos datis foraminibus, fortissimum socium nostrum, prorsus
eyes given holes the-bravest comrade our utterly
bestiam factum, inmittimus caveae modico praestinatae
a-beast made we-put-into a-cage for-a-modest bought-in-advance
pretio, quam constanti vigore festinus irrepsit ipse.
price which with-steady vigor hurrying crept-into he-himself
"Ad hunc modum prioribus inchoatis, sic ad reliqua 16
in this manner with-the-earlier-things begun thus to the-rest
fallaciae pergimus: sciscitati nomen cuiusdam Nicanoris
of-the-deception we-proceed having-inquired the-name of-a-certain Nicanor
qui genere Thracio proditus ius amicitiae summum cum
who by-race Thracian sprung the-bond of-friendship highest with
illo Demochare colebat, litteras affingimus, ut venationis
that Demochares cultivated a-letter we-forge so-that of-hunting
suae primitias bonus amicus videretur ornando muneri
his the-first-fruits the-good friend might-seem for-adorning the-show
dedicasse. Iamque provecta vespera, abusi praesidio
to-have-dedicated and-now with-advanced evening having-used the-protection
tenebrarum, Thrasyleonis caveam Demochari cum litteris illis
of-darkness Thrasyleon's cage to-Demochares with letters those
adulterinis offerimus, qui miratus bestiae magnitudinem
forged we-offer who having-admired of-the-beast the-size
suique contubernalis opportuna liberalitate laetatus iubet
and-of-his companion at-the-timely liberality rejoicing orders
nobis protinus gaudii sui gerulis decem aureos, ut ipse
to-us at-once of-joy his to-the-bearers ten gold-pieces as he-himself
habebat, e suis loculis adnumerari. Tunc ut novitas
had from his money-boxes to-be-counted-out then as novelty
consuevit ad repentinas visiones animos hominum pellere,
is-wont to sudden sights the-minds of-men to-drive

multi numero mirabundi bestiam confluebant, quorum satis
many in-number wondering at-the-beast flocked whose quite
callenter curiosos aspectus Thrasyleon noster impetu minaci
cunningly curious looks Thrasyleon our with-onset threatening
frequenter inhibebat; consonaque civium voce satis
frequently checked and-by-the-unanimous of-the-citizens voice quite
felix ac beatus Democharis ille saepe celebratus, quod
fortunate and blessed Democharis that often celebrated that
post tantam cladem ferarum novo proventu quoquo modo
after so-great a-disaster of-beasts by-a-new supply in-whatever way
fortunae resisteret, iubet novalibus suis confestim bestiam
fortune he-resisted orders to-fallow-fields his at-once the-beast
summa cum diligentia deportari;
the-highest with care to-be-carried

17 sed suscipiens ego 'Caveas,' inquam 'Domine, flagrantia solis
but taking-up I beware I-say master with-the-heat of-the-sun
et itineris spatio fatigatam coetui multarum et, ut
and of-the-journey by-the-length wearied to-the-company of-many and as
audio, non recte valentium committere ferarum. Quin potius
I-hear not rightly healthy to-entrust beasts why-not rather
domus tuae patulum ac perflabilem locum, immo et lacu
of-house your an-open and airy place nay and with-a-lake
aliquo conterminum refrigerantemque prospicis? An ignoras
some adjoining and-cool you-look-for or don't-you-know
hoc genus bestiae lucos consitos et specus roridos et fontes
this kind of-beast groves planted and caves dewy and springs
amoenos semper incubare?' Talibus monitis Democharis
pleasant always to-haunt by-such warnings Democharis
perterritus numerumque perditorum secum recensens, non
terrified and-the-number of-the-lost with-himself reckoning not
difficulter assensus, ut ex arbitrio nostro caveam locaremus
with-difficulty having-agreed that at discretion our the-cage we-might-place

facile permisit. ‘Sed et nos’ inquam ‘Ipsi parati sumus hic
readily allowed but also we I-say ourselves ready are here
ibidem pro cavea ista excubare noctes, ut aestus et
at-the-same-place before cage that to-keep-watch nights that of-heat and
vexationis incommodo bestiae fatigatae et cibum tempestivum
of-harassment from-the-discomfort to-the-beast wearied both food timely
et potum solitum accuratius offeramus.’ ‘Nihil indigemus
and drink customary more-carefully we-may-offer nothing we-need
labore isto vestro;’ respondit ille ‘Iam paene tota familia
labor that your answered he already almost the-whole household
per diutinam consuetudinem nutriendis ursis exercitata est.’
through long habit in-feeding bears trained is
“Post haec valefacto discessimus et portam civitatis 18
after this with-farewell-said we-departed and the-gate of-the-city
egressi monumentum quoddam conspicamur procul a
having-gone-out a-tomb certain we-catch-sight-of far from
via remoto et abdito loco positum. Ibi capulos carie
the-road in-a-remote and hidden place situated there the-coffins with-rot
et vetustate semitectos, quis inhabitabant pulverei et
and age half-covered in-which dwelt dusty and
iam cinerosi mortui, passim ad futurae praedae receptacula
now ashy dead-men everywhere for of-future booty receptacles
reseramus et, ex disciplina sectae servato noctis inlunio
we-open and by the-discipline of-our-sect with-watched of-the-night’s moonless
tempore, quo somnus obvius impetu primo corda mortalium
time when sleep meeting with-its-onset first the-hearts of-mortals
validius invadit ac premit, cohortem nostram gladiis
more-strongly invades and presses cohort our with-swords
armatam ante ipsas fores Democharis velut expilationis
armed before the-very doors of-Democharis as-if for-a-pillage
vadimonium sistimus. Nec setius Thrasyleon, examussim
appointment we-present nor otherwise Thrasyleon exactly

capto noctis latrocinali momento, prorepit cavea statimque
with-seized of-the-night the-robberish moment creeps-out of-the-cage and-at-once
custodes, qui propter sopiti quiescebant omnes ad unum, mox
the-guards who nearby asleep were-resting all to one soon
etiam ianitorem ipsum gladio conficit, clavique subtracta
even the-doorkeeper himself with-the-sword dispatches and-with-the-key drawn-out
fores ianuae repandit nobisque prompte convolantibus
the-doors of-the-gate opens and-to-us quickly flying-together
et domus alveo receptis demonstrat horreum, ubi
and of-the-house in-the-hollow received shows the-storeroom where
vespera sagaciter argentum copiosum recondi viderat. Quo
in-the-evening shrewdly silver abundant to-be-stored he-had-seen which
protinus perfracto confertae manus violentia, iubeo singulos
at-once broken-open of-the-crowded hand by-the-violence I-order each
commilitonum asportare quantum quisque poterat auri vel
of-my-comrades to-carry-off as-much-as each could of-gold or
argenti, et in illis aedibus fidelissimorum mortuorum occultare
of-silver and in those houses of-the-most-faithful dead to-hide
propere rursumque concito gradu recurrentes sarcinas
hastily and-again with-quickened step running-back the-loads
iterare: quod enim ex usu foret omnium, me solum
to-repeat which for of use it-would-be of-all me alone
resistentem pro domus limine cuncta rerum exploraturum
standing-firm before of-the-house the-threshold all of-things going-to-watch
sollicite dum redirent; nam et facies ursae mediis
anxiously until they-returned for both the-figure of-the-she-bear in-the-middle-of
aedibus discurrentis ad proterrendos, si qui de familia
the-house running-about for scaring if any of the-household
forte evigilassent, videbatur opportuna. Quis enim, quamuis
by-chance had-awakened seemed opportune who for however
fortis et intrepidus, immani forma tantae bestiae noctu
brave and fearless with-the-huge form of-so-great a-beast at-night

praesertim visitata, non se ad fugam statim concitaret, non
especially seen not himself to flight at-once would-rouse not
obdito cellae pessulo pavens et trepidus sese cohiberet?
with-shut of-the-room bolt fearing and trembling himself would-keep
"His omnibus salubri consilio recte dispositis occurrit 19
with-these all by-healthful plan rightly arranged there-comes
scaevus eventus: namque dum reduces socios nostros suspensus
perverse outcome for while returning comrades our in-suspense
opperior, quidam servulus, strepitu scilicet divinitus inquietus,
I-await a-certain little-slave by-the-noise evidently by-divine-will disturbed
proserpit leniter visaque bestia, quae libere discurrens
creeps-out gently and-with-seen the-beast which freely running-about
totis aedibus commeabat, premens obnixum silentium
in-the-whole house was-going-about keeping a-strained silence
vestigium suum replicat et utcumque cunctis in domo
step his he-retraces and somehow to-all in the-house
visa pronuntiat. Nec mora, cum numerosae familiae
what-was-seen he-announces nor delay when by-the-numerous household's
frequentia domus tota completur: taedis, lucernis, cereis,
crowd the-house whole is-filled with-torches lamps candles
sebaciis, et ceteris nocturni luminis instrumentis clarescunt
tallow-lights and other of-nightly light instruments grow-bright
tenebrae; nec inermis quisquam de tanta copia processit,
the-shadows nor unarmed anyone of so-great a-number came-forth
sed singuli fustibus, lanceis, destrictis denique gladiis armati
but each with-cudgels lances drawn finally swords armed
muniunt aditus. Nec secus canes etiam venaticos, auritos
guard the-approaches nor otherwise dogs also hunting long-eared
illos et horricomes ad comprimendam bestiam cohortantur.
those and shaggy for crushing the-beast they-urge-on

20 “Tunc ego, sensim gliscente adhuc illo tumultu, retrogradi
then I gradually with-growing still that tumult with-backward
fuga domo facesso sed plane Thrasyleonem mire canibus
flight from-the-house withdraw but plainly Thrasyleon wonderfully the-dogs
repugnantem, latens pone ianuam ipse, prospicio: quamquam
resisting hiding behind the-gate I-myself watch although
enim vitae metas ultimas obiret, non tamen sui nostrique
for of-life the-goals last he-was-meeting not still himself and-us
vel pristinae virtutis oblitus iam faucibus ipsis hiantis Cerberi
or his-former valor forgetful now in-the-jaws very of-gaping Cerberus
reluctabat: scaenam denique quam sponte sumpserat cum
he-struggled the-role in-short which willingly he-had-taken-up with
anima retinens, nunc fugiens, nunc resistens, variis corporis
his-soul keeping now fleeing now resisting with-various of-body
sui schemis ac motibus tandem domo prolapsus est.
his postures and movements at-last from-the-house slipped-out he-has
Nec tamen, quamvis publica potitus libertate, salutem fuga
nor still although public having-gained liberty safety by-flight
quaerere potuit, quippe cuncti canes de proximo angiportu satis
to-seek could since all the-dogs from the-nearest alley quite
feri satisque copiosi venaticis illis, qui commodum domo
fierce and-quite numerous with-hunting those which just-then from-the-house
similiter insequentes processerant, se obmiscent agminatim.
likewise pursuing had-come-out themselves mix in-troops
Miserum funestumque spectamen aspexi, Thrasyleonem nostrum
wretched and-deadly a-spectacle I-saw Thrasyleon our
catervis canum saevientium cinctum atque obsessum multisque
by-packs of-dogs raging surrounded and besieged and-many
numero morsibus laniatum. Denique tanti doloris impatiens
in-number with-bites torn in-short of-so-great pain unable-to-bear
populi circumfluentis turbelis immisceor, et in quo solo
of-the-people flowing-round with-the-crowds I-mingle and in which alone

poteram celatum auxilium bono ferre commilitoni, sic
I-could hidden help to-the-good to-bring comrade thus
indaginis principes dehortabar: 'O grande' inquam 'Et extremum
of-the-hunt the-leaders I-dissuaded O great I-say and extreme
flagitium, magnam et vere pretiosam perdimus bestiam.'
outrage a-great and truly precious we-are-losing beast
"Nec tamen nostri sermonis artes infelicissimo profuerunt 21
nor still of-our speech the-arts to-the-most-unhappy helped
iuveni, quippe quidam procurrens e domo procerus et
young-man since a-certain-man running-forth from the-house tall and
validus incunctanter lanceam mediis iniecit ursae
strong without-hesitation a-lance into-the-middle threw of-the-she-bear's
praecordiis nec secus alius, et ecce plurimi iam timore
heart nor otherwise another and behold very-many now with-fear
discusso certatim gladios etiam de proximo congerunt:
dispelled in-rivalry swords also from nearby heap-on
enimvero Thrasyleon egregium decus nostrae factionis,
for Thrasyleon the-outstanding glory of-our faction
tandem immortalitate digno illo spiritu expugnato, magis
at-last of-immortality worthy with-that spirit conquered rather
quam patientia neque clamore ac ne ululatu quidem fidem
than endurance neither by-shouting and not by-howling even the-faith
sacramenti prodidit, sed iam morsibus laceratus ferroque
of-the-oath betrayed but now with-bites lacerated and-with-steel
laniatus, obnixo mugitu et ferino fremitu praesentem
mangled with-strained bellowing and bestial roaring the-present
casum generoso vigore tolerans gloriam sibi reservavit,
misfortune with-noble vigor bearing glory for-himself he-kept
vitam fato reddidit. Tanto tamen terrore tantaque formidine
life to-fate he-gave-back with-such still terror and-such fear
coetum illum turbaverat, ut usque diluculum, immo et in
gathering that he-had-confused that right-to dawn nay and into

multum diem nemo quisquam fuerit ausus quamvis iacentem
much day no-one at-all has dared although lying
bestiam vel digito contingere, nisi tandem pigre ac
the-beast even with-a-finger to-touch until at-last sluggishly and
timide quidam lanius paulo fidentior, utero bestiae
timidly a-certain butcher a-little more-confident with-the-belly of-the-beast
resecto, ursae magnificum despoliavit latronem. Sic etiam
cut-open of-the-she-bear the-magnificent stripped robber thus also
Thrasyleon nobis perivit sed a gloria non perivit. Confestim
Thrasyleon to-us perished but to glory not he-perished at-once
itaque constrictis sarcinis illis, quas nobis servaverant fideles
and-so with-tied-up packs those which for-us had-kept the-faithful
mortui, Plataeae terminos concito gradu deserentes, istud
dead of-Plataea the-borders with-quickened step leaving this
apud nostros animos identidem reputabamus, merito nullam
among our minds repeatedly we-pondered deservedly no
fidem in vita nostra repperiri, quod ad manes iam et
faith in life our to-be-found because to the-shades already and
mortuos odio perfidiae nostrae demigrarit. Sic onere
the-dead from-hatred of-perfidy our it-has-migrated thus by-the-load
vecturae simul et asperitate viae toti fatigati, tribus
of-carrying at-once and by-the-roughness of-the-road all wearied with-three
comitum desideratis, istas quas videtis praedas adveximus."
of-companions lost those which you-see spoils we-have-brought

XXV · THE CAPTIVE MAIDEN

The robbers bring in a beautiful young girl of high birth, seized from her home on her wedding day, and set the old woman to comfort her. She tells of a dream in which her bridegroom was killed, and the old woman, saying that dreams foretell their opposite, begins a tale to distract her.

Post istum sermonis terminum poculis aureis memoriae 22
after this of-speech end from-cups golden to-the-memory
defunctorum commilitonum vino mero libant, dehinc canticis
of-the-dead comrades with-wine unmixed they-pour then with-songs
quibusdam Marti deo blanditi paululum conquiescunt. Enim
certain Mars the-god having-flattered for-a-little they-rest indeed
nobis anus illa recens hordeum affatim et sine ulla mensura
to-us old-woman that fresh barley abundantly and without any measure
largita est, ut equus quidem meus tanta copia et quidem
lavished has so-that horse indeed my with-such abundance and indeed
solus potitus saliares se cenasse cenas crederet: ego
alone having-possessed-it Salian himself to-have-dined dinners believed I
vero, qui numquam alias hordeum cibatus ni minutatum et
indeed who never otherwise barley fed unless chopped and
diutina coquitatione iurulentum semper eserim, rimatus
with-long cooking soupy always had-eaten having-searched-out
angulum quo panes reliquiae totius multitudinis congestae
the-corner where the-loaves the-remains of-the-whole multitude heaped
fuerant, fauces diutina fame saucias et araneantes valenter
had-been my-jaws with-long hunger wounded and cobwebbed vigorously
exerceo. Et ecce nocte promota latrones expergiti castra
I-exercise and behold with-night advanced the-robbers awakened the-camp
commovent instructique varie, partim gladiis armati, partim
move and-equipped variously partly with-swords armed partly

in Lemures reformati, concito se gradu proripiunt.
into Lemures transformed with-quickened themselves step rush-forth
Nec me tamen instanter ac fortiter manducantem vel somnus
nor me still urgently and stoutly chewing even sleep
imminens impedire potuit; et quamquam prius, cum essem
threatening to-hinder could and although before when I-was
Lucius, unico vel secundo pane contentus mensa decederem,
Lucius with-one or a-second loaf content from-the-table I-would-depart
tunc ventri tam profundo serviens iam ferme tertium qualum
then to-a-belly so deep serving now almost the-third basket
rumigabam. Huic me operi attonitum clara lux oppressit:
I-was-ruminating at-this me work astonished clear daylight overwhelmed
23 tandem itaque asinali verecundia ductus, aegerrime tamen
at-last and-so by-asinine modesty led most-painfully still
digrediens rivulo proximo sitim lenio. Nec mora, cum
departing at-the-stream nearest my-thirst I-soothe nor delay when
latrones ultro anxii atque solliciti remeant, nullam quidem
the-robbers exceedingly anxious and worried return no indeed
prorsus sarcinam vel omnino, licet vilem, laciniam ferentes
at-all pack or at-all even cheap garment bringing
sed tantum gladiis totis, totis manibus, immo factionis
but only with-swords whole with-whole hands nay of-faction
suae cunctis viribus unicam virginem filo liberalem et,
their with-all strength one maiden in-breeding gentle and
ut matronatus eius indicabat, summatem regionis, puellam
as the-matronly-dress her indicated a-chief of-the-region girl
mehercules et asino tali concupiscendam, maerentem et
by-Hercules even to-an-ass such to-be-desired mourning and
crines cum veste sua lacerantem advehebant. Eam simul
her-hair with garment her tearing they-brought her as-soon-as
intrantes speluncam verbisque quae dolebat minora
entering the-cave and-with-words what she-grieved-for smaller

facientes sic alloquuntur: "Tu quidem salutis et pudicitiae
making thus they-address you indeed of-safety and of-chastity
secura brevem patientiam nostro compendio tribue, quos ad
secure a-brief patience to-our profit grant whom to
istam sectam paupertatis necessitas adegit. Parentes autem
this sect of-poverty the-necessity has-driven parents however
tui de tanto suarum divitiarum cumulo, quamquam satis
your from so-great of-their riches a-heap although quite
cupidi, tamen sine mora parabunt scilicet idoneam sui
greedy still without delay will-prepare evidently a-suitable of-their-own
sanguinis redemptionem." His et his similibus blateratis
blood ransom with-these and these like babblings
nequicquam dolor sedatur puellae.
in-vain the-grief is-calmed of-the-girl
Quidni, quae inter genua sua deposito capite sine modo 24
why-not who between knees her with-laid head without measure
flebat? At illi introvocatae anui praecipiunt assidens eam
was-weeping but they to-the-called-in old-woman order sitting-by her
blando quantum posset solaretur alloquio, seque ad
with-coaxing as-much-as she-could she-should-console speech and-themselves to
sectae sueta conferunt. Nec tamen puella quivit ullis
of-the-sect the-usual-things betake nor still the-girl could by-any
aniculae sermonibus ab inceptis fletibus avocari,
of-the-little-old-woman talks from begun weeping to-be-called-away
sed altius eiulans sese et assiduis singultibus ilia
but more-deeply wailing herself and with-constant sobs her-flanks
quatiens mihi etiam lacrimas excussit, ac sic "An ego"
shaking to-me even tears she-forced-out and thus or I
inquit "Misera, tali domo, tanta familia, tam caris vernulis
she-says wretched of-such a-house such a-household so dear house-slaves
tam sanctis parentibus desolata et infelicis rapinae praeda
so revered parents bereft and of-unhappy robbery the-prey

et mancipium effecta, inque isto saxeo carcere serviliter
and slave made and-in this rocky prison slavishly
clausa et omnibus deliciis, quis innata atque innutrita sum,
shut and of-all delights in-which born and nurtured I-am
privata, sub incerto salutis et carnificinae laniena, inter
deprived under uncertain of-safety and of-butchery the-mangling among
tot ac tales latrones et horrendum gladiatorum populum,
so-many and such robbers and horrid of-gladiators a-people
vel fletum desinere vel omnino vivere potero?" Lamentata
either weeping to-cease or at-all to-live shall-be-able having-lamented
sic, et animi dolore et faucium tundore et corporis
thus both of-mind with-pain and of-throat with-the-bruising and of-body
lassitudine iam fatigata, marcentes oculos demisit ad soporem;
with-weariness now exhausted her-drooping eyes she-let-fall to sleep
25 at commodum conniverat nec diu, cum repente
but just she-had-closed-her-eyes nor long when suddenly
lymphatico ritu somno recussa est longeque vehementius
in-frenzied fashion from-sleep shaken-off was and-far more-violently
afflictare sese et pectus etiam palmis infestis tundere et
to-afflict herself and her-breast even with-palms hostile to-beat and
faciem illam luculentam verberare incipit, et aniculae
her-face that beautiful to-strike begins and to-the-little-old-woman
quamquam instantissime causas novi et instaurati maeroris
although most-insistently the-causes of-new and renewed grief
requirenti sic assuspirans altius infit: "Em nunc certe,
asking thus sighing more-deeply begins ah now surely
nunc maxime funditus perii, nunc spei salutiferae
now most utterly I-have-perished now the-hope saving
renuntiavi: laqueus aut gladius aut certe praecipitium
I-have-renounced the-noose or the-sword or surely a-precipice
procul dubio capessendum est." Ad haec anus iratior
far-from doubt to-be-taken is to this the-old-woman angrier

dicere eam saeviore iam vultu iubebat quid malum fleret
to-tell her with-sterner now face ordered what the-mischief she-wept
vel quid repente postliminio pressae quietis lamentationes
or why suddenly by-return of-oppressed rest lamentations
licentiosas refricaret: "Nimirum" inquit "Tanto compendio
licentious she-renewed no-doubt she-says of-so-great a-profit
tuae redemptionis defraudare iuvenes meos destinas quod
of-your ransom to-defraud young-men my you-intend but
si pergis ulterius, iam faxo lacrimis istis, quas parvi
if you-go-on further now I-shall-see-that with-tears those which little
pendere latrones consuerunt, insuper habitis viva exurare."
to-value robbers are-wont besides held-in-contempt alive you-be-burned
Tali puella sermone deterrita, manuque eius exosculata, 26
by-such the-girl speech frightened and-the-hand her having-kissed
"Parce" inquit "Mi parens, et durissimo casui meo,
spare-me she-says my parent and to-the-harshest misfortune my
pietatis humanae memor, subsiste paululum; nec enim, ut
of-pity human mindful stand-by a-little nor for as
reor, aevo longiore maturatae tibi in ista sancta canitie
I-think by-an-age longer ripened in-you in that holy gray-hair
miseratio prorsus exaruit. Specta denique scaenam meae
compassion utterly has-dried-up look in-short at-the-scene of-my
calamitatis: speciosus adulescens inter suos principales, quem
calamity a-handsome young-man among his-peers chief whom
filium publicum omnis sibi civitas cooptavit, meus alioquin
as-a-son public all for-itself the-city has-adopted my besides
consobrinus, tantulo triennio maior in aetate, qui mecum
cousin by-a-mere three-years older in age who with-me
primis ab annis nutritus et adultus individuo contubernio
first from years reared and grown-up in-the-undivided company
domusculae, immo vero cubiculi torique sanctae caritatis
of-the-little-house nay indeed of-the-bedroom and-bed by-holy love's

affectione mutuo mihi pigneratus, votisque nuptialibus pacto
affection mutually to-me pledged and-by-vows nuptial by-a-pact
iugali pridem destinatus, consensu parentum tabulis
marital long-since destined by-the-consent of-the-parents in-the-documents
etiam maritus nuncupatus, ad nuptias officio frequenti
also husband named to the-wedding with-the-attendance numerous
cognatorum et affinium stipatus templis et aedibus publicis
of-kinsmen and in-laws thronged in-temples and buildings public
victimas immolabat: domus tota lauris obsita, taedis lucida
victims was-sacrificing the-house whole with-laurels covered with-torches bright
constrepebat hymenaeum. Tunc me gremio suo mater infelix
was-resounding-with the-wedding-song then me in-bosom her my-mother unhappy
tolerans mundo nuptiali decenter ornabat, mellitisque saviis
holding with-finery nuptial becomingly was-adorning and-with-honeyed kisses
crebriter ingestis iam spem futuram liberorum votis anxiis
frequently showered already the-hope future of-children with-vows anxious
propagabat, cum irruptionis subitae gladiatorum impetus ad
was-propagating when of-an-irruption sudden of-gladiators the-attack to
belli faciem saeviens, nudis et infestis mucronibus coruscans;
of-war the-face raging with-naked and hostile blades flashing
non caedi, non rapinae manus afferunt, sed denso
not to-slaughter not to-plunder hands they-lay but in-a-dense
conglobatoque cuneo cubiculum nostrum inuadunt protinus:
and-massed wedge bedroom our they-invade at-once
nec ullo de familiaribus nostris repugnante ac ne tantillum
nor with-any of household our resisting and not in-the-least
quidem resistente, miseram, exanimem saevo pavore, trepidam
even opposing wretched-me lifeless with-savage fear trembling
de medio matris gremio rapuere. Sic ad instar
from the-middle-of of-my-mother the-bosom they-snatched thus to the-likeness
Athracidis et Protesilai dispectae disturbataeque nuptiae.
of-the-Atracid-woman and of-Protesilaus scattered and-wrecked the-nuptials

Sed ecce saevissimo somnio mihi nunc etiam redintegratur, 27
but behold by-a-most-savage dream for-me now even is-renewed
immo vero cumulatur infortunium meum: nam visa sum
nay indeed is-heaped-up misfortune my for seemed I-have
mihi de domo, de thalamo, de cubiculo, de toro denique
to-myself from the-house from the-chamber from the-bedroom from the-bed in-short
ipso violenter extracta per solitudines avias infortunatissimi
itself violently dragged through solitudes trackless of-my-most-unfortunate
mariti nomen invocare, eumque, ut primum meis amplexibus
husband the-name to-invoke and-him as soon-as from-my embraces
viduatus est, adhuc unguentis madidum, coronis floridum
bereft he-was still with-ointments wet with-garlands blooming
consequi vestigio me pedibus fugientem alienis: utque
to-follow by-the-track me on-feet fleeing others' and-as
clamore percito formosae raptum uxoris conquerens populi
with-a-shout roused of-his-beautiful the-rape wife bewailing of-the-people
testatur auxilium, quidam de latronibus importunae
he-calls-to-witness the-help a-certain-one of the-robbers at-the-troublesome
persecutionis indignatione permotus saxo grandi pro
pursuit by-indignation moved with-a-stone large before
pedibus arrepto misellum iuvenem maritum meum percussum
his-feet seized the-poor young-man husband my struck
interemit: talis aspectus atrocitate perterrita somno funesto
killed of-such of-a-sight by-the-atrocity terrified from-sleep deadly
pavens excussa sum." Tunc fletibus eius assuspirans
trembling shaken I-was then at-the-weeping her sighing
anus sic incipit: "Bono animo esto, mi herilis, nec
the-old-woman thus begins good in-spirit be my young-mistress nor
vanis somniorum figmentis terreare: nam praeter quod diurnae
by-empty of-dreams fictions be-terrified for besides that of-daytime
quietis imagines falsae perhibentur, tunc etiam nocturnae
rest the-images false are-reported then also nightly

visiones contrarios eventus nonnunquam pronuntiant. Denique
visions contrary outcomes sometimes announce in-short
flere et vapulare et nonnunquam iugulari lucrosum
to-weep and to-be-beaten and sometimes to-have-one's-throat-cut gainful
prosperumque proventum nuntiant, contra ridere et
and-prosperous success they-announce on-the-contrary to-laugh and
mellitis dulciolis ventrem saginare vel in voluptatem Veneriam
with-honeyed little-sweets the-belly to-fatten or in pleasure of-Venus
convenire tristitiae animi, languori corporis damnisque
to-come-together by-sadness of-mind by-languor of-body and-by-losses
ceteris anxiatum iri praedicant. Sed ego te narrationibus
other-ones troubled to-be-going they-foretell but I you with-tellings
lepidis anilibusque fabulis protinus avocabo;" et incipit:
pretty and-old-wives' tales at-once will-distract and she-begins

XXVI · PSYCHE AND VENUS

The old woman begins a tale. A king and queen had three daughters, the youngest, Psyche, so beautiful that men worshiped her as Venus and the goddess's temples stood empty. Venus in her anger orders her son Cupid to make the girl love the vilest of men.

28 "Erant in quadam civitate rex et regina: hi tres numero
there-were in a-certain city a-king and a-queen these three in-number
filias forma conspicuas habuere, sed maiores quidem natu,
daughters in-beauty conspicuous had but the-older indeed in-birth
quamvis gratissima specie, idonee tamen celebrari posse
although of-most-pleasing appearance fittingly still to-be-celebrated to-be-able
laudibus humanis credebantur, at vero puellae iunioris tam
by-praises human were-believed but indeed of-the-girl younger so
praecipua, tam praeclara pulchritudo nec exprimi ac
exceptional so brilliant the-beauty neither to-be-expressed and

ne sufficienter quidem laudari sermonis humani penuria
not adequately even to-be-praised of-speech human by-the-poverty
poterat. Multi denique civium et advenae copiosi,
could many in-short of-the-citizens and strangers numerous
quos eximii spectaculi rumor studiosa celebritate
whom of-the-extraordinary sight the-rumor with-eager thronging
congregabat, inaccessae formositatis admiratione stupidi
gathered of-unapproachable beauty by-admiration stupefied
et admoventes oribus suis dexteram primore digito in
and moving-to mouths their the-right-hand with-the-fore finger on
erectum pollicem residente ut ipsam prorsus deam Venerem
the-raised thumb resting as the-very utterly goddess Venus
venerabantur religiosis adorationibus. Iamque proximas civitates
they-worshiped with-religious adorations and-now the-nearest cities
et attiguas regiones fama pervaserat deam, quam
and adjoining regions the-report had-pervaded that-the-goddess whom
caerulum profundum pelagi peperit et ros spumantium
the-blue depth of-the-sea bore and the-dew of-foaming
fluctuum educavit, iam numinis sui passim tributa venia
waves reared now of-divinity her everywhere with-granted grace
in mediis conversari populi coetibus, vel certe rursum
in the-midst to-move-about of-the-people's gatherings or surely again
novo caelestium stillarum germine non maria, sed terras
by-a-new of-heavenly drops seed not the-seas but the-lands
Venerem aliam, virginali flore praeditam, pullulasse.
a-Venus another with-maidenly flower endowed to-have-sprouted
"Sic immensum procedit in dies opinio, sic insulas iam 29
thus immensely advances by days the-belief thus the-islands now
proxumas et terrae plusculum provinciasque plurimas fama
nearest and of-the-land a-little-more and-provinces very-many the-report
porrecta pervagatur: iam multi mortalium longis itineribus
spread wanders-through now many of-mortals by-long journeys

atque altissimis maris meatibus ad saeculi specimen gloriosum
and by-deepest of-the-sea passages to of-the-age the-wonder glorious
confluebant: Paphon nemo, Cnidon nemo ac ne ipsa
flocked to-Paphos no-one to-Cnidos no-one and not the-very
quidem Cythera ad conspectum deae Veneris navigabant.
even Cythera to the-sight of-the-goddess Venus sailed
Sacra diae praetereuntur, templa deformantur, pulvinaria
the-rites of-the-goddess are-passed-over the-temples are-disfigured the-couches
proteruntur, caerimoniae negleguntur; incoronata simulacra et
are-trampled the-ceremonies are-neglected ungarlanded the-images and
arae viduae frigido cinere foedatae. Puellae supplicatur,
the-altars widowed with-cold ash fouled to-the-girl supplication-is-made
et in humanis vultibus deae tantae numina placantur, et
and in human faces of-a-goddess so-great the-divinities are-appeased and
in matutino progressu virginis victimis et epulis Veneris
in the-morning procession of-the-maiden with-victims and feasts of-Venus
absentis nomen propitiatur, iamque per plateas commeantem
absent the-name is-propitiated and-now through the-streets going
populi frequenter floribus sertis et solutis apprecantur.
the-people frequently with-flowers garlanded and loose pray-to
"Haec honorum caelestium ad puellae mortalis cultum
this of-honors heavenly to of-a-girl mortal the-worship
immodica translatio verae Veneris vehementer incendit
immoderate transfer of-the-true Venus violently inflames
animos, et impatiens indignationis, capite quassanti fremens
the-mind and impatient of-indignation with-head shaking roaring
altius, sic secum disserit:
more-deeply thus with-herself she-discourses
30 'En rerum naturae prisca parens, en elementorum origo
behold of-things of-nature ancient parent behold of-the-elements origin
initialis, en orbis totius alma Venus, quae cum mortali
first behold of-the-world whole nurturing Venus who with a-mortal

puella partiario maiestatis honore tractor et nomen meum
girl with-shared of-majesty honor am-treated and the-name my
caelo conditum terrenis sordibus profanatur! Nimirum
in-heaven founded with-earthly filth is-profaned no-doubt
communi numinis piamento vicariae venerationis incertum
by-a-common of-divinity atonement of-substitute worship the-uncertainty
sustinebo, et imaginem meam circumferet puella moritura.
I-shall-bear and the-image my shall-carry-around a-girl going-to-die
Frustra me pastor ille, cuius iustitiam fidemque magnus
in-vain me shepherd that whose justice and-faith great
comprobavit Iupiter, ob eximiam speciem tantis praetulit
approved Jupiter for exceptional beauty to-so-great preferred
deabus. Sed non adeo gaudens ista, quaecumque est,
goddesses but not so rejoicing that-one whoever she-is
meos honores usurpaverit: iam faxo huius etiam ipsius
my honors shall-have-usurped now I-shall-see-that of-this even very
illicitae formositatis paeniteat.' Et vocat confestim puerum
unlawful beauty she-may-repent and she-calls at-once boy
suum pinnatum illum et satis temerarium, qui malis suis
her winged that and quite rash who by-evil his
moribus contempta disciplina publica, flammis et sagittis
habits with-despised discipline public with-flames and arrows
armatus per alienas domos nocte discurrens et omnium
armed through others' houses at-night running-about and of-all
matrimonia corrumpens impune committit tanta flagitia, et
the-marriages corrupting unpunished commits such outrages and
nihil prorsus boni facit.
nothing at-all of-good does
"Hunc, quamquam genuina licentia procacem, verbis quoque 31
him although with-native license wanton with-words also
insuper stimulat et perducit ad illam civitatem et Psychen —
besides she-goads and leads to that city and Psyche

hoc enim nomine puella nuncupabatur — coram ostendit et
by-this for name the-girl was-called before-him shows and
tota illa perlata de formositatis aemulatione fabula, gemens
with-whole that told about the-beauty's rivalry tale groaning
ac fremens indignatione 'Per ego te' inquit 'Maternae caritatis
and roaring with-indignation by I you she-says of-maternal love
foedera deprecor, per tuae sagittae dulcia vulnera, per flammae
the-bonds beseech by of-your arrow the-sweet wounds by of-flame
istius mellitas uredines, vindictam tuae parenti sed plenam
that the-honeyed burnings vengeance to-your parent but full
tribue et in pulchritudinem contumacem severiter vindica,
grant and on beauty insolent severely avenge
idque unum et prae omnibus unicum volens effice virgo
and-that one and above all-things single willingly bring-about the-maiden
ista amore flagrantissimo teneatur hominis extremi, quem et
that by-a-love most-burning may-be-held of-a-man the-lowest whom both
dignitatis et patrimonii simul et incolumitatis ipsius Fortuna
of-rank and of-patrimony at-once and of-safety itself Fortune
damnavit, tamque infimi ut per totum orbem non inveniat
has-condemned and-so mean that through the-whole world not he-may-find
miseriae suae comparem.' Sic effata, et osculis hiantibus
of-misery his an-equal thus having-spoken and with-kisses parted-lipped
filium diu ac pressule saviata proximas oras reflui litoris
her-son long and closely having-kissed the-nearest shores of-the-ebbing beach
petit, plantisque roseis vibrantium fluctuum summo rore
she-seeks and-with-feet rosy of-the-quivering waves with-the-topmost dew
calcato, ecce iam profundum maris sudo resedit vertice,
trodden behold now the-depth of-the-sea calm settled on-its-surface
et, ipsum quod incipit velle, et statim, quasi pridem
and the-very-thing which she-begins to-wish and at-once as-if long-since
praeceperit, non moratur marinum obsequium. Adsunt
she-had-ordered not delays the-marine service there-are-present

Nerei filiae chorum canentes, et Portunus caerulis barbis
Nereus' daughters a-chorus singing and Portunus with-blue beard
hispidus, et gravis piscoso sinu Salacia, et auriga parvulus
shaggy and heavy with-fishy bosom Salacia and the-charioteer little
delphini Palaemon: iam passim maria persultantes Tritonum
of-the-dolphin Palaemon now everywhere the-seas bounding-over of-Tritons
catervae; hic concha sonaci leniter buccinat, ille serico
the-bands this-one with-a-conch sounding gently trumpets that-one with-silken
tegmine flagrantiae solis obsistit inimici, alius sub oculis
covering the-blaze of-the-sun opposes the-hostile another under the-eyes
dominae speculum progerit, curru biiuges alii subnatant.
of-his-mistress a-mirror holds-forth to-the-chariot yoked-in-pairs others swim-under
Talis ad Oceanum pergentem Venerem comitatur exercitus.
such to Ocean going Venus accompanies an-army

XXVII · THE ORACLE AND THE ROCK

Psyche, admired by all, finds no husband. Apollo's oracle commands that she be set on a crag as a bride for a monster feared by the gods. Amid funeral rites the whole city leads her up the mountain and leaves her there alone, and Zephyr carries her gently down into a flowering valley.

"Interea Psyche cum sua sibi perspicua pulchritudine 32
meanwhile Psyche with her-own to-herself conspicuous beauty
nullum decoris sui fructum percipit. Spectatur ab omnibus,
no of-beauty her fruit gains she-is-looked-at by all
laudatur ab omnibus, nec quisquam, non rex, non regius,
is-praised by all nor anyone not a-king not a-prince
nec de plebe saltem cupiens eius nuptiarum petitor
nor from the-common-people at-least desiring of-her marriage a-suitor
accedit: mirantur quidem divinam speciem, sed ut simulacrum
comes they-admire indeed divine appearance but as a-statue

fabre politum mirantur omnes. Olim duae maiores sorores,
skillfully polished admire all long-since the-two elder sisters
quarum temperatam formositatem nulli diffamarant populi,
whose moderate beauty none had-spread-abroad the-peoples
procis regibus desponsae iam beatas nuptias adeptae, sed
to-suitors royal betrothed now happy marriages had-obtained but
Psyche virgo vidua domi residens deflet desertam suam
Psyche maiden unwed at-home sitting bewails forsaken her
solitudinem, aegra corporis, animi saucia, et quamvis gentibus
solitude sick in-body in-mind wounded and although by-nations
totis complacitam odit in se suam formositatem.
whole found-pleasing she-hates in herself her-own beauty
"Sic infortunatissimae filiae miserrimus pater, suspectatis
thus of-the-most-unfortunate daughter the-most-wretched father with-suspected
caelestibus odiis et irae superum metuens, dei Milesii
heavenly hatreds and the-anger of-the-gods fearing of-the-god Milesian
vetustissimum percontatur oraculum et a tanto numine
the-most-ancient consults oracle and from so-great a-divinity
precibus et victimis ingratae virgini petit nuptias
with-prayers and victims for-the-unpleasing maiden seeks a-marriage
et maritum. Sed Apollo, quamquam Graecus et Ionicus,
and a-husband but Apollo although Greek and Ionian
propter Milesiae conditorem sic Latina sorte respondit:
on-account-of Milesia's founder thus in-a-Latin oracle answered

33 'Montis in excelsi scopulo, rex, siste puellam
of-a-mountain on lofty the-crag king set the-girl
ornatam mundo funerei thalami:
adorned in-the-finery of-a-funereal marriage-chamber

nec speres generum mortali stirpe creatum,
nor hope-for a-son-in-law of-mortal stock begotten
sed saevum atque ferum vipereumque malum,
but savage and wild and-viperish an-evil
quod pinnis volitans super aethera cuncta fatigat
which with-wings flying above the-ether all wearies
flammaque et ferro singula debilitat;
and-with-flame and steel each-thing weakens
quod tremit ipse Iovis, quo numina terrificantur,
which trembles-at himself Jupiter at-which the-gods are-terrified
fluminaque horrescunt et Stygiae tenebrae.'
and-the-rivers shudder and the-Stygian darkness

Rex, olim beatus, affatu sanctae vaticinationis accepto
the-king once blessed with-the-utterance of-the-holy prophecy received
pigens tristisque retro domum pergit suaeque coniugi
sorrowing and-sad back home goes and-to-his wife
praecepta sortis enodat infaustae. Maeretur, fletur,
the-instructions of-the-oracle he-explains unlucky there-is-grieving weeping
lamentatur diebus plusculis: sed dirae sortis iam urget
lamenting for-days several but of-the-dire oracle now presses
taeter effectus, iam feralium nuptiarum miserrimae
the-hideous fulfillment now of-the-deadly nuptials for-the-most-wretched
virgini choragium struitur, iam taedae lumen atrae fuliginis
maiden the-pageant is-built now of-the-torch the-light of-black soot
cinere marcescit, et sonus tibiae zygiae mutatur in
with-the-ash withers and the-sound of-the-flute nuptial is-changed into
querulum Lydii modum, cantusque laetus hymenaei
the-plaintive of-the-Lydian mode and-the-song glad of-the-wedding-hymn
lugubri finitur ululatu, et puella nuptura deterget lacrimas
in-mournful ends wailing and the-girl going-to-marry wipes-away her-tears

ipso suo flammeo. Sic affectae domus triste fatum
with-the-very her-own bridal-veil thus of-the-afflicted house the-sad fate
cuncta etiam civitas congemebat, luctuque publico
the-whole even city lamented and-with-the-mourning public
confestim congruens edicitur iustitium.
at-once fitting is-proclaimed a-cessation-of-business

34 "Sed monitis caelestibus parendi necessitas misellam
but to-the-warnings heavenly of-obeying the-necessity poor
Psychen ad destinatam poenam efflagitabat: perfectis igitur
Psyche to the-appointed punishment demanded with-completed therefore
feralis thalami cum summo maerore sollemnibus
of-the-deadly marriage-chamber with the-highest grief the-rites
toto prosequente populo vivum producitur funus et
with-the-whole following people a-living is-led-forth funeral and
lacrimosa Psyche comitatur non nuptias sed exequias suas.
tearful Psyche accompanies not her-wedding but funeral her-own
Ac dum maesti parentes et tanto malo perciti nefarium
and while the-sad parents and by-so-great an-evil stirred the-wicked
facinus perficere cunctantur, ipsa illa filia talibus eos
deed to-perform hesitate the-very that daughter with-such them
adhortatur vocibus: 'Quid infelicem senectam fletu diutino
exhorts words why unhappy old-age with-weeping long
cruciatis? Quid spiritum vestrum, qui magis meus est,
do-you-torture why the-breath your which rather mine is
crebris eiulatibus fatigatis? Quid lacrimis inefficacibus ora
with-frequent wailings do-you-weary why with-tears ineffective the-faces
mihi veneranda foedatis? Quid laceratis in vestris oculis mea
to-me venerable do-you-befoul why do-you-tear in your eyes my
lumina? Quid canitiem scinditis? Quid pectora, quid ubera
eyes why the-gray-hair do-you-rend why the-breasts why the-bosoms
sancta tunditis? Haec erunt vobis egregiae formositatis
holy do-you-beat these will-be for-you of-the-outstanding beauty

meae praeclara praemia? Invidiae nefariae letali plaga
my the-splendid rewards of-envy wicked deadly by-a-blow
percussi sero sentitis. Cum gentes et populi celebrarent nos
struck late you-perceive when nations and peoples celebrated me
divinis honoribus, cum novam me Venerem ore consono
with-divine honors when a-new me Venus with-mouth harmonious
nuncuparent, tunc dolere, tunc flere, tunc me iam quasi
they-named then to-grieve then to-weep then me already as-if
peremptam lugere debuistis: iam sentio, iam video solo me
slain to-mourn you-ought now I-feel now I-see by-the-sole me
nomine Veneris perisse. Ducite me, et cui sors addixit
name of-Venus to-have-perished lead me and on-what the-oracle has-assigned
scopulo sistite: festino felices istas nuptias obire, festino
the-crag set-me I-hasten happy that marriage to-meet I-hasten
generosum illum maritum meum videre. Quid differo? Quid
noble that husband my to-see why do-I-delay why
detrecto venientem qui totius orbis exitio natus est?'
do-I-shun the-coming-one who of-the-whole world for-the-destruction born is
"Sic profata virgo conticuit ingressuque iam valido pompae 35
thus having-spoken the-maiden fell-silent and-with-a-step now firm to-the-train
populi prosequentis sese miscuit. Itur ad constitutum
of-the-people following herself mingled they-go to the-appointed
scopulum montis ardui, cuius in summo cacumine
crag of-the-mountain steep whose on highest summit
statutam puellam cuncti deserunt, taedasque nuptiales. quibus
set the-girl all desert and-the-torches nuptial with-which
praeluxerant, ibidem lacrimis suis extinctas relinquentes
they-had-lighted-the-way there with-tears their-own extinguished leaving
deiectis capitibus domuitionem parant, et miseri quidem
with-lowered heads the-homecoming they-prepare and the-wretched indeed
parentes eius tanta clade defessi clausae domus abstrusi
parents her by-so-great disaster exhausted of-a-shut house hidden

tenebris perpetuae nocti sese dedidere. Psychen autem
in-the-darkness to-perpetual night themselves gave-up Psyche however
paventem ac trepidam et in ipso scopuli vertice deflentem
fearful and trembling and on the-very of-the-crag peak weeping
mitis aura molliter spirantis Zephyri, vibratis hinc inde
the-gentle breeze softly of-breathing Zephyr with-fluttered hence thence
laciniis et reflato sinu, sensim levatam suo tranquillo
skirts and with-swollen fold gradually lifted with-his-own tranquil
spiritu vehens paulatim per devexa rupis excelsae, vallis
breath carrying little-by-little down the-slopes of-the-rock lofty of-the-valley
subditae florentis caespitis gremio leniter delapsam reclinat.
lying-below of-flowering turf in-the-lap gently slipped lays-down

BOOK V

XXVIII · THE PALACE OF THE UNSEEN HUSBAND

Psyche wakes on soft grass beside a grove and a spring and finds a palace of gold and jewels. Bodiless voices serve her bath and dinner, and by night an unseen husband comes to her bed and leaves before dawn. Meanwhile her elder sisters learn of her fate and hurry to their grieving parents.

"Psyche teneris et herbosis locis in ipso toro roscidi 1
Psyche in-tender and grassy places on the-very bed of-dewy
graminis suave recubans, tanta mentis perturbatione sedata,
grass sweetly reclining with-such of-mind disturbance calmed
dulce conquievit. Iamque sufficienti recreata somno placido
sweetly rested and-now by-sufficient refreshed sleep with-calm
resurgit animo: videt lucum proceris et vastis arboribus
she-rises mind she-sees a-grove with-tall and huge trees
consitum, videt fontem vitreo latice perlucidum medio
planted she-sees a-spring with-glassy water translucent in-the-middle
luci meditullio. Prope fontis allapsum domus regia
of-the-grove center near of-the-spring the-outflow a-house royal
est, aedificata non humanis manibus sed divinis artibus: iam
is built not by-human hands but by-divine arts now
scies ab introitu primo dei cuiuspiam luculentum
you-will-know from the-entrance first of-a-god some-certain splendid
et amoenum videre te diversorium. Nam summa laquearia,
and pleasant to-see you a-lodging for the-highest ceilings
citro et ebore curiose cavata, subeunt aureae columnae,
with-citrus-wood and ivory curiously hollowed support golden columns
parietes omnes argenteo caelamine conteguntur, bestiis et
the-walls all with-silver relief are-covered with-beasts and
id genus pecudibus occurrentibus ob os introeuntium.
of-that kind animals meeting before the-face of-those-entering

Mirus prorsum homo, immo semideus vel certe deus, qui
wonderful utterly the-man nay half-god or surely god who
magnae artis subtilitate tantum efferavit argentum: enimvero
of-great art by-the-subtlety so-much made-wild silver but-indeed
pavimenta ipsa lapide pretioso caesim deminuto in varia
the-floors themselves with-stone precious cut in-small-pieces into various
picturae genera discriminantur: vehementer iterum ac saepius
of-picture kinds are-distinguished vehemently again and more-often
beatos illos qui super gemmas et monilia calcant! Iam ceterae
blessed those who on gems and necklaces tread now the-other
partes longe lateque dispositae domus sine pretio pretiosae
parts far and-wide arranged of-the-house without price precious
totique parietes solidati massis aureis splendore proprio
and-all the-walls made-solid with-bars golden with-splendor their-own
coruscant, ut diem suum sibi domus faciat licet sole
flash so-that day its-own for-itself the-house can-make though the-sun
nolente; sic cubicula, sic porticus, sic ipsae valvae fulgurant.
be-unwilling so the-bedrooms so the-porticoes so the-very doors gleam
Nec setius opes ceterae maiestati domus respondent, ut
nor otherwise the-riches other to-the-majesty of-the-house correspond so-that
equidem illud recte videatur ad conversationem humanam
indeed it rightly might-seem for converse human
magno Iovi fabricatum caeleste palatium.
by-great Jupiter built a-heavenly palace

2 “Invitata Psyche talium locorum oblectatione propius accessit et
invited Psyche of-such places by-the-delight nearer approached and
paulo fidentior intra limen sese facit, mox prolectante studio
a-little more-confident within the-threshold herself puts soon with-alluring zeal
pulcherrimae visionis rimatur singula et altrinsecus aedium
of-the-most-beautiful sight she-explores each-thing and on-the-other-side of-the-house
horrea sublimi fabrica perfecta magnisque congesta gazis
storerooms with-lofty construction finished and-with-great heaped treasures

conspicit; nec est quicquam quod ibi non est: sed praeter
she-sees nor is-there anything which there not is but besides
ceteram tantarum divitiarum admirationem hoc erat praecipue
the-other of-such riches admiration this was especially
mirificum, quod nullo vinculo, nullo claustro, nullo custode
wonderful that by-no chain by-no bolt by-no guard
totius orbis thesaurus ille muniebatur. Haec ei summa
of-the-whole world treasure that was-protected these-things to-her the-highest
cum voluptate visenti offert sese vox quaedam corporis sui
with pleasure viewing presents itself a-voice certain of-body its-own
nuda, et 'Quid,' inquit 'Domina, tantis obstupescis opibus? Tua
bare and why she-says mistress at-such are-you-astonished riches yours
sunt haec omnia. Prohinc cubiculo te refer, et lectulo
are these all henceforth to-the-bedroom yourself betake and on-the-little-bed
lassitudinem refove, et ex arbitrio lavacrum pete. Nos quarum
weariness refresh and at your-pleasure a-bath seek we whose
voces accipis, tuae famulae; sedulo tibi praeministrabimus
voices you-hear your maidservants diligently to-you shall-minister
nec corporis curatae tibi regales epulae morabuntur.'
nor of-the-body cared-for to-you royal feasts will-delay
"Sensit Psyche divinae providentiae beatitudinem monitusque, 3
perceived Psyche of-divine providence the-blessedness and-the-counsels
voces informes audiens, et prius somno et mox lavacro
the-voices formless hearing both first with-sleep and soon with-a-bath
fatigationem sui diluit, visoque statim proximo
the-weariness of-herself washed-away and-with-seen at-once a-nearby
semirotundo suggestu, propter instrumentum cenatorium
half-round platform near equipment for-dining
rata refectui suo commodum, libens accumbit. Et illico
thinking-it for-refreshment her suitable gladly reclines and at-once
vini nectarei eduliumque variorum fercula copiosa, nullo
of-wine nectarean and-of-foods various dishes abundant with-no-one

serviente sed tantum spiritu quodam impulsa, subministrantur:
serving but only by-a-breath some-certain pushed are-supplied
nec quemquam tamen illa videre poterat, sed verba tantum
nor anyone still she to-see could but words only
audiebat excidentia et solas voces famulas habebat. Post
she-heard falling and only voices as-servants she-had after
opimas dapes quidam introcessit et cantavit invisus et
rich feasts a-certain-one entered and sang unseen and
alius citharam pulsavit, quae videbatur nec ipsa: tunc
another a-lyre struck which was-seen not-even itself then
modulatae multitudinis conferta vox aures eius affertur, ut,
of-a-tuneful multitude a-crowded voice to-ears her is-borne so-that
quamvis hominum nemo pareret, chorus tamen esse pateret.
although of-men no-one appeared a-choir still to-be was-evident
4 "Finitis voluptatibus, vespera suadente, concedit Psyche
with-finished the-pleasures with-the-evening urging goes Psyche
cubitum, iamque provecta nocte clemens quidam sonus
to-bed and-now with-advanced the-night a-gentle certain sound
aures eius accedit. Tunc virginitati suae pro tanta solitudine
to-ears her comes then for-maidenhood her in so-great solitude
metuens et pavet et horrescit et quovis malo plus timet
fearing both she-dreads and shudders and than-any evil more fears
quod ignorat: iamque aderat ignobilis maritus et
what she-does-not-know and-now was-present the-unknown husband and
torum inscenderat et uxorem sibi Psychen fecerat et ante
the-bed had-mounted and wife his Psyche had-made and before
lucis exortum propere discesserat: statim voces cubiculo
of-light the-rising hastily had-departed at-once the-voices in-the-bedroom
praestolatae novam nuptam interfectae virginitatis curant.
waiting the-new bride of-slain maidenhood tend
Haec diutino tempore sic agebantur, atque, ut est natura
these-things for-a-long time so were-done and as is nature's

redditum, novitas per assiduam consuetudinem delectationem
way the-novelty by constant habit delight
ei commendarat, et sonus vocis incertae solitudinis
to-her had-commended and the-sound of-the-voice uncertain of-solitude
erat solacium. Interea parentes eius indefesso luctu atque
was the-solace meanwhile parents her in-unwearied grief and
maerore consenescebant, latiusque porrecta fama sorores
sorrow were-growing-old and-more-widely spread the-report sisters
illae maiores cuncta cognorant, propereque maestae atque
those elder all-things had-learned and-quickly sad and
lugubres deserto Lare certatim ad parentum suorum
mournful with-deserted the-household-god in-rivalry to of-parents their
conspectum affatumque perrexerant.
the-sight and-speech had-gone

XXIX · THE SISTERS' FIRST VISIT

Psyche's husband warns her that her sisters will come looking for her and that she must not answer them. She weeps and begs to see them; he yields, warning her never to ask about his looks, and Zephyr brings them down. She tells them he is a young hunter, and they go home consumed with envy, plotting her ruin.

"Ea nocte ad suam Psychen sic infit maritus (namque praeter 5
that night to his Psyche thus begins the-husband for except
oculos et manibus et auribus is non nihil sentiebatur): 'Psyche
the-eyes both by-hands and ears he not nothing was-perceived Psyche
dulcissima et cara uxor, exitiabile tibi periculum minatur
sweetest and dear wife a-deadly for-you danger threatens
fortuna saevior, quod observandum pressiore cautela censeo.
fortune more-savage which to-be-watched with-closer caution I-judge
Sorores, iam tuae mortis opinione turbatae tuumque vestigium
your-sisters now of-your death by-the-belief disturbed and-your trace

requirentes, scopulum istum protinus aderunt, quarum si
seeking to-crag that at-once will-come of-whom if
quas forte lamentationes acceperis, neque respondeas, immo
any perhaps lamentations you-hear neither answer nay
nec prospicias omnino; ceterum mihi quidem gravissimum
not-even look-out at-all otherwise to-me indeed the-gravest
dolorem, tibi vero summum creabis exitium.'
pain to-yourself indeed the-highest you-will-create destruction
"Annuit et ex arbitrio mariti se facturam spopondit,
she-nodded and at the-will of-her-husband herself going-to-do promised
sed eo simul cum nocte dilapso diem totum lacrimis
but with-him at-once with the-night slipped-away the-day whole in-tears
ac plangoribus misella consumit, se nunc maxime prorsus
and lamentations poor-girl spends herself now most utterly
perisse iterans, quae beati carceris custodia saepta et
to-have-perished repeating who of-a-blessed prison by-the-guard enclosed and
humanae conversationis colloquio viduata nec sororibus quidem
of-human converse by-the-talk bereft not to-sisters even
suis de se maerentibus opem salutarem ferre ac ne videre
her-own over her grieving help saving to-bring and not to-see
eas quidem omnino posset; nec lavacro nec cibo nec ulla
them even at-all could nor by-bath nor by-food nor by-any
denique refectione recreata flens ubertim decessit ad somnum.
finally refreshment refreshed weeping abundantly she-went-off to sleep
6 "Nec mora, cum paulo maturius lectum maritus accubans,
nor delay when a-little earlier the-bed the-husband lying-down
eamque etiamnunc lacrimantem complexus, sic expostulat:
and-her even-now weeping embracing thus remonstrates
'Haecine mihi pollicebare, Psyche mea? Quid iam de te tuus
is-this-what to-me you-promised Psyche my what now from you your
maritus expecto, quid spero? Et perdia et pernox nec inter
husband do-I-expect what do-I-hope and all-day and all-night not-even amid

amplexus coniugales desinis cruciatum. Age iam nunc ut voles
embraces conjugal you-cease the-torture come now now as you-will
et animo tuo damnosa poscenti pareto: tantum memineris
and to-mind your ruinous demanding obey only remember
meae seriae monitionis cum coeperis sero paenitere.'
my serious warning when you-begin too-late to-repent
"Tunc illa precibus et dum se morituram comminatur
then she by-prayers and while herself going-to-die threatens
extorquet a marito cupitis annuat, ut sorores videat,
wrings from her-husband to-her-desires he-should-assent that her-sisters she-may-see
luctus mulceat, ora conferat: sic ille novae nuptae precibus
their-grief soothe faces join so he of-his-new bride to-the-prayers
veniam tribuit, et insuper quibuscumque vellet eas auri vel
indulgence granted and besides with-whatever she-wished them of-gold or
monilium donare concessit, sed identidem monuit ac saepe
of-necklaces to-present allowed but repeatedly he-warned and often
terruit, nequando sororum pernicioso consilio suasa de
frightened lest-ever by-the-sisters' pernicious counsel persuaded about
forma mariti quaerat, neve se sacrilega curiositate
the-form of-her-husband she-should-inquire or herself by-sacrilegious curiosity
de tanto fortunarum suggestu pessum deiciat nec suum
from such of-fortunes a-height to-ruin should-cast nor his
postea contingat amplexum. Gratias egit marito, iamque
afterward should-touch embrace thanks she-gave to-her-husband and-now
laetior 'Sed prius' inquit 'Centies moriar quam tuo isto
gladder but sooner she-says a-hundred-times I-shall-die than your that
dulcissimo connubio caream: amo enim, et efflictim te,
sweetest marriage I-lose I-love for and to-distraction you
quicumque es, diligo aeque ut meum spiritum, nec ipsi
whoever you-are I-cherish equally as my-own breath nor to-the-very
Cupidini comparo. Sed istud etiam meis precibus, oro,
Cupid do-I-compare-you but this also to-my prayers I-beg

largire et illi tuo famulo Zephyro praecipe simili vectura
grant and to-that your servant Zephyr order by-similar transport
sorores hic mihi sistat': et imprimens oscula suasoria et
my-sisters here to-me he-may-set and pressing kisses persuasive and
ingerens verba mulcentia et iungens membra cohibentia, haec
heaping-on words soothing and joining limbs enfolding this
etiam blanditiis astruit: 'Mi mellite, mi marite, tuae
also to-her-endearments she-adds my honey-sweet my husband of-your
Psychae dulcis anima.' Vi ac potestate Venerei susurrus
Psyche sweet soul by-the-force and power of-the-Venereal whisper
invitus succubuit maritus et cuncta se facturum spopondit,
unwillingly yielded the-husband and all-things himself going-to-do promised
atque iam luce proximante de manibus uxoris evanuit.
and now with-light approaching from the-hands of-his-wife vanished
7 "At illae sorores percontatae scopulum locumque illum, quo
but those sisters having-inquired-out the-crag and-place that where
fuerat Psyche deserta, festinanter adveniunt, ibique difflebant
had-been Psyche deserted hastily arrive and-there they-wept-out
oculos et plangebant ubera, quoad crebris earum
their-eyes and beat their-breasts until at-the-frequent their
eiulatibus saxa cautesque parilem sonum resultarent. Iamque
wailings the-rocks and-cliffs an-equal sound echoed and-now
nomine proprio sororem miseram ciebant, quoad sono
by-name own their-sister wretched they-called until by-the-sound
penetrabili vocis ululabilis per prona delapso amens
piercing of-the-voice wailing down the-slopes slipped out-of-her-mind
et trepida Psyche procurrit e domo et, 'Quid' inquit
and trembling Psyche runs-out from the-house and why she-says
'Vos miseris lamentationibus nequicquam effligitis? Quam
you with-wretched lamentations vainly afflict-yourselves whom
lugetis adsum. Lugubres voces desinite, et diutinis lacrimis
you-mourn I-am-here mournful cries cease and with-long tears

madentes genas siccate tandem, quippe cum iam possitis quam
wet cheeks dry at-last since when now you-can whom
plangebatis amplecti.' Tunc vocatum Zephyrum praecepti
you-were-mourning to-embrace then called Zephyr of-the-command
maritalis admonet: nec mora, cum ille parens imperio statim
husbandly she-reminds nor delay when he obeying the-order at-once
clementissimis flatibus innoxia vectura deportat illas. Iam
with-most-gentle blasts in-harmless transport carries them now
mutuis amplexibus et festinantibus saviis sese perfruuntur,
with-mutual embraces and hastening kisses each-other they-enjoy
et illae sedatae lacrimae postliminio redeunt prolectante
and those calmed tears by-return come-back with-alluring
gaudio. 'Sed et tectum' inquit 'Et Larem nostrum laetae
joy but both my-roof she-says and household-god our glad
succedite, et afflictas animas cum Psyche vestra recreate.'
enter and afflicted souls with Psyche your refresh
"Sic allocuta summas opes domus aureae vocumque 8
thus having-spoken the-highest riches of-the-house golden and-of-the-voices
servientium populosam familiam demonstrat auribus earum,
serving the-populous household she-shows to-the-ears their
lavacroque pulcherrimo et inhumanae mensae lautitiis
and-with-a-bath most-beautiful and of-a-superhuman table with-the-luxuries
eas opipare reficit, ut illarum prorsus caelestium
them sumptuously she-refreshes so-that of-them utterly of-heavenly
divitiarum copiis affluentibus satiatae iam praecordiis
riches by-the-abundance flowing sated now in-their-hearts
penitus nutrirent invidiam. Denique altera earum satis
deep they-nourished envy in-short the-one of-them quite
scrupulose curioseque percontari non desinit, quis illarum
scrupulously and-curiously to-inquire not does-cease who of-those
caelestium rerum dominus, quisve vel qualis ipsius sit
heavenly things the-master or-who or of-what-kind her-own might-be

maritus: nec tamen Psyche coniugale illud praeceptum ullo
husband nor still Psyche conjugal that command in-any
pacto temerat vel pectoris arcanis exigit, sed e re
way violates or of-her-breast from-the-secrets drives-out but as the-situation
nata confingit esse iuvenem quendam et speciosum,
arose she-invents that-he-is a-young-man certain and handsome
commodum lanoso barbitio genas inumbrantem, plerumque
just with-woolly beard his-cheeks shading mostly
rurestribus ac montanis venatibus occupatum, et ne qua
with-rustic and mountain hunts busy and lest by-any
sermonis procedentis labe consilium tacitum proderetur,
of-the-talk proceeding slip her-counsel silent should-be-betrayed
auro facto gemmosisque monilibus onustas eas statim
with-gold wrought and-jeweled necklaces loaded them at-once
vocato Zephyro tradit reportandas.
with-called Zephyr she-hands-over to-be-carried-back

9 "Quo protenus perpetrato sorores egregiae domum redeuntes,
which at-once accomplished the-sisters excellent home returning
iamque gliscentis invidiae felle flagrantes multa
and-now of-growing envy with-the-gall burning many-things
secum sermonibus mutuis perstrepebant: sic denique infit
among-themselves in-talks mutual were-loudly-uttering thus in-short begins
altera: 'En orba et saeva et iniqua Fortuna! Hocine tibi
one behold blind and cruel and unjust Fortune has-this to-you
complacuit, ut utroque parente prognatae diversam sortem
pleased that from-both parent born a-different lot
sustineremus? Et nos quidem, quae natu maiores sumus,
we-should-bear and we indeed who in-birth elder are
maritis advenis ancillae deditae, extorres et Lare et
to-husbands foreign as-maids handed-over exiled both from-household-god and
ipsa patria degamus longe parentum velut exulantes, haec
the-very fatherland we-live far from-our-parents as-if exiles this-one

autem novissima, quam fetu satiante postremus partus
however the-youngest whom with-childbearing satiating the-last birth
effudit, tantis opibus et deo marito potita sit, quae nec
poured-out of-such riches and of-a-god as-husband possessed has who not-even
uti recte tanta bonorum copia novit? Vidisti, soror,
to-use rightly such of-goods an-abundance knows did-you-see sister
quanta in domo iacent et qualia monilia, quae praenitent
how-many-things in the-house lie and what necklaces what shine-forth
vestes, quae splendicant gemmae, quantum praeterea passim
garments what glitter gems how-much besides everywhere
calcatur aurum: quod si maritum etiam tam formosum tenet,
is-trodden gold but if a-husband also so handsome she-holds
ut affirmat, nulla nunc in orbe toto felicior vivit. Fortassis
as she-affirms no-woman now in the-world whole happier lives perhaps
tamen procedente consuetudine et affectione roborata deam
still with-proceeding habit and with-affection strengthened a-goddess
quoque illam deus maritus efficiet. Sic est Hercule, sic se
also her the-god husband will-make so it-is by-Hercules so herself
gerebat ferebatque: iam iam sursum respicit et deam spirat
she-bore and-carried now now upward she-looks and a-goddess breathes
mulier, quae voces ancillas habet et ventis ipsis imperitat.
the-woman who voices as-maids has and the-winds themselves commands
At ego misera primum patre meo seniorem maritum sortita
but I wretched first than-father my an-older husband allotted
sum, dein cucurbita calviorem et quovis puero pusilliorem,
I-have then than-a-gourd balder and than-any boy punier
cunctam domum seris et catenis obditam custodientem.'
the-whole house with-bars and chains shut guarding
"Suscipit alia: 'Ego vero maritum articulari etiam morbo 10
takes-up the-other I indeed a-husband by-articular even disease
complicatum curvatumque, ac per hoc rarissimo Venerem
doubled and-bent and on-account-of this most-rarely Venus

meam recolentem sustineo, plerumque detortos et duratos
my honoring endure mostly twisted and hardened
in lapidem digitos eius perfricans, fomentis olidis et pannis
into stone fingers his rubbing with-poultices smelly and with-rags
sordidis et faetidis cataplasmatibus manus tam delicatas
filthy and fetid plasters hands so delicate
istas adurens, nec uxoris officiosam faciem sed medicae
these burning nor of-a-wife the-dutiful face but of-a-doctor
laboriosam personam sustinens. Et tu quidem, soror, videris,
the-laborious role bearing and you indeed sister seem
quam patienti vel potius servili — dicam enim libere quod
with-how patient or rather slavish I-shall-say for freely what
sentio — haec perferas animo: enimvero ego nequeo sustinere
I-feel this you-bear in-mind but-indeed I cannot to-endure
ulterius tam beatam fortunam illapsam indignae. Recordare
further so blessed a-fortune fallen-to-one undeserving recall
enim quam superbe, quam arroganter nobiscum egerit et
for how proudly how arrogantly with-us she-dealt and
ipsa iactatione immodicae ostentationis tumentem suum
the-very with-boasting of-immoderate display swelling her
prodiderit animum, deque tantis divitiis exigua nobis invita
betrayed mind and-from such riches small-things to-us unwillingly
proiecerit, confestimque praesentia nostra gravata propelli
she-threw and-at-once by-presence our burdened to-be-pushed-out
et efflari exsibilarique nos iusserit. Nec sum mulier nec
and to-be-blown-away and-to-be-hissed-off us ordered nor am-I a-woman nor
omnino spiro, nisi eam pessum de tantis opibus deiecero.
at-all do-I-breathe unless her to-ruin from such wealth I-shall-have-cast
Ac si tibi etiam, ut par est, inacuit nostra contumelia,
and if to-you also as fair is has-sharpened our insult
consilium validum requiramus ambae. Iamque ista, quae
a-plan strong let-us-seek both and-now those-things which

ferimus, non parentibus nostris ac nec ulli monstremus alii,
we-carry not to-parents our and not to-any let-us-show other
immo nec omnino quicquam de eius salute norimus: sat est
nay not at-all anything about her safety let-us-know enough it-is
quod ipsae vidimus quae vidisse paenituit, nedum ut
that we-ourselves saw what to-have-seen we-have-repented much-less that
genitoribus et omnibus populis tam beatum eius differamus
to-our-parents and to-all peoples so blessed her we-should-spread
praeconium: nec sunt enim beati quorum divitias nemo novit.
the-fame not are for blessed those-whose riches no-one knows
Sciet se non ancillas sed sorores habere maiores: et nunc
she-shall-know herself not maids but sisters to-have elder and now
quidem concedamus ad maritos et Lares pauperes nostros
indeed let-us-go to our-husbands and households poor our
sed plane sobrios revisamus diuque cogitationibus pressioribus
but plainly sober let-us-revisit and-long with-thoughts more-pressing
instructae ad superbiam poeniendam firmiores redeamus.'
instructed for pride to-be-punished firmer let-us-return

XXX · THE SISTERS' PLOT

The sisters plot against Psyche. Her husband warns her again that they are wicked and that she is carrying a child who will be a god if she keeps the secret. When they come again she forgets her earlier story and describes her husband differently, and they guess that she has never seen him.

"Placet pro bono duabus malis malum consilium, 11
is-approved instead-of good to-the-two evil-women an-evil plan
totisque illis tam pretiosis muneribus absconditis, comam
and-with-all those so precious gifts hidden their-hair
trahentes et proinde ut merebantur ora lacerantes simulatos
tearing and accordingly as they-deserved faces lacerating feigned

redintegrant fletus. Ac sic parentes quoque redulcerato
they-renew weeping and so the-parents also with-reopened
prorsum dolore raptim deterrentes, vesania turgidae domus
utterly grief hastily frightening with-madness swollen to-homes
suas contendunt dolum scelestum, immo vero parricidium
their they-hasten a-trick criminal nay indeed a-parricide
struentes contra sororem insontem.
contriving against a-sister innocent
"Interea Psychen maritus ille quem nescit rursum suis
meanwhile Psyche husband that whom she-does-not-know again with-his
illis nocturnis sermonibus sic commonet: 'Videsne quantum
those nightly talks thus warns do-you-see how-great
tibi periculum? Velitatur Fortuna eminus ac, nisi longe
for-you danger skirmishes Fortune from-afar and unless far-ahead
firmiter praecaves, mox comminus congredietur. Perfidae
firmly you-take-precautions soon at-close-quarters she-will-engage treacherous
lupulae magnis conatibus nefarias insidias tibi comparant,
little-she-wolves with-great efforts wicked snares for-you prepare
quarum summa est, ut te suadeant meos explorare vultus,
of-which the-sum is that you they-persuade my to-explore face
quos, ut tibi saepe praedixi, non videbis si videris. Ergo
which as to-you often I-foretold not you-will-see if you-see-it therefore
igitur si posthac pessimae illae lamiae noxiis animis
then if hereafter worst those witches with-harmful minds
armatae venerint — venient autem, scio — neque omnino
armed come they-will-come however I-know neither at-all
sermonem conteras et, si id tolerare pro genuina simplicitate
talk exchange and if that to-bear for native simplicity
proque animi tui teneritudine non potueris, certe de
and-for of-mind your tenderness not you-shall-be-able surely about
marito nil quicquam vel audias vel respondeas: nam et
your-husband nothing at-all either hear or answer for both

familiam nostram iam propagabimus et hic adhuc infantilis
family our now we-shall-propagate and this still childlike
uterus gestat nobis infantem alium, si texeris nostra secreta
womb carries for-us an-infant another if you-conceal our secrets
silentio, divinum, si profanaveris, mortalem.'
in-silence divine if you-profane mortal
"Nuntio Psyche laeta florebat et divinae subolis solacio 12
at-the-news Psyche glad bloomed and in-the-divine offspring's comfort
plaudebat et futuri pignoris gloria gestiebat et materni
clapped and of-the-future pledge in-the-glory exulted and in-the-maternal
nominis dignitate gaudebat: crescentes dies et menses exeuntes
name's dignity rejoiced the-growing days and the-months going-out
anxia numerat, et sarcinae nesciae rudimento miratur de
anxious she-counts and of-the-burden unknown at-the-first-lesson wonders from
brevi punctulo tantum incrementulum locupletis uteri.
a-brief little-prick so-great an-increase of-the-rich womb
"Sed iam pestes illae taeterrimaeque furiae anhelantes vipereum
but now plagues those and-foulest furies breathing viperish
virus et festinantes impia celeritate navigabant. Tunc sic
poison and hastening with-impious speed were-sailing then thus
iterum momentarius maritus suam Psychen admonet: 'Dies
again the-momentary husband his Psyche warns the-day
ultima et casus extremus: et sexus infestus et sanguis
last and the-misfortune extreme and the-sex hostile and the-blood
inimicus iam sumpsit arma et castra commovit et aciem
enemy now has-taken arms and the-camp has-moved and the-battle-line
direxit et classicum personavit; iam mucrone destricto
drawn-up and the-trumpet has-sounded now with-sword drawn
iugulum tuum nefariae tuae sorores petunt Heu quantis
throat your wicked your sisters seek alas by-what-great
urguemur cladibus, Psyche dulcissima! Tui nostrique
we-are-pressed disasters Psyche sweetest on-yourself and-us

miserere, religiosaque continentia domum, maritum, teque
have-pity and-with-religious self-restraint the-house your-husband yourself
et istum parvulum nostrum imminentis ruinae infortunio
and that little-one our of-impending ruin from-the-misfortune
libera, nec illas scelestas feminas, quas tibi post internecivum
free nor those criminal women whom to-you after murderous
odium et calcata sanguinis foedera sorores appellare non
hatred and trampled of-blood bonds sisters to-call not
licet, vel videas vel audias, cum in morem Sirenum
is-allowed either see or hear when in the-manner of-the-Sirens
scopulo prominentes funestis vocibus saxa personabunt.'
on-a-crag projecting with-deadly voices the-rocks they-shall-make-resound
13 "Suscipit Psyche singultu lacrimoso sermonem incertans:
takes-up Psyche with-sob tearful the-speech faltering
'Iamdudum, quod sciam, fidei atque parciloquio meo
long-since as-far-as I-know of-faith and of-reticence my
perpendisti documenta, nec eo setius approbabitur tibi
you-have-weighed the-proofs nor for-that less will-be-proved to-you
nunc etiam firmitas animi mei. Tu modo Zephyro nostro
now also the-firmness of-mind my you only to-Zephyr our
rursum praecipe fungatur obsequio, et in vicem denegatae
again order let-him-perform the-service and in place of-the-denied
sacrosanctae imaginis tuae redde saltem conspectum sororum.
sacrosanct image your give-back at-least the-sight of-my-sisters
Per istos cinnameos et undique pendulos crines tuos, per
by those cinnamon and everywhere hanging locks your by
teneras et teretes et mei similes genas, per pectus
tender and smooth and to-mine like cheeks by your-breast
nescioquo calore fervidum, sic in hoc saltem parvulo
with-I-know-not-what heat burning so in this at-least little-one
cognoscam faciem tuam: supplicis anxiae piis precibus
may-I-know the-face your of-a-suppliant anxious by-the-dutiful prayers

erogatus germani complexus indulge fructum et tibi
prevailed-upon of-sisterly embrace grant the-enjoyment and to-you
devotae Psychae animam gaudio recrea. Nec quicquam
devoted Psyche's soul with-joy refresh nor anything
amplius in tuo vultu requiro, iam nil officiunt mihi
more in your face I-seek now nothing hinder me
vel ipsae nocturnae tenebrae: teneo te meum lumen.'
not-even the-very nightly shadows I-hold you my light
His verbis et amplexibus mollibus decantatus maritus,
by-these words and embraces soft enchanted the-husband
lacrimasque eius suis crinibus detergens, se facturum
and-the-tears her with-his locks wiping himself going-to-do
spopondit et praevertit statim lumen nascentis diei.
promised and forestalled at-once the-light of-the-rising day
"Iugum sororium consponsae factionis, ne parentibus quidem 14
the-pair sisterly of-the-sworn faction not with-their-parents even
visis, recta de navibus scopulum petunt illum praecipiti
seen straight from the-ships the-crag seek that headlong
cum velocitate, nec venti ferentis oppertae praesentiam,
with speed nor of-the-wind bearing having-awaited the-presence
licentiosa cum temeritate prosiliunt in altum. Nec immemor
licentious with rashness they-leap into the-deep nor unmindful
Zephyrus regalis edicti, quamvis invitus, susceptas eas gremio
Zephyr of-the-royal edict although unwilling taken-up them in-the-lap
spirantis aurae solo reddidit. At illae incunctatae
of-the-breathing breeze to-the-ground restored but they without-hesitation
statim conferto vestigio domum penetrant, complexaeque
at-once with-crowded step the-house penetrate and-having-embraced
praedam suam sorores nomine mentientes thesaurumque
prey their sisters by-name lying and-the-treasure
penitus abditae fraudis vultu laeto tegentes, sic adulant:
deep hidden of-fraud with-face glad covering thus fawn

'Psyche, non ita ut pridem parvula, et ipsa iam mater es.
Psyche not so as before a-little-girl and yourself now a-mother are
Quantum, putas, boni nobis in ista geris perula, quantis
how-much do-you-think of-good for-us in that you-carry little-pouch with-what
gaudiis totam domum nostram hilarabis! O nos beatas quas
joys the-whole house our you-will-gladden O us blessed whom
infantis aurei nutrimenta laetabunt! Qui si parentum, ut
of-the-infant golden the-nursing will-delight who if of-his-parents as
oportet, pulchritudini responderit, prorsus Cupido nascetur.'
is-fitting to-the-beauty shall-have-corresponded utterly a-Cupid will-be-born
15 "Sic affectione simulata paulatim sororis invadunt animum;
thus with-affection feigned little-by-little of-their-sister they-invade the-mind
statimque eas lassitudine viae sedilibus refotas et
and-at-once them from-the-weariness of-the-road on-seats revived and
balnearum vaporosis fontibus curatas pulcherrime triclinio
of-the-baths with-steamy springs tended most-beautifully in-the-dining-room
mirisque illis et beatis edulibus atque tuccetis oblectat.
and-with-wonderful those and blessed foods and sausages she-delights
Iubet citharam loqui, psallitur; tibias agere, sonatur;
she-orders the-lyre to-speak there-is-playing the-flutes to-perform there-is-sounding
choros canere, cantatur: quae cuncta nullo praesente
the-choirs to-sing there-is-singing which all with-no-one present
dulcissimis modulis animos audientium remulcebant. Nec tamen
with-sweetest melodies the-minds of-the-hearers soothed nor still
scelestarum feminarum nequitia vel ipsa mellita cantus
of-the-criminal women the-wickedness even by-the-very honeyed of-song
dulcedine mollita conquievit, sed ad destinatam fraudium
sweetness softened rested but toward the-appointed of-frauds
pedicam sermonem conferentes dissimulanter occipiunt
snare the-talk directing pretending they-begin
sciscitari qualis ei maritus et unde natalium, secta
to-ask of-what-kind to-her the-husband and from-where of-birth the-line

cuia proveniret. Tunc illa simplicitate nimia pristini
from-whom he-sprang then she with-simplicity excessive of-her-former
sermonis oblita, novum commentum instruit atque maritum
talk forgetful a-new fiction constructs and that-husband
suum de provincia proxima magnis pecuniis negotiantem
her from the-province nearest with-great moneys trading
iam medium cursum aetatis agere, interspersum rara
now the-middle course of-his-age to-pass interspersed with-sparse
canitie. Nec in sermone isto tantillum morata rursum
gray-hair nor in talk this the-least having-delayed again
opiparis muneribus eas onustas ventoso vehiculo reddidit.
with-sumptuous gifts them loaded to-the-windy vehicle she-returned
"Sed dum Zephyri tranquillo spiritu sublimatae domum 16
but while by-Zephyr's tranquil breath raised home
redeunt, sic secum altercantes: 'Quid, soror, dicimus de
they-return thus with-each-other quarreling what sister do-we-say about
tam monstruoso fatuae illius mendacio? Tunc adolescens
so monstrous of-the-fool that a-lie then a-young-man
modo florenti lanugine barbam instruens, nunc aetate media
just with-blooming down his-beard furnishing now in-age middle
candenti canitie lucidus: quis ille quem temporis modici
with-white gray-hair shining who is-he whom of-time small
spatium repentina senecta reformavit? Nil aliud repperies, mi
the-space with-sudden old-age transformed nothing else you-will-find my
soror quam vel mendacio istam pessimam feminam confingere
sister than either by-a-lie that worst woman to-invent
vel formam mariti sui nescire; quorum utrum verum est,
or the-form of-husband her not-to-know of-which whichever true is
opibus istis quam primum exterminanda est. Quod si
from-riches those as soon-as-possible to-be-banished she-is but if
viri sui faciem ignorat, deo profecto denupsit et
of-husband her the-face she-does-not-know to-a-god surely she-is-married and

deum nobis praegnatione ista gerit. Certe si divini puelli —
a-god for-us by-pregnancy that she-carries surely if of-a-divine boy
quod absit — haec mater audierit, statim me laqueo nexili
which may-it-be-far she mother shall-be-called at-once myself with-a-noose knotted
suspendam. Ergo interim ad parentes nostros redeamus, et
I-shall-hang therefore meanwhile to parents our let-us-return and
exordio sermonis huius quam concolores fallacias attexamus.'
to-the-beginning of-talk this as like-colored lies let-us-weave

XXXI · THE SERPENT HUSBAND

The sisters tell Psyche that her husband is a monstrous serpent who will devour her and her child. Terrified, she confesses that she has never seen him and begs their help, and they tell her to hide a lamp and a razor and to cut off his head while he sleeps.

17 "Sic inflammatae, parentibus fastidienter appellatis et
thus inflamed with-their-parents disdainfully addressed and
nocte turbata vigiliis, perditae matutino scopulum
with-the-night disturbed by-wakings ruined in-the-morning to-the-crag
pervolant et inde solito venti praesidio vehementer
they-fly and from-there by-the-usual of-the-wind protection violently
devolant, lacrimisque pressura palpebrarum coactis, hoc
they-fly-down and-with-tears by-pressure of-the-eyelids forced with-this
astu puellam appellant: 'Tu quidem felix et ipsa
cunning the-girl they-address you indeed happy and by-the-very
tanti mali ignorantia beata sedes incuriosa periculi tui;
of-so-great evil ignorance blessed sit careless of-the-danger your
nos autem, quae pervigili cura rebus tuis excubamus,
we however who with-wakeful care over-the-affairs your keep-watch
cladibus tuis misere cruciamur. Pro vero namque
by-the-disasters your wretchedly are-tortured for in-truth for

comperimus nec te, sociae scilicet doloris casusque tui,
we-have-learned nor you as-partners evidently of-the-grief and-misfortune your
celare possumus immanem colubrum multinodis voluminibus
to-hide can a-monstrous snake in-many-knotted coils
serpentem, veneno noxio colla sanguinantem hiantemque
creeping with-poison harmful in-the-neck bleeding and-gaping
ingluvie profunda, tecum noctibus latenter acquiescere. Nunc
with-a-gullet deep with-you by-nights secretly to-lie now
recordare sortis Pythicae, quae te trucis bestiae nuptiis
remember the-oracle Pythian which you of-a-savage beast for-the-nuptials
destinatam esse clamavit: et multi coloni, quique circumsecus
destined to-be cried and many farmers and-who round-about
venantur, et accolae plurimi viderunt eum vespera redeuntem
hunt and neighbors very-many have-seen him at-evening returning
e pastu proximique fluminis vadis innatantem.
from pasture and-of-the-nearest river in-the-shallows swimming
"'Nec diu blandis alimoniarum obsequiis te saginaturum 18
nor long with-coaxing of-feedings services you to-be-going-to-fatten
omnes affirmant, sed cum primum praegnationem tuam plenus
all affirm but when first pregnancy your full
maturaverit uterus, opimiore fructu praeditam devoraturum.
shall-have-ripened the-womb with-a-richer fruit endowed to-be-going-to-devour
Ad haec iam tua est existimatio, utrum sororibus pro
to this now yours is the-judgment whether with-sisters for
tua cara salute sollicitis assentiri velis et declinata morte
your dear safety anxious to-agree you-wish and with-avoided death
nobiscum secura periculi vivere, an saevissimae bestiae
with-us safe from-danger to-live or of-the-most-savage beast
sepeliri visceribus: quod si te ruris huius vocalis solitudo
to-be-buried in-the-bowels but if you of-country this the-vocal solitude
vel clandestinae Veneris faetidi periculosique concubitus et
or of-clandestine Venus the-fetid and-dangerous couplings and

venenati serpentis amplexus delectant, certe piae sorores
of-a-poisonous serpent the-embraces delight surely dutiful sisters
nostrum fecerimus.'
our-part we-shall-have-done
"Tunc Psyche misella, utpote simplex et animi tenella, rapitur
then Psyche poor-girl as simple and in-mind tender is-seized
verborum tam tristium formidine: extra terminum mentis suae
of-words so sad by-the-dread outside the-boundary of-mind her
posita prorsus omnium mariti monitionum suarumque
placed utterly of-all of-her-husband's warnings and-of-her-own
promissionum memoriam effudit et in profundum calamitatis
promises the-memory poured-out and into the-depth of-calamity
sese praecipitavit, tremensque et exsangui colore lurida
herself hurled and-trembling and with-bloodless color pale
tertiata verba semihianti voce substrepens sic ad illas ait:
thrice-repeated words with-half-open voice murmuring thus to them she-says
19 'Vos quidem, carissimae sorores, ut par erat, in officio vestrae
you indeed dearest sisters as fair was in the-duty of-your
pietatis permanetis, verum et illi qui talia vobis affirmant
devotion remain but also those who such-things to-you affirm
non videntur mihi mendacium fingere: nec enim unquam
not seem to-me a-lie to-invent nor for ever
viri mei vidi faciem vel omnino cuiatis sit novi,
of-husband my I-have-seen the-face or at-all of-what-country he-is I-know
sed tantum nocturnis subaudiens vocibus maritum incerti
but only to-nightly listening voices a-husband of-uncertain
status et prorsus lucifugam tolero, bestiamque aliquam recte
condition and utterly light-shunning I-endure and-a-beast some rightly
dicentibus vobis merito consentio: meque magnopere semper a
saying you deservedly I-agree and-me greatly always from
suis terret aspectibus, malumque grande de vultus curiositate
his he-frightens sight and-evil great from of-face curiosity

praeminatur. Nunc si quam salutarem opem periclitanti sorori
he-threatens now if any saving help to-endangered sister
vestrae potestis afferre, iam nunc subsistite; ceterum incuria
your you-can to-bring now now stand-by otherwise carelessness
sequens prioris providentiae beneficia corrumpet.'
following of-former foresight the-benefits will-spoil
"Tunc nanctae iam portis patentibus nudatum sororis
then having-gained now with-the-gates open bared of-their-sister
animum facinerosae mulieres, omissis tectae machinae
the-mind the-criminal women with-abandoned of-their-covered device
latibulis, destrictis gladiis fraudium simplicis puellae
the-hiding-places with-drawn swords of-frauds of-the-simple girl
paventes cogitationes invadunt.
the-fearful thoughts invade
"Sic denique altera: 'Quoniam nos originis nexus pro tua 20
thus in-short the-one since us of-origin the-bond for your
incolumitate periculum quidem nullum ante oculos habere
safety danger indeed no before our-eyes to-have
compellit, viam quae sola deducit iter ad salutem diu
compels the-way which alone leads the-road to safety long
diuque cogitatam monstrabimus tibi. Novaculam praeacutam,
and-long thought-out we-shall-show to-you a-razor very-sharp
appulsu etiam palmulae lenientis exasperatam, tori
by-the-application also of-the-little-palm smoothing whetted of-the-bed
qua parte cubare consuesti latenter absconde lucernamque
on-which side to-lie you-are-accustomed secretly hide and-a-lamp
concinnem completam oleo, claro lumine praemicantem
neat filled with-oil with-clear light shining
subde aliquo claudentis aululae tegmine, omnique isto
put-under some of-an-enclosing little-pot covering and-with-all that
apparatu tenacissime dissimulato, postquam sulcatos intrahens
apparatus most-tenaciously concealed after furrowed drawing-in

gressus cubile solitum conscenderit iamque porrectus et
steps the-bed customary he-shall-have-climbed and-now stretched-out and
exordio somni prementis implicitus altum soporem flare
in-the-beginning of-sleep pressing entangled deep slumber to-breathe
coeperit, toro delapsa nudoque vestigio pensilem gradum
has-begun from-the-bed slipped and-with-naked foot a-hanging pace
pullulatim minuens, caecae tenebrae custodia liberata lucerna,
little-by-little diminishing of-blind darkness from-the-guard freed with-the-lamp
praeclari tui facinoris opportunitatem de luminis consilio
for-the-splendid your deed the-opportunity from of-the-light the-counsel
mutuare et ancipiti telo illo audaciter, prius dextera
borrow and with-two-edged weapon that boldly first with-right-hand
sursum elata, nisu quam valido noxii serpentis nodum
upward raised with-an-effort as strong of-the-harmful serpent the-knot
cervicis et capitis abscinde. Nec nostrum tibi deerit
of-the-neck and of-the-head cut-off nor our to-you will-be-lacking
subsidium, sed cum primum, illius morte salutem tibi
help but when first by-his death safety for-yourself
feceris, anxiae praestolabimur, cunctisque istis ocius tecum
you-have-made anxious we-shall-wait-for and-with-all those quickly with-you
relatis, votivis nuptiis hominem te iungemus homini.'
brought-back by-a-wished-for marriage a-human you we-shall-join to-a-human

XXXII · THE LAMP

That night Psyche lights the lamp and sees not a monster but Cupid himself, the loveliest of gods. Pricking her thumb on one of his arrows, she falls in love with Love. A drop of hot oil falls on his shoulder; he wakes and flies off, and from a cypress rebukes her before leaving.

"Tali verborum incendio flammata viscera sororis iam 21
by-such of-words a-blaze inflamed the-vitals of-their-sister now
prorsus ardentis deserentes ipsae protinus, tanti mali
utterly burning deserting they-themselves at-once of-so-great evil
confinium sibi etiam eximie metuentes, flatus alitis
the-neighborhood for-themselves also exceedingly fearing of-the-blast winged
impulsu solito porrectae super scopulum, illico pernici
with-the-push usual stretched over the-crag at-once with-swift
se fuga proripiunt statimque conscensis navibus abeunt.
themselves flight rush-off and-at-once with-boarded ships go-away
"At Psyche relicta sola, nisi quod infestis furiis agitata sola
but Psyche left alone except that by-hostile furies driven alone
non est, aestu pelagi simile maerendo fluctuat, et quamvis
not is to-the-surge of-the-sea like with-grieving tosses and although
statuto consilio et obstinato animo, iam tamen facinori
with-fixed plan and obstinate mind now still to-the-crime
manus admovens adhuc incerta consilii titubat multisque
her-hands moving still uncertain of-purpose she-wavers and-by-many
calamitatis suae distrahitur affectibus. Festinat, differt; audet,
of-calamity her is-torn feelings she-hurries she-delays she-dares
trepidat; diffidit, irascitur; et, quod est ultimum, in eodem
she-trembles she-mistrusts she-rages and what is the-last in the-same
corpore odit bestiam, diligit maritum. Vespera tamen
body she-hates the-beast she-loves the-husband with-evening still

iam noctem trahente praecipiti festinatione nefarii sceleris
now night drawing with-headlong haste of-the-wicked crime
instruit apparatum: nox aderat et maritus aderat priusque
she-prepares the-apparatus night was-here and the-husband was-here and-first
Veneris proeliis velitatus altum soporem descenderat.
of-Venus in-the-battles having-skirmished into-deep sleep had-descended
22 "Tunc Psyche, et corporis et animi alioquin infirma,
then Psyche both in-body and in-mind otherwise weak
fati tamen saevitia subministrante viribus roboratur, et
of-fate still by-the-savagery supplying with-strength is-strengthened and
prolata lucerna et arrepta novacula sexum audacia mutatur.
with-brought-out the-lamp and with-seized the-razor her-sex in-audacity is-changed
Sed cum primum luminis oblatione tori secreta claruerunt,
but when first by-the-light's offering of-the-bed the-secrets grew-bright
videt omnium ferarum mitissimam dulcissimamque bestiam,
she-sees of-all wild-beasts the-gentlest and-sweetest beast
ipsum illum Cupidinem formosum deum formose cubantem,
the-very that Cupid the-beautiful god beautifully lying
cuius aspectu lucernae quoque lumen hilaratum increbruit et
whose at-sight of-the-lamp also the-light gladdened increased and
acuminis sacrilegi novaculam paenitebat. At vero Psyche tanto
of-its-edge sacrilegious the-razor repented but indeed Psyche at-such
aspectu deterrita et impos animi, marcido pallore defecta
a-sight terrified and not-master of-mind with-drooping pallor fainting
tremensque desedit in imos poplites et ferrum quaerit
and-trembling sank onto the-lowest hams and the-steel seeks
abscondere, sed in suo pectore: quod profecto fecisset,
to-hide but in her-own breast which surely she-would-have-done
nisi ferrum timore tanti flagitii manibus temerariis delapsum
unless the-steel from-fear of-so-great a-crime from-hands rash slipped
evolasset. Iamque lassa, salute defecta dum saepius divini
had-flown and-now weary with-safety failing while repeatedly of-the-divine

vultus intuetur pulchritudinem, recreatur animi: videt capitis
face she-gazes-on the-beauty she-is-refreshed in-mind she-sees of-the-head
aurei genialem caesariem ambrosia temulentam, cervices
golden the-nuptial hair with-ambrosia drunk necks
lacteas genasque purpureas pererrantes crinium globos decoriter
milky and-cheeks rosy wandering-over of-locks the-balls becomingly
impeditos, alios antependulos, alios retropendulos, quorum
entangled some hanging-in-front others hanging-behind whose
splendore nimio fulgurante iam et ipsum lumen lucernae
with-splendor excessive flashing now even itself the-light of-the-lamp
vacillabat: per humeros volatalis dei pinnae roscidae micanti
wavered over the-shoulders of-the-flying god the-wings dewy with-gleaming
flore candicant et quamvis alis quiescentibus extimae
bloom shine-white and although with-wings resting the-outermost
plumulae tenellae ac delicatae tremule resultantes inquieta
little-feathers tender and delicate tremblingly bouncing restless
lasciviunt: ceterum corpus glabellum atque luculentum et
frolic the-rest body smooth and splendid and
quale peperisse Venerem non paeniteret. Ante lectuli pedes
such-as to-have-borne Venus not would-repent before of-the-little-bed the-feet
iacebat arcus et pharetra et sagittae, magni dei propitia tela;
lay the-bow and quiver and arrows of-the-great god kindly weapons
quae dum insatiabili animo Psyche, satis et curiosa 23
which while with-insatiable mind Psyche quite and curious
rimatur atque pertrectat et mariti sui miratur arma,
searches and handles and of-husband her admires the-arms
depromit unam de pharetra sagittam et puncto pollicis
she-takes-out one from the-quiver arrow and with-a-prick of-the-thumb
extremam aciem periclitabunda trementis etiam nunc articuli
the-extreme edge testing of-the-trembling even now joint
nisu fortiore pupugit altius, ut per summam
with-an-effort stronger she-pricked more-deeply so-that through the-top-of

cutem roraverint parvulae sanguinis rosei guttae: sic ignara
skin dewed small of-blood rosy drops thus unaware
Psyche sponte in Amoris incidit amorem. Tunc
Psyche of-her-own-accord into of-Love fell love then
magis magisque cupidine flagrans Cupidinis, prona in eum
more and-more with-desire burning for-Cupid bent over him
efflictim inhians, patulis ac petulantibus saviis festinanter
to-distraction gaping with-open and wanton kisses hastily
ingestis, de somni mensura metuebat.
showered about of-sleep the-measure she-feared
"Sed dum bono tanto percita saucia mente fluctuat,
but while by-good so-great stirred with-wounded mind she-wavers
lucerna illa, sive perfidia pessima sive invidia noxia sive
lamp that whether by-treachery worst or by-envy harmful or
quod tale corpus contingere et quasi basiare et ipsa
because such a-body to-touch and as-if to-kiss also itself
gestiebat, evomuit de summa luminis sui stillam ferventis
was-eager spewed from the-top of-light its a-drop of-hot
olei super humerum dei dexterum: hem audax et
oil onto the-shoulder of-the-god right ah bold and
temeraria lucerna et amoris vile ministerium, ipsum ignis
rash lamp and of-love base servant the-very of-fire
totius deum aduris, cum te, scilicet amator aliquis, ut diutius
all god you-burn when you evidently a-lover some that longer
cupitis etiam nocte potiretur, primus invenerit! Sic inustus
his-desires even at-night might-possess first invented thus burned
exiluit deus visaque detectae fidei colluvie prorsus ex
leapt-up the-god and-with-seen of-betrayed faith the-filth utterly from
osculis et manibus infelicissimae coniugis tacitus avolavit:
the-kisses and hands of-his-most-unhappy wife silent flew-away

at Psyche statim resurgentis eius crure dextero manibus 24
but Psyche at-once of-rising his with-the-leg right with-hands
ambabus arrepto, sublimis evectionis appendix miseranda et
both seized of-the-lofty ascent an-appendage pitiable and
per nubilas plagas penduli comitatus extrema consequia
through cloudy regions of-the-hanging escort the-last trailing
tandem fessa delabitur solo. Nec deus amator humi
at-last exhausted slips to-the-ground nor the-god lover on-the-ground
iacentem deserens, involavit proximam cupressum deque
lying deserting-her flew-to the-nearest cypress and-from
eius alto cacumine sic eam graviter commotus affatur:
its high summit thus her deeply moved addresses
'Ego quidem, simplicissima Psyche, parentis meae Veneris
I indeed most-simple Psyche of-parent my Venus
praeceptorum immemor, quae te miseri extremique hominis
of-the-commands unmindful who you of-a-wretched and-lowest man
devinctam cupidine infimo matrimonio addici iusserat,
bound by-desire to-the-basest marriage to-be-given had-ordered
ipse potius amator advolavi tibi. Sed hoc feci leviter, scio,
myself rather as-lover flew-to you but this I-did lightly I-know
et praeclarus ille sagittarius ipse me telo meo percussi
and splendid that archer myself me with-weapon my struck
teque coniugem meam feci, ut bestia scilicet tibi viderer
and-you wife my made so-that a-beast evidently to-you I-might-seem
et ferro caput excideres meum, quod istos amatores
and with-steel the-head you-might-cut-off my which those loving
tuos oculos gerit! Haec tibi semper cavenda
your eyes bears these-things for-you always to-be-guarded-against
censebam, haec benivole remonebam. Sed illae quidem
I-judged these-things kindly I-warned but they indeed
consiliatrices egregiae tuae tam perniciosi magisterii dabunt
counselors excellent your of-so pernicious a-teaching shall-give

actutum mihi poenas: te vero tantum fuga mea punivero';
at-once to-me punishment you indeed only by-flight my I-shall-punish
et cum termino sermonis pinnis in altum se proripuit.
and with the-end of-the-speech with-wings into the-height himself rushed

XXXIII · PSYCHE'S REVENGE

Psyche throws herself into a river, but it carries her to the bank, where Pan bids her win back the god with prayers. She goes to each sister in turn, tells her that Cupid has chosen her for his bride, and each leaps from the crag and dies.

25 "Psyche vero humi prostrata et quantum visu poterat
Psyche indeed on-the-ground prostrate and as-much-as with-sight she-could
volatus mariti prospiciens extremis affligebat lamentationibus
the-flight of-her-husband watching with-the-last afflicted with-lamentations
animum. Sed ubi remigio plumae raptum maritum proceritas
her-mind but when by-the-oarage of-feathers carried-off husband the-length
spatii fecerat alienum, per proximi fluminis marginem
of-space had-made a-stranger over of-the-nearest river the-edge
praecipitem sese dedit: sed mitis fluvius in honorem dei
headlong herself threw but the-gentle river in honor of-the-god
scilicet, qui et ipsas aquas urere consuevit, metuens sibi
evidently who even the-very waters to-burn is-wont fearing for-itself
confestim eam innoxio volumine super ripam florentem
at-once her on-a-harmless wave on the-bank flowering
herbis exposuit. Tunc forte Pan deus rusticus iuxta
with-grasses set-out then by-chance Pan the-god rustic by
supercilium amnis sedebat, complexus Echo montanam deam
the-brow of-the-river sat embracing Echo the-mountain goddess
eamque voculas omnimodas edocens recinere; proxime ripam
and-her little-tunes of-all-kinds teaching to-sing-back near the-bank

vago pastu lasciviunt, comam fluvii tondentes, capellae.
in-roving pasture frolic the-hair of-the-river cropping she-goats
Hircuosus deus sauciam Psychen atque defectam, utcumque
the-goatish god the-wounded Psyche and fainting somehow
casus eius non inscius, clementer ad se vocatam sic
of-the-misfortune her not unaware gently to himself called thus
permulcet verbis lenientibus: 'Puella scitula, sum quidem
soothes with-words softening girl pretty I-am indeed
rusticanus et upilio, sed senectutis prolixae beneficio multis
a-rustic and a-shepherd but of-old-age long by-the-benefit by-many
experimentis instructus. Verum si recte coniecto, quod profecto
experiences instructed but if rightly I-guess which surely
prudentes viri divinationem autumant, ab isto titubante et
wise men divination call from that staggering and
saepius vacillante vestigio deque nimio pallore corporis et
more-often wavering step and-from excessive pallor of-body and
assiduo suspiritu, immo et ipsis marcentibus oculis tuis,
constant sighing nay and from-the-very drooping eyes your
amore nimio laboras. Ergo mihi ausculta, nec te rursus
from-love excessive you-suffer therefore to-me listen nor yourself again
praecipitio vel ullo mortis accersitae genere perimas. Luctum
by-a-precipice or by-any of-death summoned kind destroy grief
desine et pone maerorem precibusque potius Cupidinem
cease and lay-aside sorrow and-with-prayers rather Cupid
deorum maximum percole, et utpote adolescentem delicatum
of-the-gods the-greatest worship and as a-young-man delicate
luxuriosumque blandis obsequiis promerere.'
and-luxurious with-coaxing services win
"Sic locuto deo pastore, nulloque sermone reddito sed 26
thus with-having-spoken the-god shepherd and-with-no speech returned but
adorato tantum numine salutari, Psyche pergit ire. Sed cum
with-worshiped only the-divinity saving Psyche goes-on to-go but when

aliquam multum viae laboranti vestigio pererrasset, inscio
some-amount much of-road with-toiling step she-had-wandered by-unknown
quodam tramite, iam die labente, accedit quandam
a-certain path now with-day sinking she-approaches a-certain
civitatem, in qua regnum maritus unius sororis eius obtinebat.
city in which the-kingdom the-husband of-one sister her held
Qua re cognita Psyche nuntiari praesentiam suam sorori
which thing learned Psyche to-be-announced presence her to-her-sister
desiderat; mox inducta, mutuis amplexibus alternae salutationis
desires soon led-in with-mutual embraces of-alternate greeting
expletis, percontanti causas adventus sui sic incipit: 'Meministi
completed to-her-asking the-causes of-arrival her thus she-begins you-remember
consilium vestrum, scilicet quo mihi suasistis ut bestiam,
the-counsel your evidently by-which me you-persuaded that the-beast
quae mariti mentito nomine mecum quiescebat, prius quam
which of-a-husband with-lying name with-me rested before than
ingluvie voraci me misellam hauriret, ancipiti novacula
with-a-gullet voracious me poor-girl it-should-swallow with-two-edged razor
peremerem? Sed cum primum, ut aeque placuerat, conscio
I-should-kill but when first as equally had-been-agreed with-the-witnessing
lumine vultus eius aspexi, video mirum divinumque prorsus
light the-face his I-looked-on I-see a-wonderful and-divine utterly
spectaculum; ipsum illum deae Veneris filium, ipsum
sight the-very that of-the-goddess Venus son the-very
inquam Cupidinem leni quiete sopitum. Ac dum tanti
I-say Cupid in-gentle rest asleep and while of-so-great
boni spectaculo percita et nimia voluptatis copia turbata
good by-the-sight stirred and by-excessive of-pleasure abundance disturbed
fruendi laborarem inopia, casu scilicet pessimo lucerna
of-enjoying I-labored in-want by-chance evidently worst the-lamp
fervens oleum rebullivit in eius humerum. Quo dolore statim
boiling oil spurted onto his shoulder by-which pain at-once

somno recussus, ubi me ferro et igni conspexit armatam,
from-sleep shaken when me with-steel and fire he-saw armed
“Tu quidem” inquit “Ob istud tam dirum facinus confestim
you indeed he-says for that so dire crime at-once
toro meo divorte tibique res tuas habeto, ego vero
from-bed my divorce-yourself and-for-yourself things your have I indeed
sororem tuam” — et nomen quo tu censeris aiebat —
sister your and by-the-name by-which you are-reckoned he-said
“Iam mihi confestim farreatis nuptiis coniugabo” et statim
now to-me at-once by-confarreate nuptials I-shall-join and at-once
Zephyro praecipit ultra terminos me domus eius efflaret.’
to-Zephyr orders beyond the-boundaries me of-house his he-should-blow
“Necdum sermonem Psyche finierat; illa vesanae libidinis et 27
not-yet the-speech Psyche had-finished she of-mad lust and
invidiae noxiae stimulis agitata, e re concinnato mendacio
of-envy harmful by-the-goads driven from the-thing with-concocted lie
fallens maritum, quasi de morte parentum aliquid comperisset,
deceiving her-husband as-if about the-death of-her-parents something she-had-learned
statim navem ascendit et ad illum scopulum protinus pergit,
at-once a-ship climbs and to that crag immediately goes
et quamvis alio flante vento, caeca spe tamen inhians,
and although with-another blowing wind with-blind hope still gaping
‘Accipe me’ dicens ‘Cupido, dignam te coniugem et tu,
take me saying Cupid worthy of-you as-wife and you
Zephyre, suscipe dominam!’ saltu se maximo praecipitem
Zephyr take-up your-mistress with-a-leap herself greatest headlong
dedit. Nec tamen ad illum locum vel saltem mortua
threw nor still to that place or at-least dead
pervenire potuit: nam per saxa cautium membris iactatis
to-come could for over the-rocks of-the-cliffs with-limbs tossed
atque dissipatis et proinde ut merebatur laceratis visceribus
and scattered and accordingly as she-deserved with-lacerated entrails

suis alitibus bestiisque obvium ferens pabulum interiit. Nec
her to-birds and-beasts ready bringing fodder she-perished nor
vindictae sequentis poena tardavit: nam Psyche rursus
of-vengeance following the-penalty delayed for Psyche again
errabundo gradu pervenit ad civitatem aliam, in qua pari
with-wandering step arrives at a-city another in which in-like
modo soror morabatur alia. Nec setius et ipsa fallacie
manner sister dwelt the-other nor otherwise she too by-the-deceit
germanitatis inducta, et in sororis sceleratas nuptias aemula,
of-sisterhood led and onto of-her-sister criminal nuptials a-rival
festinavit ad scopulum inque simile mortis exitium cecidit.
hastened to the-crag and-into a-like of-death end fell

XXXIV · VENUS LEARNS THE TRUTH

A gull tells Venus that her son lies wounded and that the world has gone without love. Venus storms at Cupid, threatens to strip him of his weapons, and vows vengeance on Psyche. Ceres and Juno urge her to be gentle with him.

28 "Interim, dum Psyche quaestioni Cupidinis intenta populos
meanwhile while Psyche on-the-search for-Cupid intent the-peoples
circumibat, ille vulnere lucernae dolens in ipso thalamo
went-round he from-the-wound of-the-lamp aching in the-very chamber
matris iacens ingemebat. Tunc avis peralba illa gavia, quae
of-his-mother lying was-groaning then the-bird very-white that gull which
super fluctus marinos pinnis natat, demergit sese propere
over the-waves of-the-sea with-wings swims plunges itself quickly
ad Oceani profundum gremium. Ibi commodum Venerem
to of-Ocean the-deep bosom there just Venus
lavantem natantemque propter assistens, indicat adustum
bathing and-swimming beside standing it-tells that-burned

filium eius, gravi vulneris dolore maerentem, dubium salutis
son her by-grave of-the-wound pain grieving doubtful of-recovery
iacere, iamque per cunctorum ora populorum rumoribus
to-lie and-now through of-all the-mouths peoples with-rumors
conviciisque variis omnem Veneris familiam male audire,
and-reproaches various the-whole of-Venus household badly to-be-spoken-of
'quod ille quidem montano scortatu, tu vero marino natatu
because he indeed in-mountain whoring you indeed in-sea swimming
secesseritis ac per hoc non voluptas ulla, non gratia,
have-withdrawn and on-account-of this not pleasure any not grace
non lepos, sed incompta et agrestia et horrida cuncta sint,
not charm but unkempt and rustic and rough all-things are
non nuptiae coniugales, non amicitiae sociales, non liberum
not marriages conjugal not friendships social not of-children
caritates, sed enormis eluvies et squalentium foederum
loves but a-monstrous filth and of-squalid bonds
insuave fastidium.' Haec illa verbosa et satis curiosa avis
a-distasteful loathing these-things that wordy and quite curious bird
in auribus Veneris, filii lacerans existimationem, ganniebat:
in the-ears of-Venus of-her-son lacerating the-reputation chattered
at Venus irata solidum exclamat repente: 'Ergo iam ille
but Venus angry wholly cries-out suddenly therefore now that
bonus filius meus habet amicam aliquam! Prome agedum,
good son my has a-girlfriend some bring-it-out come-on
quae sola mihi servis amanter, nomen eius quae puerum
you-who alone me serve lovingly the-name of-her who the-boy
ingenuum et investem sollicitavit, sive illa de Nympharum
freeborn and beardless has-seduced whether she of the-Nymphs'
populo seu de Horarum numero seu de Musarum choro vel
people or of the-Hours' number or of the-Muses' choir or
de mearum Gratiarum ministerio.' Nec loquax illa conticuit
of my Graces' service nor talkative that fell-silent

avis, sed; 'Nescio' inquit, 'Domina; puto puellam illum —
bird but I-know-not she-says mistress I-think a-girl he
si probe memini, Psyches nomine dicitur — efflicte cupere.'
if rightly I-remember Psyche by-name is-said desperately to-desire
Tunc indignata Venus exclamavit vel maxime: 'Psychen
then indignant Venus cried-out indeed most Psyche
ille meae formae succubam, mei nominis aemulam si vere
he of-my beauty the-rival of-my name the-emulator if truly
diligit, nimirum illud incrementum lenam me putavit, cuius
he-loves no-doubt that growing-boy a-procuress me has-thought whose
monstratu puellam illam cognosceret.'
by-pointing-out the-girl that he-should-know

29 "Haec quiritans properiter emergit e mari, suumque
these-things crying quickly she-emerges from the-sea and-her-own
protinus aureum thalamum petit, et reperto, sicut audierat,
at-once golden chamber seeks and with-found as she-had-heard
aegroto puero iam inde a foribus quam maxime boans,
sick the-boy now thence from the-doors as most bellowing
'Honesta' inquit 'Haec et natalibus nostris bonaeque tuae frugi
honorable she-says this and to-birth our and-good your worth
congruentia, ut primum quidem tuae parentis, immo dominae
fitting that first indeed of-your parent nay of-your-mistress
praecepta calcares, nec sordidis amoribus inimicam meam
the-commands you-should-trample nor with-base loves enemy my
cruciares, verum etiam hoc aetatis puer tuis licentiosis
you-should-torture but even at-this of-age a-boy to-your licentious
et immaturis iungeres amplexibus, ut ego nurum
and premature you-should-join embraces so-that I a-daughter-in-law
scilicet tolerarem inimicam! Sed utique praesumis, nugo et
evidently should-endure an-enemy but surely you-presume trifler and
corruptor et inamabilis, te solum generosum, nec me iam
corrupter and unlovable that-you alone noble nor me now

per aetatem posse concipere: velim ergo scias
through age to-be-able to-conceive I-would-wish therefore you-should-know
multo te meliorem filium alium genituram; immo, ut
much than-you better a-son another I-am-going-to-bear nay so-that
contumeliam magis sentias, aliquem de meis adoptaturam
the-insult more you-may-feel some-one of my going-to-adopt
vernulis eique donaturam istas pinnas et flammas et
house-slaves and-to-him going-to-give those wings and flames and
arcum et ipsas sagittas et omnem meam supellectilem,
bow and the-very arrows and all my equipment
quam tibi non ad hos usus dederam: nec enim de patris
which to-you not for these uses I-had-given nor for from of-father
tui bonis ad instructionem istam quicquam concessum est.
your the-goods for equipping this anything granted has-been
"'Sed male prima pueritia inductus es et acutas manus 30
but badly from-earliest boyhood brought-up you-are and sharp hands
habes et maiores tuos irreverenter pulsasti totiens et ipsam
you-have and elders your irreverently you-have-struck so-often and the-very
matrem tuam, me inquam ipsam parricida denudas cotidie
mother your me I-say myself parricide you-strip daily
et percussisti saepius et quasi viduam utique contemnis, nec
and have-struck more-often and as-if a-widow surely you-despise nor
vitricum tuum fortissimum illum maximumque bellatorem
stepfather your bravest that and-greatest warrior
metuis. Quidni? Cui saepius in angorem mei paelicatus
you-fear why-not to-whom more-often to the-anguish of-my jealousy
puellas propinare consuesti. Sed iam faxo te lusus huius
girls to-offer you-are-wont but now I-shall-see-that you of-sport this
paeniteat et sentias acidas et amaras istas nuptias. Sed nunc
repent and feel sour and bitter those nuptials but now
irrisui habita quid agam? Quo me conferam? Quibus modis
for-mockery held what shall-I-do where myself shall-I-take by-what means

stelionem istum cohibeam? Petamne auxilium ab inimica mea
lizard that shall-I-restrain shall-I-seek help from enemy my
Sobrietate, quam propter huius ipsius luxuriam offendi
Sobriety whom on-account-of of-this very-one's luxury I-have-offended
saepius? At rusticae squalentisque feminae colloquium prorsus
more-often but of-a-rustic and-squalid woman the-converse utterly
horresco. Nec tamen vindictae solacium undeunde spernendum
I-shudder-at nor still of-vengeance the-comfort from-wherever to-be-spurned
est: illa mihi prorsus adhibenda est nec ulla alia, quae castiget
is she to-me utterly to-be-employed is nor any other who may-chastise
asperrime nugonem istum, pharetram explicet et sagittas
most-harshly trifler that his-quiver unpack and his-arrows
dearmet, arcum enodet, taedam deflammet, immo et ipsum
disarm his-bow unstring his-torch extinguish nay and the-very
corpus eius acrioribus remediis coerceat. Tunc iniuriae meae
body his with-sharper remedies restrain then injury my
litatum crediderim, cum eius comas, quas istis manibus
atoned I-would-believe when his hair which with-those hands
meis subinde aureo nitore perstrinxi, deraserit; pinnas,
my repeatedly with-golden gleam I-have-touched she-shall-have-shaved the-wings
quas meo gremio nectarei fontis infeci, praetotonderit.'
which in-my lap of-the-nectarean spring I-dipped she-shall-have-clipped
31 "Sic effata foras sese proripit infesta et stomachata
thus having-spoken out-of-doors herself rushes hostile and enraged
biles Venerias. Sed eam protinus Ceres et Iuno continuantur
with-bile Venereal but her at-once Ceres and Juno meet
visamque vultu tumido quaesiere cur truci supercilio tantam
and-seen with-face swollen asked why with-fierce brow such
venustatem micantium oculorum coerceret. At illa 'Opportune'
charm of-flashing eyes she-restrained but she opportunely
inquit 'Ardenti prorsus isto meo pectori violentiam scilicet
she-says to-burning utterly this my breast violence evidently

perpetraturae venitis. Sed totis, oro, vestris viribus Psychen
going-to-do you-come but with-all I-beg your strength Psyche
illam fugitivam volaticam mihi requirite. Nec enim vos utique
that runaway flier for-me seek-out nor for you surely
domus meae famosa fabula et non dicendi filii mei
of-house my the-notorious tale and not of-to-be-spoken son my
facta latuerunt.' Tunc illae non ignarae, quae gesta sunt,
the-deeds have-escaped then they not ignorant of-what done were
palpare Veneris iram saevientem sic adortae: 'Quid tale,
to-soothe of-Venus the-anger raging thus began what such
domina, deliquit tuus filius ut animo pervicaci voluptates
mistress has-done-wrong your son that with-mind stubborn the-pleasures
illius impugnes, et quam ille diligit tu quoque perdere
his you-attack and whom he loves you too to-destroy
gestias? Quod autem, oramus, isti crimen si puellae lepidae
are-eager what however we-pray to-him a-crime if at-a-girl pretty
libenter arrisit? An ignoras eum masculum et iuvenem
gladly he-smiled or do-you-not-know him male and young
esse, vel certe iam quot sit annorum oblita es? An
to-be or surely now how-many he-is of-years forgotten have-you or
quod aetatem portat bellule, puer tibi semper videtur?
because his-age he-carries prettily a-boy to-you always seems
Mater autem tu et praeterea cordata mulier filii tui lusus
a-mother however you and besides a-sensible woman of-son your the-sports
semper explorabis curiose, et in eo luxuriem culpabis et
always will-you-pry-into curiously and in him luxury will-you-blame and
amores revinces et tuas artes tuasque delicias in formoso
loves will-you-convict and your arts and-your delights in a-handsome
filio reprehendes? Quis autem te deum, quis hominum
son will-you-reprehend who however you of-gods who of-men
patietur passim cupidines populis disseminantem, cum
will-endure everywhere desires among-peoples disseminating when

tuae domus amores amare coerceas et vitiorum muliebrium
of-your house the-loves bitterly you-restrain and of-vices womanly
publicam praecludas officinam?' Sic illae metu sagittarum
the-public you-shut workshop thus they from-fear of-arrows
patrocinio gratioso Cupidini quamvis absenti blandiebantur.
with-patronage gracious Cupid although absent flattered
Sed Venus indignata ridicule tractari suas iniurias praeversis
but Venus indignant ridiculously to-be-treated her injuries with-passed-by
illis alterorsus concito gradu pelago viam capessit.
them the-other-way with-quickened step on-the-sea her-way takes

BOOK VI

XXXV · PSYCHE'S SEARCH

Psyche wanders in search of her husband. Ceres and Juno, though they pity her, refuse her shelter out of loyalty to Venus. Venus has Mercury proclaim a reward for her capture, and Psyche gives herself up at the goddess's door.

"Interea Psyche variis iactabatur discursibus, dies noctesque 1
meanwhile Psyche by-various was-tossed wanderings days and-nights
mariti vestigationibus inquieta animo, tanto cupidior
of-her-husband in-the-trackings restless in-mind the more-eager
iratum licet, si non uxoris blanditiis lenire, certe servilibus
angry though if not by-a-wife's endearments to-soothe surely by-servile
precibus propitiare. Et prospecto templo quodam in ardui
prayers to-propitiate and having-seen a-temple certain on of-a-steep
montis vertice, 'Unde autem' inquit 'Scio an istic meus
mountain the-peak how however she-says do-I-know whether there my
degat dominus?' et illico dirigit citatum gradum, quem
lives lord and at-once directs a-hastened step which
defectum prorsus assiduis laboribus spes incitabat et votum.
exhausted utterly by-constant labors hope urged-on and longing
Iamque naviter emensis celsioribus iugis pulvinaribus
and-now energetically having-crossed the-loftier ridges to-the-sacred-couches
sese proximam intulit: videt spicas frumentarias in acervo
herself close brought she-sees ears of-grain in a-heap
et alias flexiles in corona et spicas hordei videt; erant
and others twisted into a-garland and ears of-barley she-sees there-were
et falces et operae messoriae mundus omnis, sed cuncta
also sickles and of-work harvest the-equipment all but all-things
passim iacentia et incuria confusa et, ut solet aestu,
everywhere lying and by-carelessness confused and as is-wont in-the-heat

laborantium manibus proiecta. Haec singula Psyche curiose
of-laborers by-the-hands thrown-down these-things each Psyche carefully
dividit et discretim remota rite componit, rata scilicet
divides and separately removed duly arranges thinking evidently
nullius dei fana ac caerimonias neglegere se debere sed
of-no god the-shrines and rites to-neglect herself ought but
omnium benivolam misericordiam corrogare.
of-all the-kindly pity to-beg-for

2 "Haec eam sollicite seduloque curantem Ceres alma
these-things her anxiously and-diligently tending Ceres the-nurturing
deprehendit et longum exclamat protinus: 'Ain, Psyche
catches and long cries-out at-once do-you-say-so Psyche
miseranda? Totum per orbem Venus anxia disquisitione
pitiable the-whole through world Venus with-anxious search
tuum vestigium furens animi requirit teque ad extremum
your track raging in-mind seeks and-you to the-utmost
supplicium expetit et totis numinis sui viribus ultionem
punishment demands and with-all of-divinity her strength vengeance
flagitat. Tu vero rerum mearum tutelam nunc geris et aliud
calls-for you indeed of-things my the-care now bear and other
quicquam cogitas nisi de tua salute?' Tunc Psyche pedes
anything think except about your safety then Psyche at-the-feet
eius advoluta et uberi fletu rigans deae vestigia
her rolled and with-abundant weeping watering of-the-goddess the-footprints
humumque verrens crinibus suis, multiiugis precibus editis,
and-the-ground sweeping with-hair her with-manifold prayers uttered
veniam postulabat: 'Per ego te frugiferam tuam dexteram istam
pardon demanded by I you fruitful your right-hand that
deprecor, per laetificas messium caerimonias, per tacita secreta
beseech by the-gladdening of-harvests rites by the-silent secrets
cistarum et per famulorum tuorum draconum pinnata curricula
of-the-baskets and by of-servants your dragons the-winged courses

et glebae Siculae sulcamina et currum rapacem et terram
and of-the-glebe Sicilian the-furrowings and the-chariot rapacious and the-earth
tenacem et inluminarum Proserpinae nuptiarum demeacula
tenacious and of-the-unlit of-Proserpina nuptials the-descents
et luminosarum filiae inventionum remeacula, et cetera
and of-the-lit of-the-daughter discoveries the-returns and the-rest
quae silentio tegit Eleusinis Atticae sacrarium, miserandae
which in-silence covers of-Eleusis Attic the-sanctuary to-pitiable
Psyches animae, supplicis tuae, subsiste. Inter istam spicarum
Psyche's soul suppliant your stand-by among that of-ears
congeriem patere vel pauculos dies delitescam, quoad deae
heap allow even a-few days I-may-lie-bid until of-the-goddess
tantae saeviens ira spatio temporis mitigetur vel certe
so-great raging the-anger by-the-space of-time may-be-softened or surely
meae vires diutino labore fessae quietis intervallo leniantur.'
my strength by-long labor exhausted by-rest's interval may-be-soothed
"Suscipit Ceres: 'Tuis quidem lacrimosis precibus et commoveor 3
takes-up Ceres by-your indeed tearful prayers both I-am-moved
et opitulari cupio; sed cognatae meae, cum qua etiam foedus
and to-help I-desire but of-kinswoman my with whom also a-treaty
antiquum amicitiae colo, bonae praeterea feminae, malam
old of-friendship I-cultivate a-good besides woman the-ill
gratiam subire nequeo. Decede itaque de istis aedibus protinus,
favor to-incur I-cannot depart and-so from these dwellings at-once
et quod a me retenta custoditaque non fueris, optimi consule.'
and that by me kept and-guarded not you-were as-best count-it
"Contra spem suam repulsa Psyche et afflicta duplici
against hope her repulsed Psyche and afflicted with-double
maestitia iter retrorsum porrigens inter subsitae convallis
sorrow her-journey backward stretching among of-a-low-lying valley
sublucidum lucum prospicit fanum sollerti fabrica structura,
a-dim grove she-sees a-shrine with-skillful craft built

nec ullam vel dubiam spei melioris viam volens omittere,
nor any even doubtful of-hope better way wishing to-omit
sed adire cuiuscumque dei veniam, sacratis foribus
but to-approach of-whatever god the-pardon the-sacred doors
proximat. Videt dona pretiosa ac lacinias auro litteratas
she-nears she-sees gifts precious and garments with-gold lettered
ramis arborum postibusque suffixas, quae cum gratia
to-branches of-trees and-doorposts fixed which with the-gratitude
facti nomen deae cui fuerant dicata testabantur.
for-the-deed the-name of-the-goddess to-whom they-had-been dedicated attested
Tunc genu nixa et manibus aram tepentem amplexa,
then on-knee kneeling and with-hands the-altar warm embracing
detersis ante lacrimis, sic apprecatur:
with-wiped first her-tears thus she-prays
4 'Magni Iovis germana et coniuga, sive tu Sami, quae sola
of-great Jupiter sister and wife whether you of-Samos which alone
partu vagituque et alimonia tua gloriatur, tenes vetusta
in-your-birth and-wailing and nurture your glories hold the-ancient
delubra; sive celsae Carthaginis, quae te virginem vectura
shrines or of-lofty Carthage which you as-a-maiden on-the-carriage
leonis caelo commeantem percolit, beatas sedes frequentas;
of-a-lion in-the-sky traveling worships the-blessed seats you-frequent
sive prope ripas Inachi, qui te iam nuptam Tonantis et
or near the-banks of-Inachus who you now the-bride of-the-Thunderer and
reginam dearum memorat, inclitis Argivorum praesides
queen of-goddesses records over-the-famous of-the-Argives you-preside
moenibus; quam cunctus oriens Zygiam veneratur et omnis
the-walls whom all the-east as-Yoker worships and all
occidens Lucinam appellat; sis meis extremis casibus Iuno
the-west Lucina calls be in-my extreme misfortunes Juno
Sospita, meque in tantis exanclatis laboribus defessam
the-Savior and-me in such endured labors exhausted

imminentis periculi metu libera. Quod sciam, soles
of-imminent danger from-fear free as-far-as I-know you-are-wont
praegnatibus periclitantibus ultro subvenire.' Ad istum
the-pregnant endangered of-your-own-accord to-help in this
modum supplicanti statim sese Iuno cum totius sui numinis
manner to-her-praying at-once herself Juno with of-all her divinity
augusta dignitate praesentat, et protinus 'Quam vellem'
august dignity presents and at-once how I-would-wish
inquit 'Per fidem nutum meum precibus tuis accommodare!
she-says by good-faith nod my to-prayers your to-adapt
Sed contra voluntatem Veneris, nurus meae, quam
but against the-will of-Venus daughter-in-law my whom
filiae semper dilexi loco, praestare me pudor non
of-a-daughter always I-have-loved in-place to-provide me shame not
sinit. Tunc etiam legibus, quae servos alienos perfugas
allows then also by-the-laws which slaves others' fugitives
invitis dominis vetant suscipi, prohibeor.'
with-unwilling masters forbid to-be-taken-in I-am-prevented
"Isto quoque fortunae naufragio Psyche perterrita nec indipisci 5
by-this also of-fortune shipwreck Psyche terrified nor to-obtain
iam maritum volatilem quiens, tota spe salutis deposita,
now husband winged being-able with-all hope of-safety laid-down
sic ipsa suas cogitationes consuluit: 'Iam quae possunt
thus she-herself her-own thoughts consulted now what can
alia meis aerumnis temptari vel adhiberi subsidia, cui nec
other for-my miseries to-be-tried or to-be-applied aids to-whom not
dearum quidem quamquam volentium potuerunt prodesse
of-goddesses even although willing could to-avail
suffragia? Quorsum itaque tantis laqueis inclusa vestigium
the-votes whither and-so in-such snares enclosed my-step
porrigam, quibusque tectis vel etiam tenebris abscondita
shall-I-stretch and-in-what roofs or even darkness hidden

magnae Veneris inevitabiles oculos effugiam? Quin igitur
of-great Venus the-unavoidable eyes shall-I-flee why-not therefore
masculum tandem sumis animum et cassae speculae renuntias
a-manly at-last you-take spirit and to-empty little-hope renounce
fortiter, et ultroneam te dominae tuae reddis et vel sera
bravely and voluntary yourself to-mistress your give-back and even by-late
modestia saevientes impetus eius mitigas? Qui scias an
modesty the-raging attacks her soften how do-you-know whether
etiam, quem diu quaeritas, illuc in domo matris repperias?'
even him-whom long you-seek there in the-house of-his-mother you-may-find
Sic ad dubium obsequium, immo ad certum exitium praeparata
thus for doubtful service nay for certain destruction prepared
principium futurae secum meditabatur obsecrationis.
the-beginning of-the-future with-herself she-meditated entreaty

6 "At Venus terrenis remediis inquisitionis abnuens caelum
but Venus earthly remedies of-search refusing the-sky
petit. Iubet instrui currum, quem ei Vulcanus aurifex
seeks she-orders to-be-equipped the-chariot which for-her Vulcan the-goldsmith
subtili fabrica studiose poliverat et ante thalami
with-fine craft zealously had-polished and before of-the-marriage-chamber
rudimentum nuptiale munus obtulerat, limae tenuantis
the-first-trial as-a-nuptial gift had-offered of-the-file thinning
detrimento conspicuum et ipsius auri damno pretiosum. De
by-the-loss conspicuous and of-the-very gold by-the-loss precious of
multis quae circa cubiculum dominae stabulant, procedunt
the-many which around the-bedroom of-their-mistress are-stabled come-forth
quatuor candidae columbae, et hilaris incessibus picta colla
four white doves and with-cheerful steps painted necks
torquentes iugum gemmeum subeunt susceptaque domina
twisting the-yoke jeweled go-under and-taken-up their-mistress
laetae subvolant. Currum deae prosequentes gannitu
glad fly-up the-chariot of-the-goddess following with-chattering

constrepenti lasciviunt passeres et ceterae quae dulce cantitant
noisy frolic sparrows and the-other which sweetly sing
aves melleis modulis suave resonantes adventum deae
birds with-honeyed melodies sweetly resounding the-arrival of-the-goddess
pronuntiant. Cedunt nubes et caelum filiae panditur et
announce yield the-clouds and heaven to-its-daughter opens and
summus aether cum gaudio suscipit deam, nec obvias aquilas
the-highest ether with joy receives the-goddess nor meeting eagles
vel accipitres rapaces pertimescit magnae Veneris canora familia.
or hawks rapacious fears of-great Venus the-tuneful household
"Tunc se protinus ad Iovis regias arces dirigit et 7
then herself at-once to of-Jupiter the-royal citadels she-directs and
petitu superbo Mercuri, dei vocalis, operae necessariam
with-a-demand proud of-Mercury of-the-god vocal service the-necessary
usuram postulat. Nec renuit Iovis caerulum supercilium:
use she-requests nor refused of-Jupiter the-blue brow
tunc ovans illico, comitante etiam Mercurio, Venus caelo
then rejoicing at-once with-accompanying also Mercury Venus from-heaven
demeat eique sollicite serit verba: 'Frater Arcadi, scis
descends and-to-him anxiously sows words brother Arcadian you-know
nempe sororem tuam Venerem sine Mercuri praesentia
surely sister your Venus without of-Mercury the-presence
nil unquam fecisse, nec te praeterit utique quanto iam
nothing ever to-have-done nor you escapes surely for-how-long now
tempore delitescentem ancillam nequiverim repperire: nil
a-time a-hiding maid I-have-been-unable to-find nothing
ergo superest quam tuo praeconio praemium investigationis
therefore remains than by-your proclamation a-reward for-the-search
publicitus edicere. Fac ergo mandatum matures meum et
publicly to-announce see therefore the-command you-hasten my and
indicia, qui possit agnosci, manifeste designes, ne, si
the-marks by-which she-can to-be-recognized clearly you-indicate lest if

quis occultationis illicitae crimen subierit, ignorantiae
anyone of-concealment unlawful the-charge shall-have-incurred of-ignorance
se possit excusatione defendere'; et simul dicens libellum
himself can by-excuse to-defend and at-once saying a-little-book
ei porrigit, ubi Psyches nomen continebatur et cetera.
to-him she-hands where of-Psyche the-name was-contained and the-rest
Quo facto protinus domum secessit.
which done at-once home she-withdrew

8 "Nec Mercurius omisit obsequium: nam per omnium
nor Mercury omitted the-service for through of-all
ora populorum passim discurrens sic mandatae
the-mouths of-peoples everywhere running thus of-the-commanded
praedicationis munus exsequebatur: 'Si quis a fuga retrahere
proclamation the-office he-performed if anyone from flight to-drag-back
vel occultam demonstrare poterit fugitivam regis filiam,
or hidden to-point-out can a-runaway king's daughter
Veneris ancillam, nomine Psychen, conveniat retro metas
Venus' maid by-name Psyche let-him-meet behind the-turning-posts
Murtias Mercurium praedicatorem, accepturus indicivae
Murtian Mercury the-crier going-to-receive as-informer's-fee
nomine ab ipsa Venere septem savia suavia et unum
by-name from the-very Venus seven kisses sweet and one
blandientis appulsu linguae longe mellitum.' Ad hunc
of-a-coaxing with-the-thrust tongue far honeyed in this
modum pronuntiante Mercurio tanti praemii cupido certatim
manner with-announcing Mercury of-so-great a-reward the-desire in-rivalry
omnium mortalium studium arrexerat: quae res nunc vel
of-all mortals the-zeal had-roused which thing now indeed
maxime sustulit Psyches omnem cunctationem. Iamque fores
most removed of-Psyche all hesitation and-now the-doors
eius dominae proximanti occurrit una de famulitione Veneris,
her of-mistress to-her-nearing runs-up one of the-household of-Venus

nomine Consuetudo, statimque, quantum maxime potuit,
by-name Habit and-at-once as-loud as-most she-could
exclamat: 'Tandem, ancilla nequissima, dominam habere te
cries-out at-last maid most-worthless a-mistress to-have you
scire coepisti? An pro cetera morum tuorum temeritate istud
to-know have-begun or for the-rest of-ways your rashness that
quoque nescire te fingis, quantos labores circa tuas
also not-to-know yourself do-you-pretend how-great labors in your
inquisitiones sustinuerimus? Sed bene, quod meas potissimum
searchings we-have-endured but well that my especially
manus incidisti et inter Orci cancros iam ipsos
hands you-have-fallen-into and in-among of-Orcus the-claws now the-very
haesisti, datura scilicet actutum tantae contumaciae poenas';
have-stuck going-to-pay evidently at-once of-so-great insolence the-penalty

XXXVI · THE SEEDS AND THE GOLDEN WOOL

Venus has her maids Anxiety and Sorrow torment Psyche, then sets her tasks. Ants sort a heap of mixed grain for her, and a green reed tells her how to gather the golden wool of the wild sheep from the bushes once they rest after the midday heat.

et audaciter in capillos eius immissa manu trahebat 9
and boldly into hair her with-thrust hand was-dragging
eam nequaquam renitentem. Quam ubi primum inductam
her not-at-all resisting whom when first led-in
oblatamque sibi conspexit Venus, laetissimum cachinnum
and-presented to-herself she-saw Venus the-gladdest guffaw
extollit, et qualem solent frequenter irati caputque quatiens
raises and such-as are-wont often the-angry and-her-head shaking
et ascalpens aurem dexteram 'Tandem' inquit 'Dignata es
and scratching ear right at-last she-says deigned have-you

socrum tuam salutare? An potius maritum, qui tuo
mother-in-law your to-greet or rather your-husband who from-your
vulnere periclitatur, intervisere venisti? Sed esto secura; iam
wound is-endangered to-visit have-you-come but be secure now
enim excipiam te ut bonam nurum condecet': et 'Ubi sunt'
for I-shall-receive you as a-good daughter-in-law befits and where are
inquit 'Sollicitudo atque Tristities, ancillae meae?'; quibus intro
she-says Anxiety and Sadness maids my whom inside
vocatis torquendam tradidit eam. At illae sequentes herile
called to-be-tortured she-handed-over her but they following their-mistress's
praeceptum Psychen misellam flagellis afflictam et ceteris
command Psyche poor with-whips afflicted and with-other
tormentis excruciatam iterum dominae conspectui reddunt.
tortures tormented again to-their-mistress's sight return
Tunc rursus sublato risu Venus 'Et ecce' inquit 'Nobis turgidi
then again with-raised laughter Venus and behold she-says to-us of-swollen
ventris sui lenocinio commovet miserationem, unde me
belly her by-the-allurement she-stirs pity whence me
praeclara subole aviam beatam scilicet faciat. Felix vero
by-splendid offspring a-grandmother blessed evidently she-may-make happy indeed
ego, quae in ipso aetatis meae flore vocabor avia, et
I who in the-very of-age my flower shall-be-called grandmother and
vilis ancillae filius nepos Veneris audiet. Quamquam inepta
of-a-cheap maid the-son grandson of-Venus shall-be-called although foolish
ego frustra filium dicam: impares enim nuptiae, et praeterea
I in-vain son shall-call-him unequal for the-nuptials and besides
in villa sine testibus, et patre non consentiente factae
in a-villa without witnesses and with-father not consenting made
legitimae non possunt videri, ac per hoc spurius iste
lawful not can to-seem and on-account-of this spurious that-one
nascetur, si tamen partum omnino perferre te patiemur.'
will-be-born if still the-birth at-all to-bring-to-term you we-shall-allow

"His editis involat eam vestemque plurifariam diloricat, 10
these-things said she-flies-at her and-her-clothes in-many-places tears
capilloque discisso et capite conquassato graviter affligit, et
and-with-her-hair torn and with-head shaken heavily afflicts and
accepto frumento et hordeo et milio et papavere et cicere
with-taken wheat and barley and millet and poppy-seed and chickpea
et lente et faba commixtisque acervatim confusis in unum
and lentil and bean and-mixed in-heaps confused into one
grumulum sic ad illam: 'Videris enim mihi tam deformis
little-pile thus to her you-seem for to-me so ugly
ancilla nullo alio sed tantum sedulo ministerio amatores tuos
a-maid by-no other but only by-diligent service lovers your
promereri: iam ergo et ipsa frugem tuam periclitabor. Discerne
to-win now therefore also myself worth your I-shall-test sort
seminum istorum passivam congeriem singulisque granis rite
of-seeds those the-promiscuous heap and-with-single grains duly
dispositis atque seiugatis ante istam vesperam opus expeditum
arranged and separated before this evening the-work finished
approbato mihi.' Sic assignato tantorum seminum cumulo
show to-me thus with-assigned of-so-many seeds heap
ipsa cenae nuptiali concessit. Nec Psyche manus admolitur
herself to-the-dinner nuptial went nor Psyche her-hands moves
inconditae illi et inextricabili moli, sed immanitate praecepti
to-disordered that and inextricable mass but by-the-enormity of-the-command
consternata silens obstupescit. Tunc formicula illa parvula
dismayed silent is-stupefied then the-little-ant that tiny
atque ruricola, certa difficultatis tantae laborisque, miserta
and country-dwelling aware of-the-difficulty so-great and-of-the-labor pitying
contubernalis magni dei socrusque saevitiam execrata
the-consort of-the-great god and-of-the-mother-in-law the-savagery cursing
discurrens naviter convocat corrogatque cunctam formicarum
running-about energetically calls-together and-gathers all of-ants

accolarum classem: 'Miseremini terrae omniparentis agiles
neighboring the-company have-pity of-the-earth all-mothering nimble
alumnae, miseremini et Amoris uxori, puellae lepidae,
nurslings have-pity and on-Love's wife a-girl pretty
periclitanti prompta velocitate succurrite.' Ruunt aliae superque
endangered with-ready speed help rush some and-on-top
aliae sepedum populorum undae summoque studio singulae
others of-six-footed peoples waves and-with-highest zeal each
granatim totum digerunt acervum separatimque distributis
grain-by-grain the-whole sort heap and-separately with-distributed
dissitisque generibus e conspectu perniciter abeunt.
and-set-apart kinds from sight swiftly go-away
11 "Sed initio noctis e convivio nuptiali vino madens
but at-the-beginning of-night from the-banquet nuptial with-wine soaked
et fragrans balsama Venus remeat totumque revincta corpus
and fragrant-with balsam Venus returns and-her-whole bound body
rosis micantibus, visaque diligentia miri laboris, 'Non
with-roses gleaming and-with-seen the-diligence of-the-wonderful labor not
tuum' inquit 'Nequissima, nec tuarum manuum istud opus sed
yours she-says most-worthless nor of-your hands this work but
illius, cui tuo, immo et ipsius malo placuisti'; et frusto
of-him whom to-your nay and his-own harm you-have-pleased and with-a-crust
cibarii panis ei proiecto cubitum facessit. Interim Cupido solus
of-ration bread to-her thrown to-bed she-goes meanwhile Cupid alone
interioris domus unici cubiculi custodia clausus coercebatur
of-the-inner house of-a-single bedroom by-the-guard shut-in was-restrained
acriter, partim ne petulanti luxurie vulnus gravaret,
sharply partly lest by-wanton luxury his-wound he-should-aggravate
partim ne cum sua cupita conveniret. Sic ergo distentis et
partly lest with his desired-one he-should-meet so therefore with-separated and
sub uno tecto separatis amatoribus tetra nox exanclata. Sed
under one roof parted lovers the-foul night was-endured but

Aurora commodum inequitante vocatae Psychae Venus infit
with-Aurora just riding-in to-summoned Psyche Venus begins
talia: 'Videsne illud nemus quod fluvio praeterluenti
such-things do-you-see that grove which along-the-river flowing-past
ripisque longis attenditur, cuius imi frutices vicinum fontem
and-banks long stretches whose lowest bushes the-neighboring spring
despiciunt? Oves ibi nitentes aurique colore florentes
look-down-on sheep there shining and-of-gold with-the-color blooming
incustodito pastu vagantur: inde de coma pretiosi velleris
in-unguarded pasture wander from-there from the-hair of-precious fleece
floccum mihi confestim quoquo modo quaesitum afferas censeo.'
a-tuft to-me at-once in-whatever way sought you-bring I-advise
"Perrexit Psyche volenter, non obsequium quidem illa 12
went Psyche willingly not the-service indeed she
functura, sed requiem malorum praecipitio fluvialis rupis
going-to-perform but rest from-evils by-a-leap from-the-river's cliff
habitura. Sed inde de fluvio musicae suavis nutricula
going-to-have but from-there from the-river of-music sweet the-little-nurse
leni crepitu dulcis aurae divinitus inspirata sic vaticinatur
with-gentle rustling of-sweet breeze divinely inspired thus prophesies
arundo viridis: 'Psyche, tantis aerumnis exercita, neque
the-reed green Psyche by-such miseries harried neither
tua miserrima morte meas sanctas aquas polluas nec
with-your most-wretched death my holy waters pollute nor
vero istud horae contra formidabiles oves feras aditum,
indeed at-that hour toward the-dreadful sheep make an-approach
quoad de solis flagrantia mutuatae calorem truci rabie
while from the-sun's blaze having-borrowed heat with-fierce madness
solent efferri cornuque acuto et fronte saxea et
they-are-wont to-be-carried-away and-with-horn sharp and with-forehead stony and
nonnunquam venenatis morsibus in exitium saevire mortalium
sometimes with-poisonous bites to destruction to-rage of-mortals

Sed dum meridies solis sedaverit vaporem et pecua
but when midday of-the-sun shall-have-calmed the-heat and the-cattle
spiritus fluvialis serenitate conquieverint, poteris sub illa
of-the-breeze river's in-the-calm shall-have-rested you-will-be-able under that
procerissima platano, quae mecum simul unum fluentum bibit,
very-tall plane-tree which with-me together one stream drinks
latenter abscondere. Et cum primum mitigata furia laxaverint
secretly to-hide and when first with-softened madness shall-have-relaxed
oves animum, percussis frondibus attigui nemoris lanosum
the-sheep their-mind with-shaken leaves of-the-adjoining grove woolly
aurum repperies, quod passim stirpibus convexis obhaerescit.'
gold you-will-find which everywhere to-the-stems curved clings

XXXVII · THE WATER OF THE STYX

Venus scorns the golden wool and sends Psyche to fetch water from the spring that feeds the Styx, guarded by dragons on a sheer cliff. Jupiter's eagle, remembering how it once carried off Ganymede at Cupid's prompting, fills the crystal jar for her.

13 "Sic arundo simplex et humana Psychen aegerrimam salutem
thus the-reed simple and humane Psyche most-sick the-salvation
suam docebat: nec auscultatu impaenitendo diligenter
her taught nor from-a-listening not-to-be-repented carefully
instructa illa cessavit, sed observatis omnibus furatrina facili
instructed she ceased but with-observed all-things by-theft easy
flaventis auri mollitie congestum gremium Veneri reportat.
of-yellow gold with-softness heaped her-lap to-Venus she-carries-back
Nec tamen apud dominam saltem secundi laboris periculum
nor still with her-mistress at-least of-the-second labor the-peril
secundum testimonium meruit, sed contortis superciliis
a-favorable testimony earned but with-twisted brows

surridens amarum sic inquit: ‘Nec me praeterit huius quoque
smiling bitter thus she-says nor me escapes of-this also
facti auctor adulterinus. Sed iam nunc ego sedulo periclitabor,
deed the-author adulterous but now now I diligently shall-test
an oppido forti animo singularique prudentia sis praedita.
whether with-very brave spirit and-singular prudence you-are endowed
Videsne insistentem celsissimae illi rupi montis ardui
do-you-see standing-on the-highest that rock of-the-mountain steep
verticem, de quo fontis atri fuscae defluunt undae
the-peak from which of-a-spring black dark flow-down waters
proxumaeque conceptaculo vallis inclusae Stygias irrigant
and-of-the-nearest in-the-receptacle of-the-valley enclosed the-Stygian water
paludes et rauca Cocyti fluenta nutriunt? Indidem mihi de
marshes and the-hoarse of-Cocytus streams nourish from-there for-me from
summi fontis penita scaturigine rorem rigentem hauritum
of-the-highest spring the-inmost source dew stiff drawn
ista confestim defer urnula.’ Sic aiens crystallo dedolatum
in-this at-once bring little-urn thus saying from-crystal hewn
vasculum, insuper ei graviora comminata, tradidit.
a-little-vessel besides to-her heavier-things threatening she-handed
“At illa studiose gradum celerans montis extremum petit 14
but she zealously her-step hastening of-the-mountain the-extreme seeks
cumulum certe vel illic inventura vitae pessimae finem. Sed cum
summit surely or there going-to-find of-life most-wretched the-end but when
primum praedicti iugi conterminos locos appulit, videt rei
first of-the-aforesaid ridge the-adjoining places she-reached she-sees of-the-thing
vastae letalem difficultatem: namque saxum immani magnitudine
vast the-deadly difficulty for a-rock of-huge size
procerum et inaccessa salebritate lubricum mediis e
tall and with-inaccessible roughness slippery the-middle from
faucibus lapidis fontes horridos evomebat, qui statim
the-jaws of-the-stone springs horrid spewed which at-once

proni foraminis lacunis editi perque proclive delapsi et
from-the-sloping hole's openings issued and-down the-slope slipped and
angusti canalis exarato contecti tramite proxumam convallem
of-a-narrow channel in-a-furrowed covered path the-nearest valley
latenter incidebant. Dextra laevaque cautibus cavatis
secretly fell-into on-the-right and-left from-the-hollowed rocks
proserpunt et longa colla porrecti saevi dracones inconnivae
crawl-out and long necks stretched savage dragons of-unblinking
vigiliae luminibus addictis et in perpetuam lucem pupulis
watchfulness with-eyes given-over and to perpetual light with-pupils
excubantibus. Iamque et ipsae semet muniebant vocales
keeping-watch and-now even the-very themselves fortified the-vocal
aquae; nam et 'Discede,' et 'Quid facis? Vide,' et 'Quid
waters for both go-away and what are-you-doing look and what
agis? Cave,' et 'Fuge,' et 'Peribis' subinde clamant. Sic
are-you-up-to beware and flee and you-will-perish repeatedly they-cry thus
impossibilitate ipsa mutata in lapidem Psyche quamvis praesenti
by-the-impossibility itself changed into stone Psyche although with-present
corpore, sensibus tamen aberat, et inextricabilis periculi mole
body in-senses still was-absent and of-inextricable danger by-the-mass
prorsus obruta lacrimarum etiam extremo solacio carebat.
utterly overwhelmed of-tears even the-last comfort she-lacked
15 "Nec Providentiae bonae graves oculos innocentis animae latuit
nor of-Providence good the-grave eyes of-the-innocent soul escaped
aerumna: nam primi Iovis regalis ales illa repente propansis
the-misery for of-first Jupiter the-royal bird that suddenly with-spread
utrimque pinnis affuit rapax aquila, memorque veteris
on-both-sides wings appeared the-rapacious eagle and-mindful of-old
obsequii, quo ductu Cupidinis Iovi pocillatorem
service by-which at-the-leading of-Cupid for-Jupiter the-cupbearer
Phrygium sustulerat, opportunam ferens opem deique
Phrygian it-had-carried-off timely bringing help and-of-the-god

numen in uxoris laboribus percolens, alti culminis diales
the-divinity in of-his-wife the-labors worshiping of-the-high summit Jovian
vias deserit, et ob os puellae praevolans incipit: 'At
the-ways leaves and before the-face of-the-girl flying-ahead begins but
tu simplex alioquin et expers rerum talium, speras te
you simple otherwise and inexperienced of-things such you-hope yourself
sanctissimi nec minus truculenti fontis vel unam stillam posse
of-a-most-holy nor less savage spring even one drop to-be-able
furari vel omnino contingere! Diis etiam ipsique Iovi
to-steal or at-all to-touch to-the-gods even and-to-the-very Jupiter
formidabiles aquas istas Stygias vel fando comperisti, quodque
dreadful waters these Stygian or by-hearsay you-have-learned and-that
vos deieratis per numina deorum, deos per Stygis maiestatem
you swear by the-divinities of-the-gods the-gods by of-Styx the-majesty
solere! Sed cedo istam urnulam,' et protinus arreptam
are-wont but give that little-urn and at-once seized
complexamque festinat libratisque pinnarum nutantium
and-embraced it-hastens and-with-balanced of-wings nodding
molibus inter genas saevientium dentium et trisulca
the-masses between the-jaws of-raging teeth and the-three-forked
vibramina draconum remigium dextra laevaque porrigens
flickerings of-dragons its-oarage right and-left stretching
volentes aquas et ut abiret innoxius permittentes excipit,
willing waters and that it-should-go-away unharmed permitting takes-up
commentus ob iussum Veneris petere eique se praeministrare,
having-pretended by order of-Venus to-seek and-for-her itself to-be-serving
quare paulo facilior adeundi fuit copia. Sic acceptam
wherefore a-little easier of-approaching was the-chance thus received
cum gaudio plenam urnulam Psyche Veneri citata rettulit.
with joy the-full little-urn Psyche to-Venus hurried brought-back

Venus sends Psyche to the underworld to bring back a little of Proserpina's beauty in a box. A tower tells her how to pass Charon and Cerberus and to refuse every plea. On her return she opens the box and falls into a deathlike sleep, until Cupid, healed, flies to her and wakes her.

16 "Nec tamen nutum deae saevientis vel tunc expiare
nor still the-nod of-the-goddess raging even then to-expiate
potuit: nam sic eam maiora atque peiora flagitia comminans
she-could for thus her greater and worse outrages threatening
appellat, renidens exitiabile: 'Iam tu quidem maga videris
addresses smiling deadly now you indeed a-witch seem
quaedam mihi et alta prorsus malefica, quae talibus
some-sort to-me and deep utterly an-evildoer who to-such
praeceptis meis obtemperasti naviter; sed adhuc istud,
commands my have-complied energetically but still this
mea pupula, ministrare debebis. Sume istam pyxidem' (et
my doll to-serve you-will-have take this box and
dedit) 'Protinusque ad inferos et ipsius Orci ferales
she-gave-it and-at-once to the-underworld and of-the-very Orcus the-funereal
penates te derige. Tunc conferens pyxidem Proserpinae,
household-gods yourself direct then bringing the-box to-Proserpina
"Petit de te Venus," dicito, "Modicum de tua mittas ei
asks of you Venus say a-little of your send her
formositate, vel ad unam saltem dieculam sufficiens: nam
beauty even for one at-least little-day sufficient for
quod habuit dum filium curat aegrotum consumpsit atque
what she-had while her-son she-tends sick she-has-used-up and

contrivit omne." Sed haud immaturius redito, quia me
worn-away all but not too-late come-back since me
necesse est indidem delitam theatrum deorum frequentare.'
necessary it-is from-it smeared the-theater of-the-gods to-frequent
"Tunc Psyche vel maxime sensit ultimas fortunas suas 17
then Psyche indeed most felt the-last fortunes her
et velamento reiecto ad promptum exitium sese compelli
and with-the-veil thrown-back to ready destruction herself to-be-driven
manifeste comperit: quidni, quae suis pedibus ultro ad
clearly learned why-not who on-her-own feet voluntarily to
Tartarum Manesque commeare cogeretur? Nec cunctata diutius
Tartarus and-the-Shades to-go was-forced nor hesitating longer
pergit ad quampiam turrim praealtam indidem sese datura
goes to some-certain tower very-high from-there herself going-to-throw
praecipitem; sic enim rebatur ad inferos recta atque
headlong thus for she-thought to the-underworld straight and
pulcherrime se posse descendere. Sed turris prorumpit
most-beautifully herself to-be-able to-descend but the-tower bursts
in vocem subitam, et 'Quid te' inquit 'Praecipitem, o
into voice sudden and why yourself it-says headlong O
misella, quaeris extinguere? Quidque iam novissimo periculo
poor-girl do-you-seek to-extinguish and-why now at-the-last danger
laborique isto temere succumbis? Nam si spiritus corpore
and-labor that rashly do-you-succumb for if the-spirit from-body
tuo semel fuerit seiugatus, ibis quidem profecto ad
your once shall-have-been separated you-will-go indeed surely to
imum Tartarum, sed inde nullo pacto redire poteris.
the-lowest Tartarus but from-there in-no way to-return you-will-be-able
"'Mihi ausculta: Lacedaemo Achaiae nobilis civitas non longe 18
to-me listen Lacedaemon of-Achaea a-noble city not far
sita est; huius conterminam deviis abditam locis
situated is to-this the-adjoining in-out-of-the-way hidden places

quaere Taenarum. Inibi spiraculum Ditis, et per portas
seek Taenarus there the-breathing-hole of-Dis and through gates
hiantes monstratur iter invium, cui te limine
gaping is-shown a-road pathless to-which yourself with-the-threshold
transmeato simul commiseris, iam canale directo perges
crossed as-soon-as you-entrust now by-the-channel straight you-will-go
ad ipsam Orci regiam. Sed non hactenus vacua debebis
to the-very of-Orcus palace but not so-far empty-handed you-ought
per illas tenebras incedere, sed offas polentae mulso
through those shadows to-walk but cakes of-barley with-honey-wine
concretas ambabus gestare manibus, at in ipso ore duas
kneaded in-both to-carry hands but in the-very mouth two
ferre stipes. Iamque confecta bona parte mortiferae viae
to-bear coins and-now with-finished a-good part of-the-deadly road
continuaberis claudum asinum lignorum gerulum cum agasone
you-will-meet a-lame ass of-wood carrier with a-driver
simili, qui te rogabit decidentis sarcinae fusticulos aliquos
like who you will-ask of-the-falling load sticks some
porrigas ei; sed tu nulla voce deprompta tacita praeterito.
to-hand to-him but you with-no voice uttered silently pass-by
Nec mora, cum ad flumen mortuum venies, cui praefectus
nor delay when to the-river dead you-come over-which set
Charon protenus expetens portorium, sic ad ripam ulteriorem
Charon at-once demanding the-fare so to the-bank farther
sutili cymba deducit commeantes. Ergo et inter mortuos
in-a-stitched boat conveys the-passengers therefore even among the-dead
avaritia vivit, nec Charon ille vel Ditis pater, tantus deus,
avarice lives nor Charon that or of-Dis the-father so-great a-god
quicquam gratuito facit, sed moriens pauper viaticum
anything for-nothing does but dying the-poor-man money-for-the-road
debet quaerere, et aes si forte prae manu non fuerit,
ought to-seek and bronze if by-chance at hand not there-be

nemo eum expirare patietur. Huic squalido seni
no-one him to-breathe-his-last will-allow to-this squalid old-man
dabis nauli nomine de stipibus quas feres alteram,
you-shall-give of-fare in-the-name of the-coins which you-will-carry the-one
sic tamen ut ipse sua manu de tuo sumat ore. Nec
so still that he-himself with-his-own hand from your take mouth nor
setius tibi pigrum fluentum transmeanti quidam supernatans
otherwise to-you the-sluggish stream crossing a-certain floating-on-top
senex mortuus putres attollens manus orabit ut eum intra
old-man dead rotten raising hands will-beg that him into
navigium trahas: nec tu tamen illicita afflectare pietate.
the-boat you-drag nor you still unlawful be-moved by-pity
"'Transito fluvio modicum te progressam textrices orabunt 19
with-crossed river a-little you having-gone-on weavers will-beg
anus telam struentes, manus paulisper accommodes. Nec id
old-women a-web setting-up your-hands for-a-little you-should-lend nor that
tamen tibi contingere fas est: nam haec omnia tibi et multa
still for-you to-touch right is for these all for-you and many
alia de Veneris insidiis orientur, ut vel unam de manibus
others from of-Venus the-snares will-arise that even one from your-hands
omittas offulam: nec putes futile istud polentacium
you-should-let-go cake nor think worthless that barley-cake
damnum leve; altera enim perdita, lux haec tibi prorsus
loss light with-the-other for lost light this to-you utterly
denegabitur. Canis namque praegrandis, teriugo et satis
will-be-denied a-dog for very-large three-headed and with-quite
amplo capite praeditus, immanis et formidabilis, tonantibus
large head endowed monstrous and dreadful with-thundering
oblatrans faucibus mortuos, quibus iam nil mali potest facere,
barking jaws at-the-dead to-whom now no evil it-can to-do
frustra territando ante ipsum limen et atra atria Proserpinae
vainly by-terrifying before the-very threshold and the-black halls of-Proserpina

semper excubans servat vacuam Ditis domum: hunc offrenatum
always keeping-watch guards the-empty of-Dis house him bridled
unius offulae praeda facile praeteribis, ad ipsamque protinus
with-one cake's booty easily you-will-pass-by to and-the-very at-once
Proserpinam introibis, quae te comiter excipiet ac benigne,
Proserpina you-will-enter who you genially will-receive and kindly
ut et molliter assidere et prandium opipare suadeat
so-that both softly to-sit and a-lunch sumptuously she-will-urge
sumere. Sed tu et humi reside et panem sordidum
to-take but you both on-the-ground sit and bread coarse
petitum esto, deinde nuntiato quid adveneris, susceptoque
having-asked-for eat then with-announced why you-have-come and-with-received
quod offeretur, rursus remeans canis saevitiam offula
what shall-be-offered again returning of-the-dog the-savagery with-the-cake
reliqua redime, ac deinde, avaro navitae data quam
remaining buy-off and then to-the-greedy boatman given which
reservaveras stipe transitoque eius fluvio, recolens priora
you-had-reserved with-the-coin and-with-crossed his river retracing your-former
vestigia ad istum caelestium siderum redies chorum. Sed
steps to this of-heavenly stars you-will-return choir but
inter omnia hoc observandum praecipue tibi censeo, ne
among all-things this to-be-observed especially by-you I-judge that-not
velis aperire vel inspicere illam quam feres pyxidem
you-wish to-open or to-look-into that which you-will-carry box
vel omnino divinae formositati addictum curiosius thesaurum.'
or at-all to-divine beauty assigned too-curiously treasure
20 "Sic turris illa prospicua vaticinationis munus explicuit. Nec
thus tower that far-seeing of-prophecy the-office unfolded nor
morata Psyche pergit Taenarum, sumptisque rite stipibus
delaying Psyche goes to-Taenarus and-with-taken duly coins
illis et offulis, infernum decurrit meatum transitoque per
those and cakes the-infernal runs-down passage and-with-passed in

silentium asinario debili et amnica stipe vectori
silence the-ass-driver weak and with-the-river coin to-the-carrier
data, neglecto supernatantis mortui desiderio, et spretis
given with-neglected of-the-floating dead-man the-longing and with-spurned
textricum subdolis precibus, et offulae cibo sopita canis
of-the-weavers the-crafty prayers and with-a-cake's food lulled of-the-dog
horrenda rabie, domum Proserpinae penetrat: nec offerentis
horrible the-madness the-house of-Proserpina penetrates nor of-the-offering
hospitae sedile delicatum vel cibum beatum amplexa sed
hostess the-seat delicate or food blessed having-embraced but
ante pedes eius residens humilis, cibario pane contenta,
before feet her sitting humble with-ration bread content
Veneriam pertulit legationem, statimque secreto repletam
Venus' delivered embassy and-at-once in-secret filled
conclusamque pyxidem suscipit, et offulae sequentis fraude
and-shut the-box she-receives and by-a-cake's following trickery
caninis latratibus obseratis, residuaque navitae reddita
with-dog's barkings shut-up and-with-remaining to-the-boatman given
stipe, longe vegetior ab inferis recurrit. Et repetita
coin far livelier from the-underworld runs-back and with-regained
atque adorata candida ista luce, quanquam festinans obsequium
and worshiped bright that light although hastening the-service
terminare, mentem capitur temeraria curiositate, et 'Ecce'
to-finish in-mind is-seized by-rash curiosity and behold
inquit 'Inepta ego divinae formositatis gerula, quae nec
she-says foolish I of-divine beauty the-carrier who not
tantillum quidem indidem mihi delibo, vel sic illi amatori
the-least even from-there for-myself sip even so to-that lover
meo formoso placitura,' et cum dicto reserat pyxidem:
my handsome going-to-please and with the-word she-unlocks the-box

21 nec quicquam ibi rerum nec formositas ulla, sed infernus
nor anything there of-things nor beauty any but infernal
somnus ac vere Stygius, qui statim coperculo revelatus invadit
sleep and truly Stygian which at-once from-its-lid uncovered invades
eam crassaque soporis nebula cunctis eius membris perfunditur
her and-thick of-slumber a-cloud over-all her limbs is-poured
et in ipso vestigio ipsaque semita collapsam possidet; et
and on the-very footprint and-the-very path collapsed possesses-her and
iacebat immobilis et nihil aliud quam dormiens cadaver. Sed
she-lay motionless and nothing other than a-sleeping corpse but
Cupido iam cicatrice solida revalescens nec diutinam suae
Cupid now with-scar solid recovering nor long his
Psyches absentiam tolerans, per altissimam cubiculi, quo
Psyche's absence enduring through the-highest of-the-bedroom where
cohibebatur, elapsus fenestram, refectisque pinnis aliquanta
he-was-confined slipped window and-with-refreshed wings by-some
quiete, longe velocius provolans Psychen accurrit suam,
rest far more-swiftly flying-forth to-Psyche runs his
detersoque somno curiose et rursum in pristinam pyxidis
and-wiped-off the-sleep carefully and again into the-former of-the-box
sedem recondito, Psychen innoxio punctulo sagittae suae
seat stored Psyche with-a-harmless little-prick of-arrow his
suscitat, et 'Ecce' inquit 'Rursum perieras, misella, simili
rouses and behold he-says again you-had-perished poor-girl by-like
curiositate. Sed interim quidem tu provinciam, quae tibi
curiosity but meanwhile indeed you the-commission which to-you
matris meae praecepto mandata est, exsequere naviter; cetera
of-mother my by-the-command entrusted is carry-out energetically the-rest
egomet videro.' His dictis amator levis in pinnas se
I-myself shall-see-to these-things said the-lover nimble onto wings himself
dedit, Psyche vero confestim Veneri munus reportat Proserpinae.
gave Psyche indeed at-once to-Venus the-gift carries of-Proserpina

Cupid pleads his case before Jupiter, who summons the gods, declares the marriage lawful, and makes Psyche immortal with a cup of ambrosia. At the wedding feast the gods serve and sing, Venus dances, and Psyche bears a daughter called Pleasure.

"Interea Cupido, amore nimio peresus et aegra facie, matris 22
meanwhile Cupid by-love excessive consumed and with-sick face of-mother
suae repentinam sobrietatem pertimescens ad armillum redit
his the-sudden sobriety fearing to (his)-wine-jug returns
alisque pernicibus caeli penetrato vertice magno Iovi
and-with-wings swift of-heaven with-penetrated the-summit to-great Jupiter
supplicat suamque causam probat. Tunc Iuppiter prehensa
supplicates and-his-own case pleads then Jupiter with-grasped
Cupidinis buccula manuque ad os suum relata consaviat,
of-Cupid the-little-cheek and-with-the-hand to mouth his brought kisses
atque sic ad illum 'Licet tu' inquit 'Domine fili, nunquam
and thus to him although you he-says lord son never
mihi concessu deum decretum servaris honorem, sed istud
to-me by-the-grant of-the-gods decreed have-kept the-honor but this
pectus meum, quo leges elementorum et vices siderum
breast my by-which the-laws of-the-elements and the-changes of-the-stars
disponuntur, convulneraris assiduis ictibus crebrisque
are-arranged you-have-wounded with-constant blows and-with-frequent
terrenae libidinis foedaveris casibus, contraque leges et
of-earthly lust have-befouled mishaps and-against the-laws and
ipsam Iuliam disciplinamque publicam turpibus adulteriis
the-very Julian and-discipline public by-base adulteries
existimationem famamque meam laeseris, in serpentes,
reputation and-fame my have-hurt into serpents
in ignes, in feras, in aves et gregalia pecua serenos
into fires into beasts into birds and herd cattle serene

vultus meos sordide reformando; at tamen modestiae meae
features my basely transforming but still of-modesty my
memor quodque inter istas meas manus creveris, cuncta
mindful and-that between these my hands you-have-grown-up all-things
perficiam, dum tamen scias aemulos tuos cavere ac, si
I-shall-accomplish provided still you-know rivals your to-beware and if
qua nunc in terris puella praepollet pulchritudine, praesentis
any now on earth girl excels in-beauty of-the-present
beneficii vicem per eam mihi repensare te debere.'
kindness the-return through her to-me to-repay that-you ought
23 "Sic fatus iubet Mercurium deos omnes ad contionem
thus having-spoken he-orders Mercury the-gods all to an-assembly
protinus convocare ac si qui coetu caelestium
at-once to-call and if any from-the-gathering of-the-heavenly-ones
defuisset, in poenam decem milium nummum conventum
were-absent into a-penalty of-ten thousand coins sued
iri pronuntiare. Quo metu statim completo caelesti
to-be-going to-proclaim by-which fear at-once with-filled the-heavenly
theatro, pro sede sublimi sedens procerus Iuppiter sic enuntiat:
theater on (his)-seat lofty sitting tall Jupiter thus proclaims
'Dei conscripti Musarum albo, adulescentem istum quod
gods enrolled of-the-Muses in-the-register young-man that that
manibus meis alumnatus sim, profecto scitis omnes, cuius
with-hands my reared I-have surely you-know all whose
primae iuventutis caloratos impetus freno quodam coercendos
of-first youth the-heated attacks by-a-bridle some to-be-restrained
existimavi. Sat est cotidianis eum fabulis ob adulteria
I-have-judged enough it-is by-daily him tales for adulteries
cunctasque corruptelas infamatum: tollenda est omnis occasio
and-all corruptions defamed to-be-removed is all occasion
et luxuria puerilis nuptialibus pedicis alliganda. Puellam
and luxury boyish in-nuptial fetters to-be-bound a-girl

elegit et virginitate privavit: teneat, possideat, amplexus
he-has-chosen and of-maidenhood deprived let-him-hold let-him-possess embracing
Psychen semper suis amoribus perfruatur': et ad Venerem
Psyche always his loves let-him-enjoy and to Venus
collata facie, 'Nec tu,' inquit 'Filia, quicquam contristere nec
with-turned face nor you he-says daughter at-all be-saddened nor
prosapiae tantae tuae statuque de matrimonio mortali metuas.
for-lineage so-great your and-status about marriage mortal fear
Iam faxo nuptias non impares sed legitimas et iure
now I-shall-make nuptials not unequal but lawful and with-law
civili congruas,' et illico per Mercurium arripi Psychen et
civil fitting and at-once through Mercury to-be-seized Psyche and
in caelum perduci iubet. Porrecto ambrosiae poculo, 'Sume,'
into heaven to-be-brought he-orders with-held-out of-ambrosia a-cup take
inquit 'Psyche, et immortalis esto; nec unquam digredietur
he-says Psyche and immortal be nor ever will-depart
a tuo nexu Cupido sed istae vobis erunt perpetuae nuptiae.'
from your bond Cupid but these for-you will-be perpetual nuptials
"Nec mora, cum cena nuptialis affluens exhibetur: accumbebat 24
nor delay when a-dinner nuptial abundant is-served reclined
summum torum maritus, Psychen gremio suo complexus;
on-the-highest couch the-husband Psyche in-bosom his embracing
sic et cum sua Iunone Iuppiter ac deinde per ordinem toti
thus also with his Juno Jupiter and then in order all
dei. Tunc poculum nectaris, quod vinum deorum est, Iovi
the-gods then a-cup of-nectar which wine of-the-gods is to-Jupiter
quidem suus pocillator, ille rusticus puer, ceteris vero Liber
indeed his-own cupbearer that rustic boy to-the-rest indeed Liber
ministrabat, Vulcanus cenam coquebat, Horae rosis et
served Vulcan the-dinner cooked the-Hours with-roses and
ceteris floribus purpurabant omnia, Gratiae spargebant balsama,
other flowers empurpled all-things the-Graces sprinkled balsam

Musae quoque canora personabant, Apollo cantavit ad citharam,
the-Muses also tunefully sounded Apollo sang to the-lyre
Venus suavi musicae superingressa formosa saltavit: scaena
Venus to-sweet music stepping-up beautiful danced a-scene
sibi sic concinnata, ut Musae quidem chorum canerent
for-herself so arranged that the-Muses indeed in-chorus sang
et tibias inflarent, Satyrus et Paniscus ad fistulam dicerent.
and flutes blew a-Satyr and a-little-Pan to the-pipe played
Sic rite Psyche convenit in manum Cupidinis, et nascitur
thus duly Psyche came into the-hand of-Cupid and is-born
illis maturo partu filia, quam Voluptatem nominamus."
to-them at-ripe birth a-daughter whom Pleasure we-name

XL · THE ESCAPE WITH CHARITE

Lucius grieves that he has no tablets to write down the tale. The robbers bring him back laden and threaten to throw him from a cliff. When they leave, he breaks his halter, and Charite leaps on his back; as they ride she promises him honor and a painting of their flight, but at a crossroads they quarrel over the way and the robbers catch them.

25 Sic captivae puellae delira et temulenta illa narrabat
thus to-the-captive girl crazed and drunken that told
anicula; sed astans ego non procul dolebam mehercules
little-old-woman but standing-by I not far grieved by-Hercules
quod pugillares et stilum non habebam, qui tam bellam
that tablets and stylus not I-had with-which so pretty
fabellam praenotarem. Ecce confecto nescioquo gravi proelio
a-little-tale I-might-note-down behold with-finished some heavy battle
latrones adveniunt onusti; nonnulli tamen, immo promptiores,
the-robbers arrive laden some still nay the-readier

vulneratis domi relictis et plagas recurantibus, ipsi ad
with-wounded at-home left and wounds tending themselves to
reliquas occultatas in quadam spelunca sarcinas, ut aiebant,
the-remaining hidden in a-certain cave packs as they-said
proficisci gestiunt; prandioque raptim tuburcinato, me et
to-set-out are-eager and-with-lunch hastily gobbled me and
equum meum vectores rerum illarum futuros fustibus exinde
horse my carriers of-things those going-to-be with-clubs thereupon
tundentes producunt in viam, multisque clivis et anfractibus
pounding they-lead-out onto the-road and-by-many slopes and windings
fatigatos prope ipsam vesperam perducunt ad quampiam
wearied near the-very evening they-bring to some
speluncam, unde multis onustos rebus rursum, ne breviculo
cave whence with-many laden things again not for-a-little-short
quidem tempore refectos ociter reducunt, tantaque trepidatione
even time refreshed quickly they-lead-back and-with-such alarm
festinabant, ut me plagis multis obtundentes propellentesque
they-hurried that me with-blows many beating and-driving
super lapidem propter viam positum deicerent: unde
onto a-stone beside the-road set they-threw-down whence
crebris aeque ingestis ictibus crure dextero et ungula
with-frequent equally heaped blows in-leg right and hoof
sinistra me debilitatum aegre ad exsurgendum compellunt,
left me crippled hardly to rising they-force
et unus "Quousque" inquit "Ruptum istum asellum, nunc 26
and one how-long he-says broken that little-ass now
etiam claudum, frustra pascemus?", et alius: "Quid quod
also lame in-vain shall-we-feed and another what that
et pessimo pede domum nostram accessit, nec quicquam
also with-worst foot house our he-came nor anything
idonei lucri exinde cepimus sed vulnera et fortissimorum
of-fit gain from-it have-we-taken but wounds and of-the-bravest

occisiones." Alius iterum: "Certe ego cum primum sarcinas
slaughters another again surely I when first packs
istas quamquam invitus pertulerit, protinus eum vulturiis
those although unwilling he-has-carried at-once him for-vultures
gratissimum pabulum futurum praecipitabo." Dum secum
most-welcome food going-to-be I-shall-hurl while among-themselves
mitissimi homines altercant de mea nece, iam et domum
the-gentlest men wrangle about my death already also home
perveneramus, nam timor ungulas mihi alas fecerat. Tum quae
we-had-arrived for fear hooves for-me wings had-made then what
ferebamus amoliti properiter, nulla salutis nostrae cura sed
we-were-carrying having-removed speedily with-no of-safety our care but
ne meae quidem necis habita, comitibus adscitis qui vulnerati
not of-my even death had with-comrades called-in who wounded
remanserant, dudum recurrunt reliqua laturi taedio, ut
had-stayed-behind before they-run-back the-rest going-to-carry from-weariness as
aiebant, nostrae tarditatis. Nec me tamen mediocris carpebat
they-said of-our slowness nor me still a-small was-gnawing
scrupulus contemplatione comminatae mihi mortis, et ipse
worry at-the-thought of-threatened to-me death and myself
mecum: "Quid stas, Luci, vel quid iam novissimum
with-me why do-you-stand Lucius or what now last
expectas? Mors, et haec acerbissima, decreto latronum tibi
do-you-await death and this most-bitter by-decree of-the-robbers for-you
comparata est. Nec magno conatu res indiget; vides istas
prepared has-been nor of-great effort the-matter has-need you-see those
rupinas proximas et praeacutas in his prominentes silices, quae
crags nearby and very-sharp on them jutting flints which
te penetrantes antequam decideris, membratim dissipabunt.
you piercing before you-have-fallen limb-by-limb will-scatter
Nam et illa ipsa praeclara magia tua vultum laboresque tibi
for even that very splendid magic your the-face and-labors for-you

tantum asini, verum corium non asini crassum sed hirudinis
only of-an-ass but the-hide not of-an-ass thick but of-a-leech
tenue membranulum circumdedit. Quin igitur masculum
a-thin little-membrane has-put-around why-not therefore manly
tandem sumis animum tuaeque saluti dum licet
at-last do-you-take spirit and-for-your safety while it-is-allowed
consulis? Habes summam opportunitatem fugae, dum latrones
consult you-have the-highest opportunity of-flight while the-robbers
absunt An custodiam anus semimortuae formidabis,
are-away or the-guard of-an-old-woman half-dead will-you-fear
quam licet claudi pedis tui calce unica finire poteris?
whom though of-lame foot your with-a-kick single to-finish you-will-be-able
Sed quo gentium capessetur fuga vel hospitium quis dabit?
but whither of-peoples will-be-taken flight or lodging who will-give
Haec quidem inepta et prorsus asinina cogitatio: quis enim
this indeed foolish and utterly asinine thinking who for
viantium vectorem suum non libenter auferat secum?"
of-wayfarers a-carrier his not gladly would-take-away with-himself
Et alacri statim nisu lorum, quo fueram destinatus, 27
and with-eager at-once effort the-thong by-which I-had-been tied
abrumpo, meque quadripedi cursu proripio, nec tamen
I-break-off and-myself at-four-footed run I-hurl-forth nor still
acutulae anus milvinos oculos effugere potui: nam ubi me
of-the-sharpish old-woman kite's eyes to-escape I-could for when me
conspexit absolutum, capta super sexum et aetatem audacia
she-saw freed with-seized beyond sex and age boldness
lorum prehendit ac me deducere ac revocare contendit. Nec
the-thong she-grabs and me to-lead-down and to-call-back strives nor
tamen ego, memor exitiabilis propositi latronum, pietate ulla
still I mindful of-the-deadly plan of-the-robbers by-pity any
commoveor, sed incussis in eam posteriorum pedum calcibus
am-moved but with-struck on her of-hind feet kicks

protinus applodo terrae. At illa, quamvis humi prostrata,
at-once I-dash to-the-ground but she although on-the-ground laid-low
loro tamen tenaciter inhaerebat, ut me procurrentem
to-the-thong still tenaciously clung that me running-forward
aliquantisper tractu sui sequeretur, et occipit statim
for-a-while by-the-dragging of-herself she-followed and begins at-once
clamosis ululatibus auxilium validioris manus implorare. Sed
with-loud howls the-help of-a-stronger hand to-implore but
frustra fletibus cassum tumultum commovebat, quippe cum
in-vain with-weeping empty uproar she-stirred-up naturally since
nullus adforet qui suppetias ei ferre posset, nisi sola
none was-present who aid to-her to-bring could except only
illa virgo captiva. Quae vocis excitu procurrens videt
that maiden captive who of-the-voice at-the-summons running-out sees
Hercule memorandi spectaculi scaenam, non tauro sed
by-Hercules of-a-memorable spectacle a-scene not from-a-bull but
asino dependentem Dircen aniculam, sumptaque constantia
from-an-ass hanging a-Dirce old-woman and-with-taken resolution
virili facinus audet pulcherrimum. Extorto etenim loro
manly a-deed she-dares most-beautiful with-wrenched for-indeed thong
manibus eius me placidis gannitibus ab impetu revocatum
from-the-hands her me with-gentle whimperings from the-rush called-back
naviter inscendit et sic ad cursum rursum incitat.
briskly she-mounts and thus to running again urges

28 Ego simul voluntariae fugae voto et liberandae virginis
I at-once of-willing of-flight by-the-wish and of-freeing the-maiden
studio, sed et plagarum suasu, quae me saepicule
by-zeal but also of-blows by-persuasion which me pretty-often
commonebant, equestri celeritate quadripedi cursu solum
reminded with-a-horse's speed with-four-footed run the-ground
replaudens virgini delicatas voculas adhinnire temptabam.
beating to-the-maiden dainty little-sounds to-whinny-at I-tried

Sed et scabendi dorsi mei simulatione nonnunquam obliquata
but also of-scratching back my under-pretense sometimes with-bent
cervice pedes decoros puellae basiabam. Tunc illa suspirans
neck the-feet lovely of-the-girl I-kissed then she sighing
altius, caelumque sollicito vultu petens "Vos," inquit "Superi,
deeper and-heaven with-anxious face seeking you she-says gods-above
tandem meis supremis periculis opem facite, et tu, Fortuna
at-last to-my utmost perils help give and you Fortune
durior, iam saevire desiste: sat tibi miseris istis cruciatibus
harsher now to-rage cease enough to-you by-wretched these torments
meis litatum est. Tuque, praesidium meae libertatis meaeque
my atoned has-been and-you protection of-my liberty and-of-my
salutis, si me domum pervexeris incolumem parentibusque et
safety if me home shall-have-carried unharmed and-to-parents and
formoso proco reddideris, quas tibi gratias perhibebo, quos
to-handsome suitor shall-have-restored what to-you thanks shall-I-render what
honores habebo, quos cibos exhibebo? Iam primum iubam istam
honors shall-I-pay what foods shall-I-offer now first mane that
tuam probe pectinatam meis virginalibus monilibus adornabo,
your well combed with-my maidenly necklaces I-shall-adorn
frontem vero crispatam prius decoriter discriminabo caudaeque
the-forelock indeed curled first becomingly I-shall-part and-of-the-tail
setas incuria lavacri congestas et horridas, comptas
the-bristles by-neglect of-bathing matted and shaggy combed
diligenter mollibo, bullisque te multis aureis inoculatum,
carefully I-shall-soften and-with-studs you many golden inset
velut stellis sidereis relucentem, et gaudiis popularium
as-if with-stars starry gleaming and with-the-joys of-popular
pomparum ovantem, sinu serico progestans nucleos et
processions triumphing in-a-fold silken carrying-forth kernels and
edulia mitiora, te meum sospitatorem cotidie saginabo.
dainties softer you my savior daily I-shall-fatten

29 Sed nec inter cibos delicatos et otium profundum vitaeque
but nor amid foods dainty and leisure deep and-of-life
totius beatitudinem deerit tibi dignitas gloriosa: nam
whole the-bliss will-be-lacking to-you honor glorious for
memoriam praesentis fortunae meae divinaeque providentiae
the-memory of-present fortune my and-of-divine providence
perpetua testatione signabo, et depictam in tabula fugae
with-perpetual testimony I-shall-mark and painted on a-panel of-flight
praesentis imaginem meae domus atrio dedicabo. Visetur
present an-image of-my house in-the-hall I-shall-dedicate it-will-be-seen
et in fabulis audietur doctorumque stilis rudis perpetuabitur
and in tales will-be-heard and-of-the-learned by-pens rude will-be-perpetuated
historia "Asino vectore virgo regia fugiens captivitatem."
the-history with-an-ass as-carrier a-maiden royal fleeing captivity
Accedes antiquis et ipse miraculis et iam credemus
you-will-join the-ancient also yourself marvels and now we-shall-believe
exemplo tuae veritatis et Phrixum arieti supernatasse
by-the-example of-your truth both Phrixus on-a-ram to-have-swum-over
et Arionem delphinum gubernasse et Europam tauro
and Arion a-dolphin to-have-steered and Europa on-a-bull
supercubasse. Quod si vere Iupiter mugivit in bovem, potest
to-have-lain but if truly Jupiter bellowed into an-ox can
in asino meo latere aliqui vel vultus hominis vel facies
in ass my to-lie-hidden some either face of-a-man or appearance
deorum." Dum haec identidem puella replicat votisque
of-gods while these-things repeatedly the-girl rehearses and-with-vows
crebros intermiscet suspiritus, ad quoddam pervenimus trivium,
frequent mixes sighs to a-certain we-come crossroads
unde me arrepto capistro dirigere dextrorsum magnopere
whence me with-seized halter to-direct to-the-right greatly
gestiebat, quod ad parentis eius ea scilicet iretur via. Sed
she-was-eager because to parents her by-that of-course one-went road but

ego gnarus latrones illac ad reliquas commeasse praedas,
I knowing the-robbers that-way for the-remaining to-have-gone plunder
renitebar firmiter atque sic in animo meo tacitus expostulabam:
I-resisted firmly and thus in mind my silent I-remonstrated
"Quid facis, infelix puella? Quid agis? Cur festinas
what are-you-doing unhappy girl what are-you-doing why do-you-hurry
ad Orcum? Quid meis pedibus facere contendis? Non enim te
to Orcus what with-my feet to-do do-you-strive not for you
tantum, verum etiam me perditum ibis." Sic nos diversa
only but also me to-ruin you-will-go thus we different-ways
tendentes et in causa finali de proprietate soli, immo
heading and in a-suit boundary about the-ownership of-soil nay
viae herciscundae contendentes, rapinis suis onusti coram
of-road to-be-divided contending with-plunder their laden face-to-face
deprehendunt ipsi latrones et ad lunae splendorem iam
catch the-very robbers and by of-the-moon the-brightness already
inde longius cognitos risu maligno salutant;
from-there further recognized with-laughter malicious greet

XLI · CAUGHT AGAIN

The robbers overtake them and drag them back. Finding the old woman hanged, they debate the girl's punishment and adopt a plan to sew her into the ass's belly, her head alone left out, to die of the heat, the stench, and the beasts.

et unus e numero sic appellat: "Quorsum istam 30
and one from the-number thus addresses whither this
festinanti vestigio lucubratis viam nec noctis intempestae
with-hurrying step do-you-travel-by-night road nor of-night untimely
Manes Larvasque formidatis? An tu, probissima puella,
the-Shades and-Ghosts do-you-fear or you most-upright girl

parentes tuos intervisere properabas? Sed nos et solitudini
parents your to-visit were-you-hurrying but we both to-solitude
tuae praesidium praestabimus et ad parentes tuos iter
your protection shall-provide and to parents your the-way
monstrabimus," et unus manu secutus prehenso loro
shall-show and one with-hand following with-grasped thong
retrorsum me circumtorquet, nec baculi nodosi quod
backward me twists-round nor from-the-stick knotty which
gerebat suetis ictibus temperat. Tunc ingratis ad
he-carried with-accustomed blows refrains then unwillingly to
promptum recurrens exitium reminiscor doloris ungulae
ready running-back destruction I-remember the-pain of-hoof
et occipio nutanti capite claudicare: sed "Ecce" inquit
and begin with-nodding head to-limp but behold says
ille qui me retraxerat, "Rursum titubas et vacillas et
he who me had-dragged-back again you-stagger and totter and
putres isti tui pedes fugere possunt, ambulare nesciunt!
rotten those your feet to-flee can to-walk know-not
At paulo ante pinnatam Pegasi vincebas celeritatem."
but a-little before winged of-Pegasus you-were-beating swiftness
Dum sic mecum fustem quatiens benignus iocatur comes,
while thus with-me the-club shaking kindly jokes companion
iam domus eorum extremam loricam perveneramus, et
already of-house their the-outer rampart we-had-reached and
ecce de quodam ramo procerae cupressus induta
behold from a-certain branch of-a-tall cypress having-put-on
laqueum anus illa pendebat; quam quidem detractam
a-noose old-woman that was-hanging whom indeed pulled-down
protinus cum suo sibi funiculo devinctam dedere praecipitem
at-once with her own cord bound they-sent headlong
puellaque statim distenta vinculis cenam, quam postuma
and-with-the-girl at-once bound-tight with-chains the-dinner which with-posthumous

diligentia praeparaverat infelix anicula, ferinis invadunt
care had-prepared the-unhappy little-old-woman with-savage they-attack
animis.
spirits
Ac dum avida voracitate cuncta contruncant, iam 31
and while with-greedy voracity all-things they-back-down already
incipiunt de nostra poena suaque vindicta secum
they-begin about our punishment and-their-own vengeance among-themselves
considerare. Et utpote in coetu turbulento variae fuere
to-consider and as-is-natural in a-gathering turbulent various were
sententiae, ut primus vivam cremari censeret puellam,
opinions so-that the-first alive to-be-burned proposed the-girl
secundus bestiis obici suaderet, tertius patibulo suffigi
the-second to-beasts to-be-thrown urged the-third to-a-gibbet to-be-fixed
iuberet, quartus tormentis excarnificari praeciperet; certe
ordered the-fourth by-tortures to-be-mangled enjoined certainly
calculo cunctorum utcumque mors ei fuerat destinata.
by-the-vote of-all in-whatever-way death for-her had-been appointed
Tunc unus omnium sedato tumultu, placido sermone
then one of-all with-calmed uproar with-gentle speech
sic orsus est: “Nec sectae collegii nec mansuetudini
thus begun has nor to-the-sect of-the-guild nor to-the-mildness
singulorum ac ne meae quidem modestiae congruit pati
of-individuals and not my even moderation it-suits to-allow
vos ultra modum delictique saevire terminum, nec feras
you beyond measure and-of-the-offense to-rage the-limit nor beasts
nec cruces nec ignes nec tormenta ac ne mortis quidem
nor crosses nor fires nor tortures and not of-death even
maturatae festinas tenebras accersere. Meis itaque consiliis
hastened the-speedy darkness to-summon to-my and-so counsels
auscultantes vitam puellae, sed quam meretur, largimini. Nec
listening life to-the-girl but which she-deserves grant nor

vos memoria deseruit utique quid iamdudum decreveritis
you memory has-deserted surely what long-since you-decreed
de isto asino semper pigro quidem sed manducone
about that ass always lazy indeed but a-glutton
summo, nunc etiam mendaci fictae debilitatis et virginalis
supreme now also a-liar of-feigned lameness and of-maidenly
fugae sequestro ministroque. Hunc igitur iugulare crastino
flight go-between and-servant him therefore to-slaughter tomorrow
placeat, totisque vacuefacto praecordiis per mediam alvum
let-it-please and-of-all emptied guts through the-middle belly
nudam virginem, quam praetulit nobis, insuere, ut sola
the-naked maiden whom he-preferred to-us to-sew-in that with-only
facie praeminente ceterum corpus puellae nexu ferino
face projecting the-rest body of-the-girl with-embrace beastly
coerceat, tunc super aliquod saxum scruposum insiticium
it-may-confine then upon some rock rough the-grafted
et fartilem asinum exponere et solis ardentis vaporibus
and stuffed ass to-set-out and of-the-sun burning to-the-heats
tradere.
to-hand-over

32 Sic enim cuncta, quae recte statuistis, ambo sustinebunt;
thus for all-things which rightly you-decided both will-undergo
et mortem asinus quam quidem meruit, et illa morsus
both death the-ass which indeed he-deserved and she the-bites
ferarum, cum vermes membra laniabunt, et ignis flagrantiam,
of-beasts when worms limbs will-tear and of-fire the-blaze
cum sol nimis caloribus inflammarit uterum, et
when the-sun with-excessive heats shall-have-inflamed the-belly and
patibuli cruciatum, cum canes et vultures intima
of-the-gibbet the-torture when dogs and vultures the-inmost
protrahent viscera. Sed et ceteras eius aerumnas et
will-drag-out entrails but also other her hardships and

tormenta numerate: mortuae bestiae ipsa vivens ventrem
torments count of-a-dead beast she living the-belly
habitabit, tum faetore nimio nares excruciante aestu
will-inhabit then with-stench excessive the-nostrils torturing with-heat
et inediae diutinae letali fame tabescet, nec suis
and of-fasting long by-deadly hunger will-waste nor with-her-own
saltem liberis manibus mortem sibi fabricare poterit."
at-least free hands death for-herself to-contrive she-will-be-able
Talibus dictis non pedibus sed totis animis latrones in
with-such words not with-feet but with-whole hearts the-robbers into
eius vadunt sententiam. Quam meis tam magnis auribus
his go opinion which with-my so great ears
accipiens, quid aliud quam meum crastinum deflebam
receiving what else than my tomorrow's I-bewailed
cadaver?
corpse

XLII · NEWS FROM HYPATA

A robber returns from Hypata with news that a certain Lucius is blamed for the robbery of Milo's house, while his slave was tortured. Lucius laments the blindness of Fortune. The robber brings his comrades a thousand gold pieces and urges them to recruit new men.

Ut primum tenebris abiectis dies inalbebat et candidum 1
as first with-darkness cast-off day was-whitening and the-bright
solis curriculum cuncta collustrabat, quidam de numero
of-the-sun course all-things lit-up a-certain-one from the-number
latronum pervenit; sic enim mutuae salutationis officium
of-the-robbers arrived thus for of-mutual greeting the-office
indicabat. Is in primo speluncae aditu residens et ex anhelitu
showed he at the-first of-the-cave entrance sitting-down and from panting
recepto spiritu tale collegio suo nuntium facit: "Quod ad
with-recovered breath such to-guild his a-report makes as-for-what to
domum Milonis Hypatini quam proxime diripuimus pertinet,
the-house of-Milo of-Hypata which lately we-plundered pertains
discussa sollicitudine iam possumus esse securi. Postquam
with-dispelled anxiety now we-can to-be safe after
vos enim fortissimis viribus cunctis ablatis castra nostra
you for with-bravest strength with-all-things carried-off camp our
remeastis, immixtus ego turbelis popularium dolentique
returned mingled I with-the-crowds of-the-townsfolk and-to-one-grieving
atque indignanti similis arbitrabar super investigatione facti
and indignant like I-was-watching about the-investigation of-the-deed
cuiusmodi consilium caperent, et an et quatenus latrones
what-kind-of plan they-would-take and whether and how-far robbers
placeret inquiri, renuntiaturus vobis, uti mandaveratis, omnia.
it-pleased to-be-sought going-to-report to-you as you-had-ordered everything

Nec argumentis dubiis sed rationibus probabilibus congruo
nor by-proofs doubtful but by-reasons probable with-concordant
cunctae multitudinis consensu nescioqui Lucius auctor
of-the-whole multitude consent some Lucius the-author
manifestus facinoris postulabatur, qui proximis diebus fictis
manifest of-the-deed was-charged who in-recent days with-feigned
commendaticiis litteris Miloni sese virum commentitus
of-recommendation letters to-Milo himself a-man having-pretended
bonum artius conciliaverat, ut etiam hospitio susceptus
good closely had-ingratiated that even as-guest received
inter familiares intimos haberetur, plusculisque ibidem diebus
among friends intimate he-was-held and-for-several there days
demoratus falsis amoribus ancillae Milonis animum irrepens
lingering with-false loves of-the-maid of-Milo the-heart creeping-into
ianuae claustra sedulo exploraverat et ipsa membra, in
of-the-door the-bolts carefully had-explored and the-very rooms in
quis omne patrimonium condi solebat, curiose perspexerat."
which all the-fortune to-be-stored was-wont carefully had-examined
2 "Nec exiguum scelerati monstrabatur indicium, quippe cum
nor slight of-the-criminal was-shown proof naturally since
eadem nocte sub ipso flagitii momento idem profugisset
on-the-same night at the-very of-the-outrage moment he had-fled
nec exinde usquam compareret; nam et praesidium fugae, quo
nor thereafter anywhere appeared for also the-means of-flight by-which
velocius frustratis insecutoribus procul ac procul abderet sese,
more-swiftly with-baffled pursuers far and far he-might-hide himself
eidem facile suppeditasse: equum namque illum suum candidum
to-him easily to-have-supplied horse for that his white
vectorem futurum duxisse secum. Plane servum eius ibidem in
carrier going-to-be to-have-led with-him plainly slave his there in
hospitio repertum scelerum consiliorumque herilium futurum
the-lodging found of-the-crimes and-plans of-his-master going-to-be

indicem per magistratus in publicam custodiam receptum, et
informer by the-magistrates into public custody received and
altera die tormentis vexatum pluribus ac paene ad ultimam
on-the-next day by-tortures harassed many and almost to final
mortem excarnificatum nil quicquam rerum talium esse
death mangled nothing at-all of-things such to-have
confessum, missos tamen in patriam Lucii illius multos
confessed sent still into the-homeland of-Lucius that many
numero qui reum poenas daturum sceleris inquirerent."
in-number who the-accused penalty going-to-pay of-the-crime should-seek
Haec eo enarrante, veteris fortunae et illius beati Lucii
these-things with-him recounting of-former fortune and of-that happy Lucius
praesentisque aerumnae et infelicis asini facta comparatione
and-of-present misery and of-the-unhappy ass with-made comparison
medullitus ingemebam, subiitque me non de nihilo veteris
to-the-marrow I-groaned and-it-came-to me not from nothing of-old
priscaeque doctrinae viros finxisse ac pronuntiasse caecam
and-ancient learning men to-have-imagined and to-have-declared blind
et prorsus exoculatam esse Fortunam, quae semper suas
and utterly eyeless to-be Fortune who always her
opes ad malos et indignos conferat, nec unquam iudicio
riches to the-wicked and unworthy confers nor ever by-judgment
quemquam mortalium eligat, immo vero cum iis potissimum
anyone of-mortals chooses nay indeed with those especially
deversetur, quos procul si videret, fugere deberet, quodque
she-lodges whom far if she-saw to-flee she-ought and-what
cunctis est extremius, varias opiniones, immo contrarias
of-all is most-extreme various opinions nay contrary
nobis attribuat, ut et malus boni viri fama glorietur
to-us assigns that both the-wicked of-a-good man in-the-repute may-boast
et innocentissimus contra noxio rumore plectatur.
and the-most-innocent on-the-other-hand by-guilty rumor is-punished

3 Ego denique quem saevissimus eius impetus in bestiam et
I in-short whom most-savage her assault into a-beast and
extremae sortis quadripedem deduxerat, cuiusque casus etiam
of-lowest lot a-four-footed-thing had-brought-down and-whose plight even
quovis iniquissimo dolendus atque miserandus merito videretur,
to-any-one most-unjust to-be-grieved and to-be-pitied justly would-seem
crimine latrocinii in hospitem mihi carissimum postulabar.
on-a-charge of-robbery against a-host to-me dearest I-was-accused
Quod crimen non modo latrocinium, verum etiam parricidium
which charge not only robbery but also parricide
quisque rectius nominarit, nec mihi tamen licebat causam
anyone more-rightly would-name nor to-me still was-it-allowed case
meam defendere vel unico verbo saltem denegare. Denique
my to-defend or with-a-single word at-least to-deny so-then
ne mala conscientia tam scelesto crimini praesens viderer
lest by-bad conscience to-so wicked a-charge present I-might-seem
silentio consentire, hoc tantum impatientia perductus volui
by-silence to-consent this only by-impatience led I-wanted
dicere “Non feci.” Et verbum quidem praecedens semel ac
to-say not I-did and the-word indeed preceding once and
saepius immodice clamitavi, sequens vero nullo pacto disserere
more-often immoderately I-shouted the-following indeed in-no way to-pronounce
potui, sed in prima remansi voce, et identidem boavi “Non,
I-could but in the-first I-stuck word and repeatedly bellowed not
non,” quamquam nimia rotunditate pendulas vibrassem
not although with-excessive roundness hanging I-had-quivered
labias. Sed quid ego pluribus de Fortunae scaevitate
lips but why I with-more-words about of-Fortune perversity
conqueror? Quam nec istud puduit, me cum meo famulo
complain whom nor of-this was-ashamed me with my servant
meoque vectore illo equo factum conservum atque coniugem.
and-my carrier that horse made fellow-slave and yoke-mate

Talibus cogitationibus fluctuantem subit me illa cura potior, 4
with-such thoughts wavering comes-upon me that care weightier
qua statuto consilio latronum manibus virginis decretam me
by-which by-fixed plan of-the-robbers to-the-shades of-the-maiden appointed me
victimam recordabar, ventremque crebro suspiciens meum iam
as-victim I-recalled and-belly often looking-up-at my already
misellam puellam parturibam. Sed ille qui commodum falsam
the-poor-little girl I-was-in-labor-with but he who just-now false
de me notoriam pertulerat, expromptis mille aureum, quos
about me information had-brought with-produced thousand of-gold-pieces which
insutu laciniae contexerat quosque variis viatoribus detractos,
by-sewing of-a-flap he-had-hidden and-which from-various travelers taken
ut aiebat, pro sua frugalitate communi conferebat arcae, infit
as he-said for his thrift to-the-common he-contributed chest he-begins
etiam de salute commilitonum sollicite sciscitari; cognitoque
also about the-safety of-his-comrades anxiously to-inquire and-with-learned
quosdam, immo vero fortissimum quemque variis quidem
that-some nay indeed the-bravest each by-various indeed
sed impigris casibus oppetisse, suadet, tantisper pacatis
but energetic mishaps to-have-perished he-urges for-a-time with-quieted
itineribus omniumque proeliorum servatis induciis, inquisitioni
roads and-of-all battles with-observed truces to-the-search
commilitonum potius insisteretur et tirocinio novae
for-comrades rather it-be-applied and by-the-recruitment of-new
iuventutis ad pristinae manus numerum Martiae cohortis
youth to of-the-former band the-number of-the-martial company
facies integraretur: nam et invitos terrore compelli et
the-shape be-restored for both the-unwilling by-terror to-be-compelled and
volentes praemio provocari posse, nec paucos humili servilique
the-willing by-reward to-be-enticed to-be-able nor few to-humble and-servile
vitae renuntiantes ad instar tyrannicae potestatis sectam suam
life renouncing to the-likeness of-tyrannical power way their

conferre malle. Se quoque iamdudum pro sua parte quendam
to-bring to-prefer himself also long-since for his part a-certain
convenisse hominem et statu procerum et aetate iuvenem
to-have-met man both in-stature tall and in-age young
et corpore vastum et manu strenuum, eique suasisse ac
and in-body huge and in-hand vigorous and-to-him to-have-urged and
denique persuasisse, ut manus hebetatas diutina pigritia tandem
finally to-have-persuaded that hands dulled by-long sloth at-last
referret ad frugem meliorem bonoque secundae dum
he-should-bring-back to a-way-of-life better and-the-blessing of-prosperous while
posset frueretur valetudinis, nec manum validam erogandae
he-could he-should-enjoy health nor hand strong to-paying-out
stipi porrigeret, sed hauriendo potius exerceret auro.
alms should-stretch-out but in-drawing-in rather should-exercise gold

XLIII · HAEMUS THE THRACIAN

A huge young man arrives and calls himself Haemus, a famous Thracian robber. He tells how his band was destroyed after robbing Plotina, a faithful wife following her exiled husband, and how he escaped disguised as a woman. Chosen leader, he urges the band to sell the girl to a brothel.

5 Talibus dictis universi omnes assensere, et illum qui iam
to-such words one-and-all all assented and him who already
comprobatus videretur adscisci et alios ad supplendum
approved seemed to-be-enrolled and others for filling-up
numerum vestigari statuunt. Tunc profectus et paululum
the-number to-be-tracked-down they-decide then having-set-out and a-little
commoratus ille perducit immanem quendam iuvenem, uti
having-delayed he brings a-huge certain youth as
fuerat pollicitus, nescio an ulli praesentium comparandum
he-had promised I-know-not whether to-any of-those-present to-be-compared

(nam praeter ceteram corporis molem toto vertice cunctos
for besides the-rest of-body bulk by-a-whole head all
antepollebat et ei commodum lanugo malis inserpebat)
he-surpassed and to-him just-now down on-the-cheeks was-creeping
sed plane centunculis disparibus et male consarcinatis
but plainly with-patches odd and badly stitched-together
semiamictum, inter quos pectus et venter crustata crassitie
half-clad among which chest and belly with-crusted thickness
reluctabant. Sic introgressus "Havete" inquit "Fortissimo deo
pushed-through thus having-entered hail he-says to-the-mightiest god
Marti clientes, mihique iam fidi commilitones, et virum
Mars clients and-to-me now faithful comrades and a-man
magnanimae vivacitatis volentem volentes accipite, libentius
of-great-souled vigor willing willingly receive more-gladly
vulnera corpore excipientem quam aurum manu suscipientem,
wounds on-the-body taking than gold in-hand taking-up
ipsaque morte, quam formidant alii, meliorem. Nec
and-than-the-very death which fear others better nor
me putetis egenum vel abiectum, neve de pannulis istis
me think needy or abject nor from rags these
virtutes meas aestimetis: nam praefui validissimae manui
virtues my judge for I-commanded a-most-powerful band
totamque prorsus devastavi Macedoniam. Ego sum praedo
and-whole utterly I-laid-waste Macedonia I am the-robber
famosus, Haemus ille Thracius, cuius totae provinciae nomen
famous Haemus that Thracian whose whole provinces name
horrescunt, patre Therone aeque latrone inclito prognatus,
shudder-at from-a-father Theron equally a-robber renowned sprung
humano sanguine nutritus interque ipsos manipulos factionis
on-human blood nourished and-among the-very companies of-the-gang
educatus, heres et aemulus virtutis paternae.
raised heir and rival of-valor paternal

6 Sed omnem pristinam sociorum fortium multitudinem
but all former of-comrades brave the-host
magnasque illas opes exiguo temporis amisi spatio: nam
and-great those riches in-a-small of-time I-lost space for
procuratorem principis ducenaria perfunctum, dehinc
a-procurator of-the-emperor of-a-ducenarian-post having-discharged then
fortuna tristiore decussum, praetereuntem deo irato fueram
by-fortune sadder struck-down passing-by with-god angry I-had
aggressus. Sed rei noscendae carpo ordinem.
attacked but of-the-matter to-be-known I-pluck the-order
Fuit quidam multis officiis in aula Caesaris clarus atque
there-was a-certain-man for-many offices in the-court of-Caesar famous and
conspicuus, ipsi etiam probe spectatus. Hunc insimulatum
conspicuous by-him even well esteemed him accused
quorundam astu proiecit extorrem saeviens invidia: sed
of-certain-men by-the-cunning cast-out an-exile raging envy but
uxor eius Plotina, quaedam rarae fidei atque singularis
the-wife his Plotina a-certain of-rare faith and of-singular
pudicitiae femina, quae decimo partus stipendio viri
chastity woman who by-the-tenth of-childbirth campaign of-her-husband
familiam fundaverat, spretis atque contemptis urbicae luxuriae
the-family had-founded with-spurned and despised of-city luxury
deliciis, fugientis comes et infortunii socia, tonso
the-delights of-the-fleeing-one companion and of-misfortune partner with-shorn
capillo in masculinam faciem reformato habitu, pretiosissimis
hair into masculine appearance with-reshaped dress with-most-precious
monilium et auro monetali zonis refertis incincta, inter
of-necklaces and with-gold coined with-belts stuffed girded among
ipsas custodientium militum manus et gladios nudos
the-very of-guarding soldiers hands and swords naked
intrepida, cunctorum periculorum particeps et pro mariti
fearless of-all dangers sharer and for of-her-husband

salute pervigilem curam suscipiens, aerumnas assiduas ingenio
the-safety unsleeping care taking-up hardships constant with-a-spirit
masculo sustinebat. Iamque plurimis itineris difficultatibus
manly she-bore and-now with-very-many of-the-journey difficulties
marisque terroribus exanclatis Zacynthum petebat, quam
and-of-the-sea terrors endured Zacynthus she-was-heading-for which
sors ei fatalis decreverat temporariam sedem.
lot to-him fated had-decreed as-temporary seat
Sed cum primum litus Actiacum, quo tunc Macedonia 7
but when first the-shore Actian where then from-Macedonia
delapsi grassabamur, appulisset, nocte promota
having-slipped-down we-were-prowling she-had-put-in with-night advanced
tabernulam quandam litori navique proximam, quam
a-little-inn certain to-the-shore and-to-the-ship nearest which
vitatis maris fluctibus incubabant, invadimus et diripimus
with-avoided of-the-sea waves they-occupied we-attack and plunder
omnia, nec tamen periculo levi temptati discessimus. Simul
everything nor still by-danger slight tried we-departed as-soon
namque primum sonum ianuae matrona percepit, procurrens
for first the-sound of-the-door the-lady caught running-out
in cubiculum clamoribus inquietis cuncta miscuit,
into the-bedroom with-cries restless all-things she-threw-into-confusion
milites suosque famulos nominatim, sed et omnem viciniam
soldiers and-her servants by-name but also all the-neighborhood
suppetiatum convocans, nisi quod pavore cunctorum, qui
to-bring-help calling except that through-the-fear of-all who
sibi quisque metuentes delitescebant, effectum est, ut
for-himself each fearing were-hiding effected it-was that
impune discederemus. Sed protinus sanctissima — vera
unpunished we-got-away but at-once most-holy true-things
enim dicenda sunt — et unicae fidei femina, bonis artibus
for to-be-told are and of-unique faith woman for-good qualities

gratiosa, precibus ad Caesaris numen porrectis, et marito
in-favor with-prayers to of-Caesar the-divinity stretched-out both for-her-husband
reditum celerem et aggressurae plenam vindictam impetravit:
return swift and for-the-attack full vengeance obtained
denique noluit esse Caesar Haemi latronis collegium,
in-short did-not-wish to-be Caesar of-Haemus the-robber the-band
et confestim interivit; tantum potest nutus etiam magni
and at-once it-perished so-much can the-nod even of-a-great
principis. Tota denique factione militarium vexillationum
emperor with-whole in-short the-gang of-military detachments
indagatu confecta atque concisa, ipse me furatus aegre
by-the-hunting finished and cut-down myself me having-stolen with-difficulty
solus mediis Orci faucibus ad hunc evasi modum:
alone from-the-mid of-Orcus jaws in this I-escaped manner
8 sumpta veste muliebri florida in sinus flaccidos abundante,
with-taken a-dress woman's flowered into folds loose overflowing
mitellaque textili contecto capite, calceis femininis albis
and-with-a-turban woven covered head in-shoes women's white
illis et tenuibus indutus et in sequiorem sexum incertus
those and thin dressed and into the-inferior sex made-uncertain
atque absconditus, asello spicas hordeacias gerenti residens
and hidden on-a-little-ass ears of-barley carrying sitting
per medias acies infesti militis transabivi; nam mulierem
through the-midst ranks of-hostile soldiery I-passed-through for a-woman
putantes asinariam concedebant liberos abitus, quippe cum
thinking-me ass-driving they-granted free passage naturally since
mihi etiam tunc depiles genae levi pueritia splendicarent.
to-me even then hairless cheeks with-smooth boyhood shone
Nec ab illa tamen paterna gloria vel mea virtute descivi,
nor from that still paternal glory or my valor I-fell-away
quamquam semitrepidus iuxta mucrones Martios constitutus,
although half-trembling beside blades martial set

sed habitus alieni fallacia tectus, villas seu castella solus
but of-a-dress another's by-the-deceit covered farmhouses or forts alone
aggrediens, viaticulum mihi corrasi," et diloricatis
attacking a-little-traveling-money for-me I-scraped-together and with-torn-open
statim pannulis in medium duo milia profudit aureorum,
at-once rags into the-middle two thousand he-poured-out of-gold-pieces
et "En" inquit "Istam sportulam, immo vero dotem collegio
and look he-says this little-gift nay indeed dowry to-guild
vestro libens meque vobis ducem fidissimum, si tamen
your gladly and-myself to-you leader most-faithful if still
non recusatis, offero, brevi temporis spatio lapideam istam
not you-refuse I-offer in-a-short of-time space of-stone that
domum vestram facturus auream."
house your going-to-make golden
Nec mora nec cunctatio, sed calculis omnibus ducatum latrones 9
nor delay nor hesitation but with-votes all the-leadership the-robbers
unanimes ei deferunt, vestemque lautiusculam proferunt
unanimous to-him confer and-a-garment rather-smart bring-out
sumeret abiecto centunculo divite: sic reformatus
he-should-put-on with-thrown-off patchwork rich thus reshaped
singulos exosculatus et in summo pulvinari locatus cena
one-by-one having-kissed and on the-highest cushion placed with-dinner
poculisque magnis inauguratur. Tunc sermonibus mutuis
and-cups great is-inaugurated then from-conversations mutual
de virginis fuga deque mea vectura et utrique destinata
of the-maiden's flight and-of my carrying and for-both appointed
monstruosa morte cognoscit, et ubi locorum esset illa
monstrous death he-learns and where of-places was she
percontatus deductusque, visa ea, ut erat vinculis onusta,
having-asked and-led with-seen her as she-was with-chains laden
contorta et vituperanti nare discessit, et "Non sum quidem
twisted and with-scornful nose departed and not I-am indeed

tam brutus vel certe temerarius" inquit "Ut scitum vestrum
so stupid or certainly rash he-says that decree your
inhibeam. sed malae conscientiae reatum intra me sustinebo,
I-should-check but of-bad conscience the-guilt within me I-shall-bear
si quod bonum mihi videtur dissimulavero. Sed prius fiduciam
if what good to-me seems I-shall-have-concealed but first trust
vestri causa sollicito mihi tribuite, cum praesertim vobis, si
for-your sake anxious to-me grant since especially to-you if
sententia haec mea displicuerit, liceat rursum ad asinum
opinion this my shall-have-displeased it-is-allowed again to the-ass
redire. Nam ego arbitror latrones, quique eorum recte sapiunt,
to-return for I think robbers and-whoever of-them rightly are-wise
nihil anteferre lucro suo debere, ac ne ipsam quidem saepe
nothing to-prefer to-gain their ought and not itself even often
et aliis damnosam ultionem. Ergo igitur si perdideritis
also to-others harmful vengeance therefore then if you-shall-have-destroyed
in asino virginem, nihil amplius quam sine ullo compendio
in the-ass the-maiden nothing more than without any profit
indignationem vestram exercueritis. Quin ego censeo
indignation your you-will-have-exercised rather I propose
deducendam eam ad quampiam civitatem ibique venundandam.
to-be-taken her to some city and-there to-be-sold
Nec enim levi pretio distrahi poterit talis aetatula: nam et
nor for at-low price to-be-sold-off can such a-young-thing for also
ipse quosdam lenones pridem cognitos habeo, quorum poterit
myself certain pimps long-ago known I-have of-whom will-be-able
unus magnis equidem talentis, ut arbitror, puellam istam
one with-great indeed talents as I-think girl that
praestinare, condigne natalibus suis fornicem processuram
to-buy befittingly to-birth her a-brothel going-to-go-forth
nec in similem fugam discursuram; non nihil etiam cum
nor into similar flight going-to-run-off not nothing also when

lupanari servierit, vindictae vobis dependsuram. Hanc ex
in-a-brothel she-has-served of-vengeance to-you going-to-pay this from
animo quidem meo sententiam conducibilem protuli,
heart indeed my opinion profitable I-have-put-forward
sed vos vestrorum estis consiliorum rerumque domini."
but you of-your-own are counsels and-affairs the-masters

XLIV · TLEPOLEMUS

Haemus fetches wine and a victim for Mars, feasts the robbers, and plies them with wine, drugged as Lucius suspects, until they all lie senseless. He is Tlepolemus, Charite's bridegroom. He ties them up, sets Charite on Lucius, and brings her home, and the townspeople return to kill the robbers.

Sic ille latronum fisci advocatus nostram causam 10
thus he of-the-robbers of-the-treasury advocate our cause
pertulerat, virginis et asini sospitator egregius; sed in
had-carried-through of-the-maiden and of-the-ass savior excellent but in
diutina deliberatione ceteri cruciantes mora consilii mea
long deliberation the-rest torturing by-the-delay of-counsel my
praecordia, immo miserum spiritum, libentes tandem novicii
heart nay wretched breath gladly at-last of-the-novice
latronis accedunt sententiae et protinus vinculis exsolvunt
robber agree-to the-opinion and at-once from-chains release
virginem. Quae quidem simul viderat illum iuvenem,
the-maiden who indeed as-soon-as had-seen that youth
fornicisque et lenonis audierat mentionem, coepit risu
and-of-brothel and pimp had-heard mention began with-laughter
laetissimo gestire, ut mihi merito subiret vituperatio
most-joyful to-exult so-that to-me deservedly came censure
totius sexus, cum viderem puellam, proci iuvenis amore
of-the-whole sex when I-saw the-girl of-a-suitor young with-love

nuptiarumque castarum desiderio simulato, lupanaris spurci
and-of-marriage chaste with-longing feigned of-a-brothel filthy
sordidique subito delectari nomine; et tunc quidem totarum
and-sordid suddenly to-be-delighted by-the-name and then indeed of-all
mulierum secta moresque de asini pendebant iudicio. Sed ille
women the-ways and-character on of-an-ass hung judgment but that
iuvenis sermone repetito "Quin igitur," inquit "Supplicatum
youth with-speech resumed why-not therefore he-says to-make-supplication
Marti comiti pergimus et puellam simul venditurі
to-Mars the-Companion do-we-proceed and the-girl at-once going-to-sell
et socios indagaturi? Sed, ut video, nullum uspiam
and comrades going-to-track-down but as I-see no anywhere
pecus sacrificatui ac ne vinum quidem potatui affatim vel
beast for-sacrifice and not wine even for-drinking in-plenty or
sufficiens habemus. Decem mihi itaque legate comites, quis
sufficient we-have ten to-me and-so assign comrades with-whom
contentus proximum castellum petam, inde vobis epulas
content the-nearest fort I-shall-seek thence for-you a-feast
saliares comparaturus." Sic eo profecto ceteri copiosum
Salian going-to-procure thus with-him set-out the-rest an-ample
instruunt ignem aramque caespite virenti Marti deo faciunt.
build fire and-an-altar from-turf green to-Mars the-god they-make
11 Nec multo post adveniunt illi vinarios utres ferentes et
nor much later arrive they wine skins carrying and
gregatim pecua comminantes: unde praelectum grandem
in-herds cattle driving whence chosen a-great
hircum, annosum et horricomem, Marti secutori comitique
he-goat aged and shaggy-haired to-Mars the-Follower and-Companion
victimant, et illico prandium fabricatur opipare. Tunc
they-sacrifice and on-the-spot a-lunch is-prepared sumptuously then
hospes ille "Non modo" inquit "Expeditionum praedarumque,
guest that not only he-says of-expeditions and-of-plunders

verum etiam voluptatum vestrarum ducem me strenuum
but also of-pleasures your leader me vigorous
sentire debetis," et aggressus insigni facilitate naviter
to-feel you-ought and having-set-to with-remarkable readiness briskly
cuncta praeministrat. Verrit, sternit, coquit, tucceta concinnat,
all-things he-serves he-sweeps he-spreads he-cooks sausages he-prepares
apponit scitule, sed praecipue poculis crebris grandibusque
he-serves neatly but especially with-cups frequent and-great
singulos ingurgitat. Interdum tamen insimulatione promendi
each-one he-gorges at-times still on-pretense of-fetching
quae poscebat usus, ad puellam commeabat assidue, partesque
what required use to the-girl he-went constantly and-portions
surreptas clanculo et praegustatas a se potiones offerebat
stolen secretly and pre-tasted by himself drinks offered
hilaris: at illa sumebat appetenter, et nonnunquam basiare
cheerful but she took eagerly and sometimes to-kiss
volenti promptis saviolis allubescebat. Quae res oppido
to-him-wishing with-ready little-kisses she-responded which thing exceedingly
mihi displicebat: "Hem oblita es nuptiarum tuique
to-me displeased ha forgotten have-you of-your-marriage and-of-your
mutui cupitoris, puella virgo? Et illi nesciocui recenti
mutual lover girl maiden and to-that some-or-other new
marito, quem tibi parentes iunxerunt, hunc advenam
husband whom to-you parents joined this stranger
cruentumque percussorem praeponis? Nec te conscientia
and-bloody cutthroat you-prefer nor you conscience
stimulat, sed affectione calcata inter lanceas et gladios istos
goads but with-affection trampled among lances and swords those
scortari tibi libet? Quid, si quo modo latrones ceteri
to-play-the-harlot to-you pleases what if in-some way robbers the-other

persenserint? Non rursum recurres ad asinum et rursum
shall-have-perceived not again will-you-run-back to the-ass and again
exitium mihi parabis? Re vera ludis de alieno corio."
destruction for-me will-you-prepare in-truth indeed you-play with another's hide
12 Dum ista sycophanta ego mecum maxima cum
while these-things as-a-slanderer I with-myself greatest with
indignatione disputo, de verbis eorum quibusdam dubiis, sed
indignation argue from words their certain doubtful but
non obscuris prudenti asino, cognosco non Haemum illum
not obscure to-a-wise ass I-recognize not Haemus that
praedonem famosum sed Tlepolemum sponsum puellae ipsius.
robber famous but Tlepolemus the-betrothed of-the-girl herself
Nam procedente sermone paulo iam clarius, contempta mea
for with-proceeding talk a-little now more-clearly with-disregarded my
praesentia quasi vere mortui, "Bono animo es" inquit "Charite
presence as-if truly of-a-dead-one of-good heart be he-says Charite
dulcissima, nam totos istos hostes tuos statim captivos habebis,"
sweetest for all those enemies your at-once as-captives you-will-have
et instantia validiore vinum iam inmixtum, sed modico
and with-urging stronger wine now unmixed but by-moderate
tepefactum vapore, sauciis illis et crapula vinolentiaque
warmed heat to-befuddled them and with-hangover and-drunkenness
madidis ipse abstemius non cessat impingere. Et Hercule
soaked himself abstaining not ceases to-ply and by-Hercules
suspicionem mihi fecit, quasi soporiferum quoddam venenum
suspicion to-me he-made as-if sleep-bringing some poison
cantharis immisceret illis. Cuncti denique sed prorsus omnes
into-the-tankards he-were-mixing those all in-short but utterly all
vino sepulti iacebant, omnes pares mortuis. Tunc nullo negotio
in-wine buried lay all equal to-the-dead then with-no trouble

artissimis vinculis impeditis ac pro arbitrio suo constrictis illis,
with-tightest bonds entangled and at will his bound them
imposita dorso meo puella, dirigit gressum ad suam patriam.
with-placed on-back my the-girl he-directs his-step to his homeland
Quam simul accessimus, tota civitas ad votivum 13
which as-soon-as we-approached the-whole city to the-longed-for
conspectum effunditur. Procurrunt parentes, affines, clientes,
sight pours-out run-forth parents kin clients
alumni, famuli, laeti faciem, gaudio delibuti: pompam
foster-children servants glad in-face with-joy anointed a-procession
cerneres omnis sexus et omnis aetatis novumque et Hercule
you-would-see of-every sex and of-every age and-a-new and by-Hercules
memorandum spectamen, virginem asino triumphantem.
memorable spectacle a-maiden on-an-ass triumphing
Denique ipse etiam hilarior pro virili parte ne praesenti
in-short I-myself also more-cheerful for manly part lest from-the-present
negotio ut alienus discreparem, porrectis auribus proflatisque
business as a-stranger I-might-differ with-stretched-out ears and-with-blown
naribus rudivi fortiter, immo tonanti clamore personui. Et
nostrils I-brayed strongly nay with-thundering shout I-resounded and
illam thalamo receptam commode parentes sui fovebant, me
her in-the-chamber received comfortably parents her cherished me
vero cum ingenti iumentorum civiumque multitudine confestim
indeed with a-huge of-beasts and-of-citizens multitude at-once
retro Tlepolemus agebat non invitum, nam et alias
back Tlepolemus drove not unwilling for both at-other-times
curiosus et tunc latronum captivitatis spectator optabam
curious and then of-the-robbers of-the-capture spectator I-wished
fieri. Quos quidem colligatos adhuc vino magis quam
to-become whom indeed bound still by-wine more than
vinculis deprehendimus: totis ergo prolatis erutisque rebus
by-chains we-caught with-all therefore brought-out and-dug-up things

et nobis auro argentoque et ceteris onustis, ipsos partim
and with-us with-gold and-silver and other-things laden them partly
constrictos, uti fuerant, provolutosque in proximas rupinas
bound as they-had-been and-rolled into the-nearest crags
praecipites dedere, alios vero suis sibi gladiis obtruncatos
headlong they-sent others indeed with-their own swords cut-down
reliquere. Tali vindicta laeti et gaudentes civitatem
they-left with-such vengeance glad and rejoicing to-the-city
revenimus: et illas quidem divitias publicae custodelae
we-return and those indeed riches to-public custody
commisere, Tlepolemo puellam repetitam lege tradidere.
they-entrusted to-Tlepolemus the-girl reclaimed by-law they-handed-over

XLV · AMONG THE HORSES

Charite and her family honor Lucius as her savior and send him to graze freely among the horses. But the herdsman's wife puts him to the mill, and the stallions, fearing a rival, attack him savagely.

14 Exin me suum sospitatorem nuncupatum matrona prolixe
thereafter me her savior named the-matron lavishly
curitabat, ipsoque nuptiarum die praesepium meum hordeo
cared-for and-on-the-very of-the-wedding day manger my with-barley
passim repleri iubet faenumque camelo Bactrinae sufficiens
everywhere to-be-filled she-orders and-hay for-a-camel Bactrian sufficient
apponi. Sed quas ego condignas Fotidi diras devotiones
to-be-set-before-me but what I fitting on-Fotis dire curses
imprecer, quae me formavit non canem sed asinum, quippe
should-call-down who me shaped not a-dog but an-ass naturally
cum viderem largissimae cenae reliquiis rapinisque canes
since I-saw of-the-most-lavish dinner with-leftovers and-pilferings the-dogs

omnes inescatos atque distentos! Post noctem unicam et
all baited and stuffed after night single and
rudimenta Veneris recens nupta gratias summas apud suos
the-first-lessons of-Venus newly wed thanks highest before her
parentes ac maritum mihi meminisse non destitit, quoad
parents and husband to-me to-remember not ceased until
summos illi promitterent honores habituri mihi. Convocatis
highest they promised honors going-to-pay to-me with-called-together
denique gravioribus amicis consilium datur, quo potissimum
in-short weightier friends counsel is-given by-what chiefly
pacto digne remunerarer. Placuerat uni domi me conclusum
way worthily I-might-be-rewarded it-had-pleased one at-home me shut-up
et otiosum hordeo lecto fabaque et vicia saginari: sed
and idle with-barley picked and-with-bean and vetch to-be-fattened but
obtinuit alius qui meae libertati prospexerat, suadens ut
prevailed another who my liberty had-provided-for urging that
rurestribus potius campis in greges equinos lasciviens
in-rural rather fields among herds equine frisking
discurrerem, daturus dominis equarum inscensu generoso
I-should-run-about going-to-give to-the-owners of-mares by-mounting noble
multas mulas alumnas.
many mules nurslings
Ergo igitur evocato statim armentario equisone magna 15
therefore then with-summoned at-once the-herdsman horse-keeper great
cum praefatione deducendus assignor: et sane gaudens
with preamble to-be-led-away I-am-assigned and truly rejoicing
laetusque praecurrebam, sarcinis et ceteris oneribus iam nunc
and-glad I-ran-ahead to-packs and other burdens now at-last
renuntiaturus, nanctaque libertate veris initio pratis
going-to-say-farewell and-with-gained liberty of-spring at-the-start in-meadows
herbantibus rosas utique reperturus aliquas. Subibat me tamen
growing-grassy roses surely going-to-find some came-to me still

illa etiam sequens cogitatio, quod tantis actis gratiis
that also following thought that with-so-great given thanks
honoribusque plurimis asino meo tributis humana facie recepta,
and-honors very-many to-ass my granted with-human face recovered
multo tanto pluribus beneficiis honestarer. Sed ubi me procul
by-much so-much with-more benefits I-would-be-honored but when me far
a civitate gregarius ille perduxerat, nullae deliciae ac ne ulla
from the-city herd-keeper that had-brought no delights and not any
quidem libertas excipit. Nam protinus uxor eius avara equidem
even liberty receives for at-once wife his greedy indeed
nequissimaque illa mulier molae machinariae subiugum me
and-most-worthless that woman to-the-mill machine under-the-yoke me
dedit, frondosoque baculo subinde castigans, panem sibi
put and-with-leafy stick repeatedly chastising bread for-herself
suisque de meo parabat corio. Nec tantum sui cibi
and-her-own from my she-provided hide nor only of-her-own food
gratia me fatigare contenta, vicinorum etiam frumenta
for-the-sake me to-weary content of-the-neighbors also grain
mercenariis discursibus meis conterebat. Nec mihi misero statuta
with-hired rounds my she-ground nor to-me wretched fixed
saltem cibaria pro tantis praestabantur laboribus: namque
at-least rations for such-great were-supplied labors for
hordeum meum frictum et sub eadem mola meis quassatum
barley my roasted and under the-same mill by-my crushed
ambagibus colonis proximis venditabat, mihi vero per
circlings to-farmers nearest she-sold to-me indeed through
diem laboriosae machinae attento sub ipsa vespera furfures
the-day of-the-laborious machine attentive at the-very evening bran
apponebat incretos ac sordidos, multoque lapide salebrosos.
she-served unsifted and dirty and-with-much stone rough

Talibus aerumnis edomitum novis Fortuna saeva tradidit 16
by-such hardships subdued to-new Fortune cruel handed-over
cruciatibus, scilicet ut, quod aiunt, domi forisque fortibus
tortures no-doubt that as they-say at-home and-abroad for-brave
factis adoriae plenae gloriarer. Equinis armentis namque
deeds of-glory full I-might-boast with-the-horse herds for
me congregem pastor egregius mandati dominici serus
me in-company the-herdsman excellent of-the-order of-his-master late
auscultator aliquando permisit: at ego tandem liber
heeder at-last allowed but I at-last free
asinus, laetus et tripudians graduque molli gestiens equas
ass glad and capering and-with-step soft exulting mares
opportunissimas iam mihi concubinas futuras deligebam.
the-most-suitable now for-me concubines going-to-be I-was-choosing
Sed haec etiam spes hilarior in capitale processit exitium:
but this also hope happier into mortal went-forth ruin
mares enim ob admissariam Venerem pasti satianter ac
the-males for for stud Venus fed fully and
diu saginati, terribiles alioquin et utique quovis asino
long fattened terrible anyway and certainly than-any ass
fortiores, de me metuentes sibi et adulterio degeneri
stronger of me fearing for-themselves and against-adultery degenerate
praecaventes, nec hospitalis Iovis servato foedere rivalem
guarding nor of-hospitable Jupiter with-kept covenant the-rival
summo furentes persequuntur odio; hic, elatis in
with-highest raging pursue hatred this-one with-raised on
altum vastis pectoribus, arduus capite et sublimis vertice
high huge chests lofty in-head and high in-crown
primoribus in me pugillatur ungulis, ille terga pulposis
with-the-front against me boxes hooves that-one backs with-fleshy
torulis obesa convertens postremis velitatur calcibus, alius
muscles fat turning with-the-hind skirmishes heels another

hinnitu maligno comminatus, remulsis auribus dentiumque
with-neighing malicious having-threatened with-laid-back ears and-of-teeth
candentium renudatis asceis, totum me commorsicat. Sic apud
gleaming with-bared axes whole me bites-all-over thus in
historiam de rege Thracio legeram, qui miseros hospites
history about the-king Thracian I-had-read who wretched guests
ferinis equis suis lacerandos devorandosque porrigebat: adeo
to-savage horses his to-be-torn and-to-be-devoured offered so
ille praepotens tyrannus sic parcus hordei fuit, ut edacium
that mighty tyrant so sparing of-barley was that of-the-voracious
iumentorum famem corporum humanorum largitione sedaret.
beasts the-hunger of-bodies human by-the-bounty he-appeased

XLVI · THE BOY AND THE FIREWOOD

Lucius is set to carry wood under a cruel boy who beats him, overloads him, ties thorns to his tail, and sets fire to his load. The boy accuses him of attacking travelers, and the herdsmen plan first to kill him, then to geld him.

17 Ad eundem modum distractus et ipse variis equorum
in the-same way torn-apart and myself by-various of-the-horses
incursibus, rursus molares illos circuitus requirebam. Verum
attacks again mill-wheel those circuits I-was-missing but
Fortuna meis cruciatibus insatiabilis aliam mihi denuo pestem
Fortune with-my torments insatiable another for-me anew plague
instruxit: delegor enim ligno monte devehundo,
arranged I-am-assigned for for-wood from-the-mountain to-be-carried
puerque mihi praefectus imponitur, omnibus ille quidem
and-a-boy over-me placed-in-charge is-set of-all he indeed
deterrimus. Nec me montis excelsi tantum arduum
the-worst nor me of-the-mountain lofty only the-steep

fatigabat iugum, nec saxeas tantum sudes incursando
was-wearying ridge nor on-rocky only stakes by-running-against
contribam ungulas, verum fustium quoque crebris ictibus
I-was-bruising hooves but of-cudgels also with-frequent blows
prolixe dedolabar, ut usque plagarum mihi medullaris
lengthily I-was-hewn so-that right-to of-blows in-me to-the-marrow
insideret dolor; coxaeque dexterae semper ictus incutiens
settled the-pain and-on-the-hip right always the-blow striking
et unum feriendo locum dissipato corio et ulceris latissimi
and one by-striking spot with-torn-up hide and of-an-ulcer very-broad
facto foramine, immo fovea vel etiam fenestra, nullus
with-made opening nay a-pit or even a-window not-at-all
tamen desinebat identidem vulnus sanguine delibutum
still he-ceased repeatedly the-wound with-blood smeared
obtundere. Lignorum vero tanto me premebat pondere,
to-pound of-wood indeed with-so-great me he-pressed weight
ut fascium molem elephanto, non asino paratam putares:
that of-faggots the-mass for-an-elephant not an-ass prepared you-would-think
ille vero etiam quotiens in alterum latus praeponderans
he indeed also whenever to the-other side overbalancing
declinarat sarcina, cum deberet potius gravantis ruinae
had-leaned the-load when he-ought rather of-the-oppressing collapse
fustes demere et levata paulisper pressura sanare me,
sticks to-remove and with-lightened a-little pressure to-heal me
vel certe in alterum latus translatis peraequare, contra,
or at-least to the-other side with-transferred to-even-up on-the-contrary
lapidibus additis insuper, sic iniquitati ponderis medebatur.
with-stones added on-top thus the-unfairness of-the-weight he-remedied
Nec tamen post tantas meas clades immodico sarcinae 18
nor still after so-great my disasters with-the-excessive of-the-load
pondere contentus, cum fluvium transcenderemus, qui forte
weight content when a-river we-crossed which by-chance

praeter viam defluebat, peronibus suis ab aquae madore
beside the-road was-flowing-down for-boots his against of-water the-wet
consulens ipse quoque insuper lumbos meos insiliens residebat,
taking-care himself also on-top loins my leaping-up sat
exiguum scilicet et illud tantae molis superpondium: ac si
a-slight of-course and that of-so-great a-mass extra-weight and if
quo casu limo caenoso ripae supercilio lubricante oneris
by-some chance with-mud slimy the-bank's brow making-slippery of-the-load
impatientia prolapsus deruissem, cum deberet egregius
through-intolerance slipped I-had-fallen-down when he-ought the-excellent
agaso manum porrigere, capistro suspendere, cauda sublevare,
groom a-hand to-stretch-out by-the-halter to-lift-up by-the-tail to-raise
certe partem tanti oneris, quoad resurgerem saltem,
at-least a-part of-so-great load until I-rose-again at-least
detrahere, nullum quidem defesso mihi ferebat auxilium, sed
to-take-off no indeed to-exhausted me he-brought help but
occipiens a capite, immo vero et ipsis auribus, totum me
beginning from the-head nay indeed also the-very ears whole me
compilabat, ceciditque fusti grandissimo, donec fomenti
he-pummeled and-beat with-a-cudgel very-big until as-a-poultice
vice ipsae me plagae suscitarent. Idem mihi talem etiam
in-place the-very me blows should-rouse he for-me such also
excogitavit perniciem: spinas acerrumas et punctu venenato
devised a-bane thorns very-sharp and with-prick poisonous
viriosas in fascem tortili nodo constrictas caudae meae
potent into a-bundle with-twisted knot bound to-tail my
pensilem deligavit cruciatum, ut incessu meo commotae
a-banging he-tied torment so-that with-going my set-moving
incitataeque funestis aculeis infeste me convulnerarent.
and-spurred with-deadly points hostilely me they-might-wound

Ego igitur ancipiti malo laborabam: nam cum me cursu 19
I therefore by-a-two-edged evil labored for when myself at-a-run
proripueram fugiens acerbissimos incursus, vehementiore
I-had-hurled-forward fleeing the-most-bitter attacks with-stronger
nisu spinarum feriebar; si dolori parcens paululum restitissem,
force of-the-thorns I-was-struck if pain sparing a-little I-had-stood-still
plagis compellebar ad cursum. Nec quicquam videbatur aliud
by-blows I-was-driven to running nor anything seemed else
excogitare puer ille nequissimus quam ut me quoquo modo
to-devise boy that most-worthless than that me in-any way
perditum iret, idque iurans etiam nonnunquam comminabatur.
to-ruin go and-this swearing also sometimes he-threatened
Et plane fuit quod eius detestabilem malitiam ad peiores
and plainly there-was what his detestable malice to worse
conatus stimularet: nam quadam die, nimia eius insolentia
attempts might-goad for one day by-excessive his insolence
expugnata patientia mea, calces in eum validas extuleram.
overcome patience my kicks at him strong I-had-raised
Denique tale facinus in me comminiscitur: stuppae sarcinae
in-short such a-crime against me he-contrives of-tow with-a-load
me satis onustum probeque funiculis constrictum producit in
me well loaded and-properly with-cords bound he-leads-out into
viam deque proxima villula spirantem carbunculum furatus,
the-road and-from the-nearest little-farm a-glowing coal having-stolen
oneris in ipso meditullio reponit. Iamque fomento tenui
of-the-load in the-very middle he-puts and-now with-kindling slight
calescens et enutritus ignis surgebat in flammas et totum
growing-warm and nourished the-fire rose into flames and whole
me funestus ardor invaserat, nec ullum pestis extremae
me deadly heat had-seized nor any of-plague the-final

suffugium nec salutis aliquod apparet solacium, et ustrina
refuge nor of-safety any appears comfort and a-burning
tales moras non sustinens et meliora consilia praevertitur.
such delays not enduring also better plans forestalls
Sed in rebus scaevis affulsit Fortunae nutus hilarior,
but in affairs perverse shone of-Fortune a-nod more-cheerful
nescio an futuris periculis me reservans, certe praesente
I-know-not whether for-future perils me reserving certainly from-present
statutaque morte liberans: nam forte pluviae pridianae recens
and-appointed death freeing for by-chance of-rain yesterday's fresh
conceptaculum aquae lutulentae proximum conspicatus, ibi
a-pool of-water muddy nearby having-spotted there
memet improvido saltu totum abicio, flammaque prorsus
myself with-heedless leap whole I-throw and-with-the-flame utterly
extincta, tandem et pondere levatus et exitio liberatus
extinguished at-last both from-the-weight lightened and from-destruction freed
evado. Sed ille deterrimus ac temerarius puer hoc quoque
I-escape but that worst and reckless boy this also
suum nequissimum factum in me retorsit, gregariisque
his most-wicked deed onto me twisted and-to-the-herdsmen
omnibus affirmavit me sponte vicinorum foculos
all asserted me of-my-own-accord of-the-neighbors hearths
transeuntem, titubanti gradu prolapsum, ignem ultroneum
passing with-stumbling step having-slipped fire self-sought
accersisse mihi, et arridens addidit: "Quousque ergo
to-have-brought-on myself and smiling added how-long therefore
frustra pascemus igninum istum?" Nec multis interiectis
in-vain shall-we-feed fire-ass that nor with-many intervening
diebus longe peioribus me dolis petivit. Ligno enim quod
days far with-worse me tricks he-attacked with-the-wood for which
gerebam in proximam casulam vendito vacuum me ducens,
I-was-carrying in the-nearest hut sold empty me leading

iam se nequitiae meae proclamans imparem miserrimumque
now himself for-wickedness my proclaiming unequal and-most-wretched
istud magisterium renuens, querelas huiusmodi concinnat:
this mastership refusing complaints of-this-kind he-composes
"Videtis istum pigrum tardissimumque et nimis asinum? me 21
you-see that sluggish and-most-slow and too-much an-ass me
praeter cetera flagitia nunc novis periculis etiam angit: ut
besides the-other outrages now with-new dangers also he-distresses as
quemque enim viatorem prospexerit, sive illa scitula mulier
each for traveler he-has-spied whether she pretty woman
seu virgo nubilis seu tener puellus est, illico disturbato
or a-maiden marriageable or a-tender little-boy it-is on-the-spot with-thrown-off
gestamine, nonnunquam etiam ipsis stramentis abiectis,
load sometimes even with-the-very saddle-cloths cast-off
furens incurrit et homines amator talis appetit, et humi
raging he-charges and men lover such seeks and on-the-ground
prostratis illis inhians illicitas atque incognitas temptat
with-laid-low them gaping unlawful and unknown attempts
libidines et ferinas aversa Venere invitat ad nuptias. Nam
lusts and beastly with-reversed Venus invites to nuptials for
imaginem etiam savii mentiendo ore improbo compulsat
the-image even of-a-kiss by-feigning with-mouth wicked he-pushes
ac morsicat. Quae res nobis non mediocres lites atque
and bites which thing for-us not moderate lawsuits and
iurgia, immo forsitan et crimina pariet. Nunc etiam visa
quarrels nay perhaps also charges will-bring-forth now also with-seen
quadam honesta iuvene, ligno quod devehebat abiecto
a-certain respectable young-woman with-the-wood which he-was-carrying thrown-off
dispersoque, in eam furiosos direxit impetus, et festivus hic
and-scattered at her frenzied directed assaults and festive this
amasio humo sordida prostratam mulierem ibidem incoram
lover on-ground filthy laid-low the-woman right-there in-the-presence

omnium gestiebat inscendere. Quod nisi ploratu questuque
of-all was-eager to-mount but if-not by-wailing and-complaint
femineo conclamatum viatorum praesidium accurrisset ac
womanly summoned of-travelers the-help had-run-up and
de mediis ungulis ipsius esset erepta liberataque, misera
from the-midst hooves of-his had-been snatched and-freed wretched
illa compavita atque dirupta ipsa quidem cruciabilem cladem
she trampled and torn-apart she indeed an-agonizing disaster
sustinuisset, nobis vero poenale reliquisset exitium."
would-have-suffered to-us indeed a-penal she-would-have-left ruin
22 Talibus mendaciis admiscendo sermones alios, qui meum
with-such lies by-mixing-in speeches other which my
verecundum silentium vehementius premerent, animos
modest silence more-violently would-crush the-spirits
pastorum in meam perniciem atrociter suscitavit. Denique
of-the-shepherds to my destruction fiercely he-roused in-short
unus ex illis: "Quin igitur publicum istum maritum," inquit
one of them why-not therefore public that husband he-says
"Immo communem omnium adulterum illis suis monstruosis
nay common of-all adulterer to-those his monstrous
nuptiis condignam victimamus hostiam?" et "Heus tu, puer,"
nuptials fitting do-we-sacrifice as-a-victim and hey you boy
ait "Obtruncato protinus eo intestina quidem canibus
he-says with-cut-down at-once him the-entrails indeed to-dogs
nostris iacta, ceteram vero carnem omnem operariorum cenae
our throw the-rest indeed meat all for-the-laborers' dinner
reserva. Nam corium affirmatum cineris inspersu dominis
keep for the-hide made-firm of-ash by-sprinkling to-the-masters
referemus eiusque mortem de lupo facile mentiemur."
we-shall-bring-back and-his death about a-wolf easily we-shall-lie
Sublata cunctatione accusator ille meus noxius, ipse etiam
with-removed hesitation accuser that my guilty himself also

pastoralis exsecutor sententiae, laetus et meis insultans
of-the-shepherds' executor sentence glad and on-my trampling
malis calcisque illius admonitus, quam inefficacem fuisse
misfortunes and-of-the-kick that reminded which ineffective to-have-been
mehercules doleo, protinus gladium cotis attritu parabat.
by-Hercules I-grieve at-once a-sword by-the-whetstone's rubbing was-preparing
Sed quidam de coetu illo rusticorum "Nefas" ait "Tam 23
but a-certain-one from gathering that of-rustics a-sin he-says so
bellum asinum sic enecare et propter luxuriem lasciviamque,
pretty an-ass thus to-kill and on-account-of wantonness and-lustfulness
amatoria protinus opera, servitioque tam necessario carere,
of-love at-once of-the-work and-service so necessary to-lack
cum alioquin exsectis genitalibus possit neque in Venerem
when otherwise with-cut-off genitals he-can neither into Venus
ullo modo surgere vosque omni metu periculi liberare, insuper
in-any way to-rise and-you from-all fear of-danger to-free in-addition
etiam longe crassior atque corpulentior effici. Multos ego
also far fatter and more-corpulent to-be-made many I
scio non modo asinos inertes, verum etiam ferocissimos equos,
know not only asses sluggish but also most-ferocious horses
nimio libidinis laborantes atque ob id truces vesanosque,
with-excessive lust laboring and for this savage and-mad
adhibita tali detestatione mansuetos ac mansues exinde factos,
with-applied such gelding tame and gentle thenceforth made
et oneri ferundo non inhabiles et cetero ministerio patientes.
and for-burden carrying not unfit and for-other service patient
Denique, nisi vobis suadeo nolentibus, possum spatio modico
in-short unless to-you I-urge unwilling I-can with-a-space short
interiecto, quo mercatum proximum obire statui, petitis
intervening in-which the-market nearest to-attend I-have-decided with-fetched
e domo ferramentis huic curae praeparatis, ad vos actutum
from home irons for-this task prepared to you at-once

redire trucemque amatorem istum atque insuavem dissitis
to-return and-savage lover that and unpleasant with-spread-apart
femoribus emasculare et quovis vervece mitiorem efficere."
thighs to-emasculate and than-any wether milder to-make

XLVII · THE BEAR

As Lucius waits to be gelded, a bear kills the boy in the mountains, and Lucius escapes, only to be seized by a traveler, whom the herdsmen catch and charge with the boy's death. The boy's mother blames Lucius, beats him, and thrusts a burning brand at him, and he drives her off by fouling her face.

24 Tali sententia mediis Orci manibus extractus, sed
by-such a-sentence from-the-midst of-Orcus hands drawn-out but
extremae poenae reservatus, maerebam et in novissima
for-the-utmost penalty reserved I-grieved and in the-last
parte corporis totum me periturum deflebam. Inedia denique
part of-the-body whole me going-to-perish I-lamented by-fasting in-short
continua vel praecipiti ruina memet ipse quaerebam extinguere,
continuous or by-a-headlong fall myself I-myself sought to-destroy
moriturus quidem nihilominus sed moriturus integer. Dumque
going-to-die indeed nonetheless but going-to-die whole and-while
in ista necis meae decunctor electione, matutino me rursum
in this of-death of-my I-hesitate the-choice in-the-morning me again
puer ille peremptor meus contra montis suetum ducit
boy that slayer my toward of-the-mountain the-accustomed leads
vestigium. Iamque me de cuiusdam vastissimae ilicis ramo
track and-now with-me to of-a-certain very-huge holm-oak branch
pendulo destinato, paululum viam supergressus ipse securi
drooping tied a-little the-road having-gone-up himself with-an-ax
lignum quod deveheret recidebat, et ecce de proximo
wood which he-might-carry-down was-cutting and behold from a-nearby

specu vastum attollens caput funesta proserpit ursa. Quam
cave huge raising head a-deadly creeps-forth she-bear whom
simul conspexi, pavidus et repentina facie conterritus totum
as-soon-as I-saw fearful and by-the-sudden sight terrified whole
corporis pondus in postremos poplites recello, arduaque
of-the-body weight onto the-hind hams I-throw-back and-with-steep
cervice sublimiter elevata, lorum, quo tenebar, rumpo, meque
neck loftily raised the-thong by-which I-was-held I-break and-myself
protinus pernici fugae committo, perque prona, non tantum
at-once to-swift flight commit and-down the-slopes not only
pedibus verum etiam toto proiecto corpore propere devolutus
with-feet but also with-whole flung body quickly rolled-down
immitto me campis subpatentibus, ex summo studio
I-launch myself onto-the-plains spreading-below with utmost zeal
fugiens immanem ursam ursaque peiorem illum puerum.
fleeing the-monstrous she-bear and-than-the-bear worse that boy
Tunc quidam viator solitarium vagumque me respiciens invadit 25
then a-certain traveler alone and-straying me observing seizes
et properiter inscensum baculo quod gerebat obverberans
and swiftly mounted with-the-stick which he-carried beating
per obliquam ignaramque me ducebat viam. Nec invitus ego
through a-side and-unknown me he-was-leading road nor unwilling I
cursui me commodabam relinquens atrocissimam virilitatis
to-running myself lent leaving the-most-savage of-manhood
lanienam; ceterum plagis non magnopere commovebar, quippe
butchery for-the-rest by-blows not greatly I-was-moved naturally
consuetus ex forma concidi fustibus. Sed illa Fortuna meis
accustomed by rule to-be-cut-up by-clubs but that Fortune in-my
casibus pervicax tam opportunum latibulum misera celeritate
mishaps obstinate so opportune hiding-place with-wretched speed
praeversa novas instruxit insidias: pastores enim mei perditam
having-forestalled new arranged snares the-herdsmen for my lost

sibi requirentes vacculam variasque regiones peragrantes
by-them seeking heifer and-various regions roaming
occurrunt nobis fortuito, statimque me cognitum capistro
meet us by-chance and-at-once me recognized by-the-halter
prehensum attrahere gestiunt. Sed audacia valida resistens
seized to-drag-off are-eager but with-boldness strong resisting
ille fidem hominum deumque testabatur: "Quid me raptatis?
he the-faith of-men and-of-gods invoked why me do-you-drag
Violenter quid invaditis?" "Ain, te nos tractamus inciviliter,
violently why do-you-attack say-you you we handle rudely
qui nostrum asinum furatus abducis? Quin potius effaris ubi
who our ass having-stolen you-lead-off why-not rather speak-out where
puerum eiusdem agasonem, necatum scilicet, occultaris?": et
the-boy of-the-same driver killed no-doubt you-have-hidden and
illico detractus ad terram pugnisque pulsatus et calcibus
on-the-spot pulled-down to the-ground and-with-fists beaten and with-kicks
contusus infit deierans nullum semet vidisse ductorem,
bruised he-begins swearing no himself to-have-seen driver
sed plane continuatum solutum et solitarium ob indicivae
but plainly found-straightaway loose and alone for of-an-informer's
praemium occupasse, domino tamen suo restituturum. "Atque
reward to-have-seized to-the-owner still its going-to-restore and
utinam ipse asinus," inquit "Quem nunquam profecto
would-that the-very ass he-says whom never surely
vidissem, vocem quiret humanam dare meaeque testimonium
I-had-seen voice could human to-give and-of-my testimony
innocentiae perhibere posset; profecto vos huius iniuriae
innocence to-bear could surely you of-this wrong
pigeret." Sic asseverans nihil quicquam promovebat: nam
would-shame thus asserting nothing at-all be-advanced for
collo constrictum reducunt eum pastores molesti contra
by-the-neck bound lead-back him the-herdsmen troublesome toward

montis illius silvosa nemora, unde lignum puer solebat
of-mountain that the-wooded groves whence wood the-boy was-wont
egerere: nec uspiam ruris reperitur ille sed plane corpus
to-carry-out nor anywhere of-the-country is-found he but plainly the-body
eius membratim laceratum multisque dispersum locis conspicitur.
his limb-by-limb torn and-in-many scattered places is-seen
Quam rem procul dubio sentiebam ego illius ursae dentibus 26
which thing beyond doubt I-perceived I of-that bear by-the-teeth
esse perfectam et Hercule dicerem quod sciebam, si
to-have-been accomplished and by-Hercules I-would-say what I-knew if
loquendi copia suppeditaret: sed quod solum poteram tacitus
of-speaking the-means were-at-hand but what alone I-could silent
licet serae vindictae gratulabar. Et cadaver quidem disiectis
though for-late vengeance I-rejoiced and the-corpse indeed with-scattered
partibus tandem totum repertum aegreque concinnatum
parts at-last whole found and-with-difficulty pieced-together
ibidem terrae dedere, meum vero Bellerophontem, abactorem
right-there to-earth they-gave my indeed Bellerophon a-cattle-thief
indubitatum cruentumque percussorem criminantes, ad casas
undoubted and-bloody murderer accusing to huts
interim suas vinctum perducunt, quoad renascenti die sequenti
meanwhile their bound they-bring until with-reborn day following
deductus ad magistratus, ut aiebant, poenae redderetur.
led-off to the-magistrates as they-said to-penalty he-be-handed-over
Interim dum puerum illum parentes sui plangoribus
meanwhile while boy that parents his with-wailings
querebantur et adveniens ecce rusticus nequaquam promissum
lamented also arriving behold the-rustic by-no-means promise
suum frustratus destinatam sectionem meam flagitat, “Non
his having-cheated the-appointed cutting my demands not
est” in his inquit unus “Indidem praesens iactura nostra,
is in these says one from-the-same-cause present loss our

sed plane crastino libet non tantum naturam, verum etiam
but plainly tomorrow it-pleases not only nature but also
caput quoque ipsum pessimo isto asino demetere: nec tibi
the-head too itself from-worst that ass to-cut-off nor to-you
ministerium deerit istorum."
the-service will-be-lacking of-these

27 Sic effectum est ut in alterum diem clades differretur
thus effected it-was that to the-next day ruin was-put-off
mea, at ego gratias agebam bono puero, quod saltem
my but I thanks was-giving to-the-good boy that at-least
mortuus unam carnificinae meae dieculam donasset. Nec
dead one of-torture my little-day he-had-granted nor
tamen tantillum saltem gratulationi meae quietive spatium
still so-little-a at-least for-rejoicing my or-for-quiet space
datum: nam mater pueri mortem deplorans acerbam
was-given for the-mother of-the-boy the-death lamenting bitter
filii, fleta et lacrimosa fuscaque veste contecta,
of-her-son tear-stained and tearful and-in-dark clothing covered
ambabus manibus trahens cinerosam canitiem, eiulans et
with-both hands tearing ash-strewn gray-hair wailing and
exinde proclamans stabulum irrumpit meum, tunsisque
thereupon crying-out stable bursts-into my and-with-beaten
ac diverberatis vehementer uberibus incipit: "Et nunc
and pounded violently breasts begins and now
iste securus incumbens praesepio voracitati suae deservit
that-one carefree lying-over the-manger to-voracity his devotes-himself
et insatiabilem profundumque ventrem semper esitando
and insatiable and-deep belly always by-eating
distendit, nec aerumnae meae miseretur vel detestabilem
stretches nor misery my pities or the-detestable
casum defuncti magistri recordatur, sed scilicet senectam
fate of-the-dead master recalls but no-doubt old-age

infirmitatemque meam contemnit ac despicit et impune
and-weakness my scorns and despises and with-impunity
se laturum tantum scelus credit. At utcumque se
himself going-to-carry-off so-great a-crime believes but however himself
praesumit innocentem; est enim congruens pessimis conatibus
presumes innocent it-is for fitting for-worst attempts
contra noxiam conscientiam sperare securitatem. Nam pro
against a-guilty conscience to-hope safety for oh
deum fidem, quadrupes nequissime, licet precariam vocis
of-the-gods faith four-footed most-wicked though borrowed of-voice
usuram sumeres, cui tandem vel ineptissimo persuadere
the-use you-took whom at-last even the-silliest to-persuade
possis atrocitatem istam culpa carere, cum propugnare pedibus
could-you atrocity that of-guilt to-be-free when to-fight with-feet
et arcere morsibus misello puero potueris? An ipsum
and to-ward-off with-bites for-the-poor-little boy you-could or him
quidem saepius incursare calcibus potuisti, morituram vero
indeed rather-often to-assail with-kicks you-could going-to-die indeed
defendere alacritate simili nequisti? Certe dorso receptum
to-defend with-alacrity similar you-could-not surely on-your-back received
auferres protinus et infesti latronis cruentis manibus
you-would-carry-off at-once and of-the-hostile robber from-bloody hands
eriperes, postremum deserto deiectoque illo conservo
you-would-snatch at-last with-deserted and-thrown-down that fellow-slave
magistro comite pastore non solus aufugeres. An ignoras
master companion herdsman not alone you-would-flee or are-you-unaware
eos etiam, qui morituris auxilium salutare denegarint, quod
those also who to-the-dying help saving have-refused because
contra bonos mores id ipsum fecerint, solere puniri?
against good morals that very-thing they-have-done to-be-wont to-be-punished

Sed non diutius meis cladibus laetaberis, homicida: senties,
but not longer in-my disasters you-will-rejoice murderer you-will-feel
efficiam, misero dolori naturales vires adesse."
I-will-make to-wretched grief natural strengths to-be-present
28 Et cum dicto subsertis manibus exsolvit suam sibi
and with the-word with-tucked-in hands she-undoes her own
fasciam pedesque meos singillatim illigans indidem constringit
breast-band and-feet my one-by-one tying from-it binds
artissime, scilicet ne quod vindictae meae superesset praesidium,
most-tightly no-doubt lest any of-vengeance my should-remain defense
et pertica, qua stabuli fores offirmari solebant,
and with-the-pole by-which of-the-stable the-doors to-be-made-fast were-wont
abrepta non prius me desiit obtundere quam victis
snatched not sooner me she-ceased to-pound than with-conquered
fessisque viribus, suopte pondere degravatus manibus eius
and-wearied strength by-its-own weight weighed-down from-hands her
fustis esset elapsus. Tunc de brachiorum suorum cita
the-club had slipped then about of-arms her quick
fatigatione conquesta, procurrit ad focum, ardentemque
weariness having-complained she-runs to the-hearth and-a-burning
titionem gerens mediis inguinibus obtrudit, donec, solo
brand carrying into-the-middle of-groin thrusts until on-the-sole
quod restabat nisus praesidio, liquida fimo strictim egesta
which remained relying defense with-liquid dung closely discharged
faciem atque oculos eius confoedassem. Qua caecitate atque
face and eyes her I-befouled by-which blindness and
faetore tandem fugata est a me pernicies: ceterum
stench at-last put-to-flight was from me destruction otherwise
titione delirantis Altheae Meleager asinus interissem.
by-the-brand of-the-raving Althaea a-Meleager ass I-would-have-perished

XLVIII · THE DEATH OF TLEPOLEMUS

A servant brings the farm news of Charite's death and tells its cause: Thrasyllus, a rejected suitor, lamed Tlepolemus' horse during a boar hunt, speared him as the boar mauled him, and blamed the wound on the boar. Charite, frantic, throws herself on her husband's body.

Noctis gallicinio venit quidam iuvenis e proxuma civitate, 1
of-night at-cockcrow came a-certain young-man from the-nearest city
ut quidem mihi videbatur unus ex famulis Charites, puellae
as indeed to-me it-seemed one of the-servants of-Charite girl
illius quae mecum apud latrones pares aerumnas exanclaverat.
that who with-me among the-robbers equal hardships had-endured
Is de eius exitio et domus totius infortunio mira
he about her death and of-the-house whole misfortune wondrous
ac nefanda, ignem propter assidens, inter conservorum
and unspeakable-things the-fire beside sitting among of-fellow-slaves
frequentiam sic annuntiabat: "Equisones opilionesque, etiam
the-crowd thus announced horse-keepers and-shepherds also
busequae, fuit Charite nobis, quae misella et quidem
cowherds is-gone Charite to-us who poor-thing and indeed
casu gravissimo, nec vero incomitata Manes adivit.
by-a-mishap most-grievous nor indeed unaccompanied the-Shades went-to
Sed ut cuncta noritis, referam vobis a capite quae
but that all you-may-know I-shall-tell to-you from the-head what
gesta sunt, quaeque possent merito doctiores, quibus stilos
done were and-what could deservedly the-more-learned to-whom pens
Fortuna subministrat, in historiae specimen chartis involvere.
Fortune supplies into of-history a-pattern on-papers to-wrap

"Erat in proxuma civitate iuvenis natalibus praenobilis,
there-was in the-nearest city a-young-man by-birth very-noble
quo clarus eo pecuniae fuit satis locuples sed luxuriae
as distinguished so in-money he-was quite rich but in-luxury
popinalis, scortisque et diurnis potationibus exercitatus,
of-the-tavern and-with-harlots and with-daytime drinking-bouts practiced
atque ob id factionibus latronum male sociatus,
and on-account-of that with-gangs of-robbers badly allied
necnon etiam manus infectus humano cruore, Thrasyllus
and also in-hands stained with-human blood Thrasyllus
nomine: idque sic erat et fama dicebat.
by-name and-this so was and report said
2 "Hic cum primum Charite nubendo maturuisset, inter
he when first Charite for-marrying had-ripened among
praecipuos procos summo studio petitionis eius munus
the-chief suitors with-highest zeal of-courtship her the-duty
obierat, et quanquam ceteris omnibus id genus
had-undertaken and although to-other all of-that kind
viris antistaret eximiisque muneribus parentum invitaret
men he-was-superior and-with-exceptional gifts of-the-parents invited
iudicium, morum tamen improbatus repulsae contumelia fuerat
the-judgment in-character still disapproved of-rejection with-the-insult had-been
aspersus. Ac dum herilis puella in boni Tlepolemi manum
sprinkled and when the-master's girl into of-the-good Tlepolemus hand
venerat, firmiter deorsus delapsum nutriens amorem et denegati
had-come firmly downward slipped nourishing love and of-the-denied
thalami permiscens indignationem, cruento facinori quaerebat
bedchamber mixing-in indignation for-a-bloody crime he-sought
accessum. Nanctus denique praesentiae suae tempestillam
an-approach having-got in-short of-presence his timely
occasionem, sceleri quod diu cogitarat accingitur, ac die,
occasion for-the-crime which long he-had-planned he-girds-himself and on-the-day

quo praedonum infestis mucronibus puella fuerat astu
on-which of-the-robbers from-hostile blades the-girl had-been by-the-cunning
virtutibusque sponsi sui liberata, turbae gratulantium
and-valor of-the-betrothed her freed with-the-crowd of-the-rejoicing
exultans insigniter permiscuit sese salutique praesenti ac
exulting conspicuously mingled himself and-at-the-safety present and
futurae suboli novorum maritorum gaudibundus, ad honorem
at-the-future offspring of-the-new spouses rejoicing for the-honor
splendidae prosapiae inter praecipuos hospites domum nostram
of-a-splendid lineage among the-chief guests house our
receptus, occultato consilio sceleris, amici fidelissimi personam
received with-hidden plan of-the-crime of-a-friend most-faithful the-mask
mentiebatur. Iamque sermonibus assiduis et conversatione
he-feigned and-now by-talks constant and by-company
frequenti, nonnunquam etiam cena poculoque communi carior
frequent sometimes also by-dinner and-cup shared dearer
cariorque factus, in profundam ruinam cupidinis sese paulatim
and-dearer made into the-deep ruin of-desire himself little-by-little
nescius praecipitaverat. Quidni, cum flamma saevi amoris parva
unaware had-hurled why-not since the-flame of-cruel love small
quidem primo vapore delectet, sed fomentis consuetudinis
indeed at-first with-warmth delights but by-kindlings of-familiarity
exaestuans immodicis ardoribus totos amburat homines?
boiling-up with-immoderate heats whole it-burns-up men
"Diu denique deliberaverat secum Thrasyllus, quod nec 3
long in-short had-deliberated with-himself Thrasyllus because neither
clandestinis colloquiis opportunum repperiret locum, et
for-secret talks a-suitable he-found place and
adulterinae Veneris magis magisque praeclusos aditus
of-adulterous Venus more and-more closed approaches
copia custodientium cerneret novaeque atque gliscentis
by-the-number of-guards he-saw and-of-the-new and growing

affectionis firmissimum vinculum non posse dissociari
affection the-firmest bond not to-be-able to-be-parted
perspiceret, et puellae, si vellet, quanquam velle non
he-perceived and of-the-girl if she-wished although to-wish not
posset, furatrinae coniugalis incommodaret rudimentum; et
she-could of-theft conjugal would-hinder the-inexperience and
tamen ad hoc ipsum, quod non potest, contentiosa pernicie,
still to this very-thing which not is-possible with-stubborn ruin
quasi posset, impellitur: quod nunc arduum factu putatur,
as-if it-were-possible he-is-driven what now hard to-do is-thought
amore per dies roborato facile videtur effectu. Spectate
with-love through days strengthened easy seems in-the-doing observe
denique sed, oro, sollicitis animis intendite, quorsum furiosae
in-short but I-pray with-anxious minds attend whither of-mad
libidinis proruperint impetus.
lust broke-out the-assaults

4 "Die quadam venatum Tlepolemus assumpto Thrasyllo
on-a-day certain to-hunt Tlepolemus with-taken-along Thrasyllus
petebat indagaturus feras, si quid tamen in capreis feritatis
was-going going-to-track wild-beasts if any still in roe-deer of-wildness
est; nec enim Charite maritum suum quaerere patiebatur
is nor for Charite husband her to-seek allowed
bestias armatas dente vel cornu. Iamque apud frondosum
beasts armed with-tooth or horn and-now at a-leafy
tumulum ramorumque densis tegminibus umbrosum,
mound and-of-branches with-dense coverings shady
prospectu vestigatorum obsaeptis capreis, canes venationis
from-the-view of-the-trackers with-hemmed-in roe-deer the-dogs of-hunting
indagini generosae, mandato cubili residentes invaderent
for-tracking well-bred by-order in-their-lair sitting they-should-attack
bestias, immittuntur; statimque sollertis disciplinae memores,
the-beasts are-let-loose and-at-once of-skilled training mindful

partitae totos praecingunt aditus tacitaque prius servata
divided all they-surround the-approaches and-with-silent first kept
mussitatione, signo sibi repentino reddito, latratibus
muttering with-a-signal to-themselves sudden given with-barkings
fervidis dissonisque miscent omnia. Nec ulla caprea nec
fervent and-discordant they-confound everything nor any roe nor
pavens damula nec prae ceteris feris mitior cerva, sed
trembling little-doe nor before the-other beasts milder hind but
aper immanis atque invisitatus exsurgit toris callosae
a-boar huge and unheard-of rises-up with-muscles of-callous
cutis obesus, pilis inhorrentibus corio squalidus, setis
skin fat with-hairs bristling in-hide filthy with-bristles
insurgentibus spinae hispidus, dentibus attritu sonaci
rising of-the-spine shaggy with-tusks by-grinding noisy
spumeus, oculis aspectu minaci flammeus, impetu saevo
foaming in-eyes with-look menacing fiery in-rush savage
frementis oris totus fulmineus; et primum quidem canum
of-roaring mouth wholly lightning-like and first indeed of-the-dogs
procaciores, quae comminus contulerant vestigium, genis
the-bolder which at-close-quarters had-brought foot with-cheeks
hac illac iactatis consectas interficit, dein calcata
this-way that-way tossed cut-up he-kills then with-trampled
retiola, qua primos impetus reduxerat, transabiit.
little-nets where first attacks he-had-drawn-back he-passed-through
"Et nos quidem cuncti pavore deterriti et alioquin innoxiis 5
and we indeed all by-fear frightened and anyway to-harmless
venationibus consueti, tunc etiam inermes atque immuniti,
hunts accustomed then also unarmed and unprotected
tegumentis frondis vel arboribus latenter abscondimus;
under-coverings of-leafage or by-trees secretly we-hide
Thrasyllus vero nanctus fraudium opportunum decipulum sic
Thrasyllus indeed having-got for-frauds a-suitable trap thus

Tlepolemum captiose compellat: ‘Quid stupore confusi vel
Tlepolemus craftily addresses why by-stupor confounded or
etiam cassa formidine similes humilitati servorum istorum,
also by-empty dread like to-the-lowness of-slaves those
vel in modum pavoris feminei deiecti tam opimam praedam
or in the-manner of-fear womanly downcast so rich a-prey
mediis manibus amittimus? Quin equos inscendimus? Quin
from-the-midst of-our-hands do-we-let-go why-not horses do-we-mount why-not
ocius indipiscimur? En cape venabulum, et ego sumo
more-quickly do-we-overtake look take a-hunting-spear and I take
lanceam’; nec tantillum morati protinus insiliunt equos ex
a-lance nor so-little having-delayed at-once they-leap-on horses with
summo studio bestiam insequentes. Nec tamen illa genuini
highest zeal the-beast pursuing nor still it of-innate
vigoris oblita retorquet impetum et incendio feritatis ardescens
vigor forgetful turns-back (its)-charge and with-the-fire of-ferocity blazing
dente compulsa quem primum insiliat cunctabunda
with-tusk driven whom first it-should-leap-on hesitating
rimatur. Sed prior Tlepolemus iaculum, quod gerebat, insuper
searches but first Tlepolemus the-javelin which he-carried upon
dorsum bestiae contorsit: at Thrasyllus ferae quidem pepercit
the-back of-the-beast hurled but Thrasyllus the-beast indeed spared
sed equi, quo vehebatur Tlepolemus, postremos poplites
but of-the-horse on-which was-carried Tlepolemus the-hind hams
lancea feriens amputat. Quadrupes recidens, qua sanguis
with-the-lance striking he-cuts-off the-four-footed falling-back where the-blood
effluxerat, toto tergo supinatus invitus dominum suum
had-flowed with-whole back turned-over unwilling master its
devolvit ad terram: nec diu, et eum furens aper invadit
rolls-off to the-ground nor long and him raging the-boar attacks
iacentem ac primo lacinias eius, mox ipsum resurgentem
lying and first the-flaps his soon himself rising-again

multo dente laniavit. Nec coepti nefarii bonum piguit
with-much tusk tore nor of-the-undertaking wicked the-good did-it-shame
amicum vel suae saevitiae litatum saltem tanto periculo
friend or of-his savagery satisfied at-least by-such peril
cernens potuit expleri, sed percito atque plagoso, cruda
seeing could to-be-filled but to-him-alarmed and wounded raw
vulnera contegenti suumque auxilium miseriter roganti per
wounds covering and-his help piteously begging through
femus dexterum dimisit lanceam, tanto ille quidem fidentius
the-thigh right sent the-lance so-much he indeed more-confidently
quanto crederet ferri vulnera similia futura prosectu dentium:
as he-believed of-iron the-wounds similar going-to-be to-the-cutting of-the-tusks
necnon tamen ipsam quoque bestiam facili manu transadigit.
and still the-very also beast with-easy hand runs-through
"Ad hunc modum definito iuvene exciti latibulo suo quisque 6
in this way with-finished young-man roused from-hiding his each
familia maesta concurrimus: at ille quanquam perfecto
the-household sad we-run-together but he although with-accomplished
voto, prostrato inimico laetus ageret, vultu tamen gaudium
wish with-laid-low enemy glad was-acting in-face still joy
tegit et frontem asseverat et dolorem simulat, et cadaver,
he-hides and brow makes-grave and grief feigns and the-corpse
quod ipse fecerat, avide circumplexus, omnia quidem
which himself he-had-made eagerly embracing all indeed
lugentium officia sollerter affinxit; sed solae lacrimae
of-mourners the-duties skillfully he-counterfeited but alone tears
procedere noluerunt. Sic ad nostri similitudinem, qui vere
to-come-forth refused thus to of-us the-likeness who truly
lamentabamur, conformatus manus suae culpam bestiae dabat.
were-lamenting shaped of-the-hand his the-blame to-the-beast he-gave

"Necdum satis scelere transacto fama dilabitur et cursus
and-not-yet enough with-the-crime done rumor spreads and courses
primos ad domum Tlepolemi detorquet et aures infelicis
first to the-house of-Tlepolemus turns and the-ears of-the-unhappy
nuptae percutit. Quae quidem simul percepit tale nuntium
bride strikes who indeed as-soon-as she-caught such news
quale non audiet aliud, amens et vecordia percita
as not she-will-hear another frantic and by-madness driven
cursuque bacchata furibundo per plateas populosas et
and-with-a-course reveling raging through streets populous and
arva rurestria fertur, insana voce casum mariti quiritans:
fields rural she-rushes with-insane voice the-fate of-her-husband shrieking
confluunt civium maestae catervae, sequuntur obvii
flow-together of-citizens sad crowds follow those-meeting-her
dolore sociato, civitas cuncta vacuatur studio visionis. Et
with-grief shared the-city whole is-emptied by-eagerness of-seeing and
ecce mariti cadaver accurrit labantique spiritu totam se
behold of-her-husband the-corpse she-runs-to and-with-failing breath wholly herself
super corpus effudit ac paenissime ibidem, quam devoverat
over the-body poured and very-nearly right-there which she-had-vowed
ei, reddidit animam. Sed aegre manibus erepta
to-him gave-back soul but with-difficulty from-the-hands snatched
suorum invita remansit in vita, funus vero toto
of-her-own unwilling she-remained in life the-funeral indeed with-the-whole
feralem pompam prosequente populo deducitur ad sepulturam.
funeral procession following people is-led to burial

Thrasyllus woos the mourning widow. The ghost of Tlepolemus appears to Charite in a dream and reveals the murder. She pretends to accept Thrasyllus and invites him to her room at night, where her nurse gives him drugged wine.

"Sed Thrasyllus nimium nimius clamare, plangere, et quas 7
but Thrasyllus too excessive shouted beat-his-breast and which
in primo maerore lacrimas non habebat, iam scilicet crescente
in the-first grief tears not he-had now of-course with-growing
gaudio reddere et multis caritatis nominibus veritatem
joy he-paid-back and by-many of-affection names the-truth
ipsam fallere. Illum amicum, coaetaneum, contubernalem,
itself he-belied him friend age-mate comrade
fratrem denique, addito nomine lugubri, ciere, necnon
brother in-short with-added name mournful he-called and-also
interdum manus Charites a pulsandis uberibus amovere,
at-times the-hands of-Charite from beating breasts he-drew-away
luctum sedare, eiulatum coercere, verbis palpantibus
grief he-soothed wailing he-checked with-words caressing
stimulum doloris obtundere, variis exemplis multivagi
the-sting of-grief he-blunted with-various examples of-wide-ranging
casus solacia nectere, cunctis tamen mentitae pietatis
mischance consolations he-wove with-all still of-feigned devotion
officiis studium contrectandae mulieris adhibere odiosumque
duties (his)-eagerness of-handling the-woman he-applied and-hateful
amorem suum perperam delectando nutrire. Sed officiis
love his wrongly by-delighting he-nourished but with-rites
inferialibus statim exactis puella protinus festinat ad maritum
funeral at-once completed the-girl at-once hastens to husband
suum demeare, cunctasque prorsus pertemptat vias, certe
her to-go-down and-all utterly tries ways surely

illam lenem otiosamque nec telis ullis indigentem sed
that gentle and-idle nor weapons any needing but
placidae quieti consimilem: inedia denique misera et incuria
to-placid rest like by-fasting in-short wretched and by-neglect
squalida tenebris imis abscondita iam cum luce transegerat.
filthy in-darkness deepest hidden already with light she-had-finished
Sed Thrasyllus instantia pervicaci, partim per semet ipsum,
but Thrasyllus by-urging obstinate partly through him himself
partim per ceteros familiares ac necessarios, ipsos denique
partly through other household and kin the-very in-short
puellae parentes extorquet tandem, iam lurore et illuvie
of-the-girl parents he-extorts at-last now with-sallowness and filth
paene collapsa membra lavacro, cibo denique confoveret.
almost collapsed limbs with-a-bath with-food in-short she-should-refresh
At illa parentum suorum alioquin reverens, invita quidem
but she of-parents her otherwise respectful unwilling indeed
verum religiosae necessitati succumbens, vultu non quidem
but to-religious necessity yielding with-face not indeed
hilaro, verum paulo sereniore obiens, ut iubebatur, viventium
cheerful but a-little calmer performing as she-was-ordered of-the-living
munia, prorsus in pectore, immo vero penitus in medullis
duties utterly in breast nay indeed deep in marrow
luctu ac maerore carpebat animum et dies totos totasque
with-grief and sorrow wasted spirit and days whole and-whole
noctes insumebat luctuoso desiderio, et imagines defuncti,
nights she-spent in-mournful longing and images of-the-dead-man
quas ad habitum dei Liberi formaverat, affixo servitio
which to the-dress of-the-god Liber she-had-shaped with-fixed service
divinis percolens honoribus, ipso sese solacio cruciabat.
with-divine worshiping honors by-the-very herself solace she-tortured

"Verum Thrasyllus praeceps alioquin et de ipso nomine 8
but Thrasyllus headlong anyway and from his-very name
temerarius, priusquam dolorem lacrimae satiarent et percitae
rash before grief tears satisfied and of-the-roused
mentis resideret furor, et in sese nimietatis senio
mind subsided the-frenzy and in itself of-excess by-the-decay
lassesceret luctus, adhuc flentem maritum, adhuc vestes
wore-out the-mourning still weeping her-husband still clothes
lacerantem, adhuc capillos distrahentem non dubitavit de
tearing still hair pulling-apart not he-hesitated about
nuptiis convenire et imprudentiae labe tacita pectoris sui
marriage to-approach and of-imprudence by-the-slip silent of-heart his
secreta fraudesque ineffabiles detegere. Sed Charite vocem
secrets and-frauds unspeakable to-uncover but Charite the-utterance
nefandam et horruit et detestata est et, velut gravi tonitru
unspeakable both shuddered-at and cursed has and as-if by-heavy thunder
procellaque sideris vel etiam ipso diali fulmine percussa,
and-by-the-storm of-a-star or even by-the-very of-Jove lightning struck
corruit corpus et obnubilavit animam. Sed intervallo
collapsed in-body and clouded mind but after-an-interval
revalescente paulatim spiritu, ferinos mugitus iterans et iam
with-reviving gradually spirit beastly bellowings repeating and now
scaenam pessimi Thrasylli perspiciens, ad limam consilii
the-scene of-the-worst Thrasyllus seeing-through to the-file of-counsel
desiderium petitoris distulit. Tunc inter moras umbra illa
the-desire of-the-suitor she-put-off then amid the-delays shade that
misere trucidati Tlepolemi sanie cruentam et pallore
of-wretchedly slaughtered Tlepolemus with-gore bloody and with-pallor
deformem attollens faciem quietem pudicam interpellat uxoris:
disfigured raising face the-rest chaste interrupts of-his-wife
'Mi coniux (quod tibi prorsus ab alio dici non licebit)
my wife which to-you utterly by another to-be-said not will-be-allowed

etsi pectori tuo iam perimitur nostri memoria, vel acerbae
even-if in-breast your now is-destroyed of-us the-memory or of-bitter
mortis meae casus foedus caritatis intercidit, quovis alio
death my the-fate the-bond of-love has-broken to-anyone other
felicius maritare, modo ne in Thrasylli manum sacrilegam
more-happily marry only lest into of-Thrasyllus hand sacrilegious
convenias, neve sermonem conferas nec mensam accumbas nec
you-come nor speech exchange nor at-table recline nor
toro acquiescas. Fuge mei percussoris cruentam dexteram:
on-couch rest flee of-my murderer the-bloody right-hand
noli parricidio nuptias auspicari. Vulnera illa, quorum
do-not with-murder marriage to-inaugurate wounds those whose
sanguinem tuae lacrimae proluerunt, non sunt tota dentium
blood your tears washed-away not are all of-tusks
vulnera: lancea mali Thrasylli me tibi fecit alienum': et
wounds the-lance of-wicked Thrasyllus me to-you made a-stranger and
addidit cetera omnemque scaenam sceleris illuminavit.
he-added the-rest and-whole the-scene of-the-crime lit-up

9 "At illa, ut primum maesta quieverat toro faciem impressa,
but she as first sad had-rested on-the-couch face pressed
etiam nunc dormiens lacrimis emanantibus genas cohumidat
even now sleeping with-tears flowing cheeks wets
et velut quodam tormento inquieta quieti excussa, luctu
and as-if by-some torment restless from-rest shaken with-grief
redintegrato prolixum eiulat, discissaque interula decora brachia
renewed long wails and-with-torn shift lovely arms
saevientibus palmulis converberat. Nec tamen cum quoquam
with-raging little-palms she-beats nor still with anyone
participatis nocturnis imaginibus, sed indicio facinoris
with-shared nocturnal visions but with-the-disclosure of-the-crime
prorsus dissimulato, et nequissimum percussorem punire et
utterly concealed both the-most-wicked murderer to-punish and

aerumnabili vitae sese subtrahere tacita decernit. Ecce rursus
from-wretched life herself to-withdraw silent resolves behold again
improvidae voluptatis detestabilis petitor aures obseratas
of-improvident pleasure the-detestable suitor ears bolted
de nuptiis obtundens aderat: sed illa clementer aspernata
about marriage battering there-was but she mildly having-spurned
sermonem Thrasylli astuque miro personata instanter
the-speech of-Thrasyllus and-with-cunning wondrous masked urgently
garrienti summisseque deprecanti 'Adhuc' inquit 'Tui fratris
to-him-chattering and-humbly entreating still she-says of-your brother
meique carissimi mariti facies pulchra illa in meis deversatur
and-my dearest husband face beautiful that in my lodges
oculis, adhuc odor cinnameus ambrosei corporis per nares
eyes still the-scent cinnamon of-the-ambrosial body through nostrils
meas percurrit, adhuc formosus Tlepolemus in meo vivit
my runs still handsome Tlepolemus in my lives
pectore. Boni ergo et optimi consules, si luctui legitimo
breast good therefore and best you-will-consult if to-mourning lawful
miserrimae feminae necessarium concesseris tempus, quoad
of-a-most-wretched woman necessary you-grant time until
residuis mensibus spatium reliquum compleatur anni, quae
with-remaining months the-space remaining is-completed of-the-year which
res cum meum pudorem, tum etiam tuum salutare commodum
thing both my modesty and also your saving advantage
respicit, ne forte immaturitate nuptiarum indignatione iusta
regards lest perhaps by-the-untimeliness of-marriage with-indignation just
manes acerbos mariti ad exitium salutis tuae suscitemus.'
the-shades bitter of-husband to the-ruin of-safety your we-rouse
"Nec isto sermone Thrasyllus sobriefactus vel saltem tempestiva 10
nor by-that speech Thrasyllus sobered or at-least by-timely
pollicitatione recreatus identidem pergit linguae sauciantis
promise refreshed repeatedly goes-on of-tongue wounding

susurros improbos inurguere, quoad simulanter revicta Charite
whispers shameless to-press until feignedly overcome Charite
suscipit: 'Istud equidem certe magnopere deprecanti concedas
answers this indeed surely greatly begging you-grant
necesse est mihi, mi Thrasylle, ut interdum taciti clandestinos
needful it-is to-me my Thrasyllus that meanwhile silent secret
coitus obeamus nec quisquam persentiscat familiarium, quoad
unions we-attend nor anyone perceive of-the-household until
dies reliquos metiatur annus.' Promissioni fallaciosae mulieris
days remaining measures-out the-year to-the-promise deceitful of-the-woman
oppressus succubuit Thrasyllus et prolixe consentit de furtivo
overwhelmed succumbed Thrasyllus and amply agrees about stolen
concubitu, noctemque et opertas exoptat ultro tenebras, uno
lying-together and-night and hidden longs-for besides darkness to-the-single
potiundi studio postponens omnia. 'Sed heus tu,' inquit Charite
of-possessing zeal putting-after everything but hey you says Charite
'Quam probe veste contectus omnique comite viduatus prima
how properly in-cloak covered and-of-every companion bereft at-the-first
vigilia tacitus fores meas accedas unoque sibilo contentus
watch silent doors my approach and-with-one whistle content
nutricem istam meam opperiare, quae claustris adhaerens
nurse that my await who to-the-bolts clinging
excubabit adventui tuo: nec setius patefactis aedibus acceptum
will-keep-watch for-arrival your nor otherwise with-opened house received
te nullo lumine conscio ad meum perducet cubiculum.'
you with-no light witness to my will-lead bedroom
11 "Placuit Thrasyllo scaena feralium nuptiarum: nec sequius
pleased Thrasyllus the-scene of-funereal nuptials nor otherwise
aliquid suspicatus sed expectatione turbidus de diei
anything suspecting but with-expectation agitated about of-the-day
tantum spatio et vesperae mora querebatur. Sed ubi sol
only the-length and of-evening the-delay complained but when the-sun

tandem nocti decessit, ex imperio Charites adornatus et
at-last to-night gave-way by the-command of-Charite dressed and
nutricis captiosa vigilia deceptus irrepit cubiculum pronus
of-the-nurse by-the-crafty watch deceived creeps-into the-bedroom bent
spei. Tunc anus de iussu dominae blandiens ei furtim
on-hope then the-old-woman by order of-her-mistress coaxing him secretly
depromptis calicibus et oenophoro, quod immixtum vino
with-brought-out cups and with-a-wine-jar which mixed with-wine
soporiferum gerebat venenum, crebris potionibus avide ac
sleep-bringing carried poison with-frequent drafts greedily and
secure haurientem, mentita dominae tarditatem, quasi
carelessly drinking having-lied-about of-her-mistress the-lateness as-if
parentem assideret aegrotum, facile sepelivit ad somnum.
parent she-sat-by sick easily buried in sleep
Iamque eo ad omnes iniurias exposito ac supinato,
and-now with-him to all injuries exposed and laid-on-his-back
introvocata Charite masculis animis impetuque diro fremens
called-in Charite with-manly spirit and-with-onset dire roaring
invadit ac supersistit sicarium:
attacks and stands-over the-assassin

Charite blinds the sleeping Thrasyllus with a hairpin, runs to her husband's tomb, tells the people everything, and stabs herself. Thrasyllus shuts himself in the tomb and starves to death.

12 'En' inquit 'Fidus coniugis mei comes, en venator egregius,
look she-says the-faithful of-husband my companion look the-hunter excellent
en carus maritus. Haec est illa dextera quae meum sanguinem
look the-dear husband this is that right-hand which my blood
fudit, hoc pectus quod fraudulentas ambages in meum
shed this the-breast which fraudulent wiles for my
concinnavit exitium, oculi isti quibus male placui, qui
contrived death eyes those to-which ill I-was-pleasing which
quodam modo futuras tenebras auspicantes venientes poenas
in-some way the-future darkness foreseeing the-coming punishments
antecedunt. Quiesce securus, beate somniare. Non ego gladio,
anticipate rest carefree happily dream not I with-sword
non ferro petam: absit ut simili mortis genere cum marito
not with-iron shall-attack far-be-it that by-a-like of-death kind with husband
meo coaequeris. Vivo tibi morientur oculi, nec quicquam
my you-be-made-equal living for-you will-die eyes nor anything
videbis nisi dormiens. Faxo feliciorem necem inimici
will-you-see unless sleeping I-shall-see-that happier the-death of-enemy
tui quam vitam tuam sentias. Lumen certe non videbis,
your than life your you-feel light surely not you-will-see
manu comitis indigebis, Chariten non tenebis, nuptias
the-hand of-a-companion you-will-need Charite not you-will-hold marriage
non frueris, nec mortis quiete recreaberis nec vitae
not you-will-enjoy nor of-death by-the-rest will-you-be-refreshed nor of-life
voluptate laetaberis, sed incertum simulacrum errabis
in-the-pleasure will-you-rejoice but an-uncertain phantom you-will-wander

inter Orcum et solem; et diu quaeres dexteram quae tuas
between Orcus and the-sun and long you-will-seek the-right-hand which your
expugnavit pupulas, quodque est in aerumna miserrimum,
stormed pupils and-what is in misery most-wretched
nescies de quo queraris. At ego sepulchrum mei
you-will-not-know about whom you-should-complain but I the-tomb of-my
Tlepolemi tuo luminum cruore libabo et sanctis manibus
Tlepolemus with-your of-eyes blood shall-libate and to-the-holy shades
eius istis oculis parentabo. Sed quid mora temporis
his with-those eyes shall-make-offering but why by-delay of-time
dignum cruciatum lucraris et meos forsitan tibi pestiferos
deserved torment do-you-gain and my perhaps for-yourself deadly
imaginaris amplexus? Relictis somnolentis tenebris ad aliam
imagine embraces with-left sleepy darkness to another
poenalem evigila caliginem: attolle vacuam faciem, vindictam
penal wake-up gloom lift-up empty face vengeance
recognosce, infortunium intellege, aerumnas computa. Sic
recognize misfortune understand miseries reckon thus
pudicae mulieri tui placuerunt oculi, sic faces nuptiales
to-a-chaste woman your pleased eyes thus torches nuptial
tuos illuminarunt thalamos. Ultrices habebis pronubas, et
your lit-up bedchambers avenging you-will-have bridesmaids and
orbitatem comitem et perpetuae conscientiae stimulum.'
bereavement as-companion and of-perpetual conscience the-goad
"Ad hunc modum vaticinata mulier acu crinali capite 13
in this way having-prophesied the-woman with-a-pin hair from-head
deprompta Thrasylli convulnerat tota lumina eumque prorsus
drawn of-Thrasyllus wounds-all-over whole eyes and-him utterly
exoculatum relinquens, dum dolore nescio crapulam cum somno
eyeless leaving while with-pain unwitting drunkenness with sleep
discutit, arrepto nudo gladio quo se Tlepolemus solebat
he-shakes-off with-seized naked sword with-which himself Tlepolemus was-wont

incingere, per mediam civitatem cursu furioso proripit se,
to-gird through the-middle city with-a-run frenzied hurls herself
procul dubio nescioquod scelus gestiens et recta monimentum
beyond doubt some crime eager-for and straight to-the-tomb
mariti contendit. At nos et omnis populus nudatis totis
of-her-husband she-hastens but we and all the-people with-emptied all
aedibus studiose consequimur, hortati mutuo ferrum vesanis
houses eagerly follow urging mutually the-sword from-mad
extorquere manibus. Sed Charite capulum Tlepolemi propter
to-wrest hands but Charite the-bier of-Tlepolemus beside
assistens gladioque fulgenti singulos abigens, ubi fletus uberes
standing and-with-sword gleaming each driving-off when weeping copious
et lamentationes varias cunctorum intuetur, 'Abicite' inquit,
and lamentations various of-all she-sees cast-away she-says
'Importunas lacrimas, abicite luctum meis virtutibus alienum.
untimely tears cast-away grief to-my virtues foreign
Vindicavi in mei mariti cruentum peremptorem, punita
I-have-taken-vengeance on of-my husband bloody slayer punished
sum funestum mearum nuptiarum praedonem. Iam tempus est
I-have the-deadly of-my marriage robber now time it-is
ut isto gladio deorsus ad meum Tlepolemum viam quaeram.'
that by-this sword downward to my Tlepolemus the-way I-seek
14 "Et enarratis ordine singulis quae sibi per somnium
and with-recounted in-order each-thing which to-her through a-dream
nuntiaverat maritus quoque astu Thrasyllum inductum
had-announced husband and-by-what cunning Thrasyllus led-on
petisset, ferro sub papillam dexteram transadacto
she-had-attacked with-the-sword under breast right driven-through
corruit et in suo sibi pervolutata sanguine postremo balbutiens
she-fell and in her own rolling blood at-last stammering
incerto sermone proflavit animam virilem. Tunc propere
with-uncertain speech breathed-out a-soul manly then quickly

familiares miserae Charites accuratissime corpus ablutum
the-household of-wretched Charite most-carefully the-body washed
unita sepultura ibidem marito perpetuam coniugem
with-joined burial there to-her-husband perpetual wife
reddidere. Thrasyllus vero cognitis omnibus, nequiens idoneum
restored Thrasyllus indeed with-learned all-things unable a-fitting
exitum praesenti cladi reddere certusque tanto facinori nec
end to-present disaster to-give and-certain to-so-great a-crime not
gladium sufficere, sponte delatus ibidem ad sepulchrum,
a-sword to-suffice of-his-own-accord carried there to the-tomb
'Ultronea vobis, infesti Manes, en adest victima' saepe
a-voluntary to-you hostile Shades look is-here victim often
clamitans, valvis super sese diligenter obseratis inedia
crying with-doors over himself carefully bolted by-starvation
statuit elidere sua sententia damnatum spiritum."
he-decided to-crush by-his-own sentence condemned breath

LI · WOLVES AND DOGS

The slaves flee their masters' estate with the beasts. They pass through a country of wolves but are attacked by farm dogs and showered with stones by villagers who mistake them for robbers, and they tend their wounds in a grove.

Haec ille longos trahens suspiritus et nonnunquam 15
these-things he long drawing sighs and sometimes
illacrimans graviter affectis rusticis annuntiabat. Tunc illi
weeping to-the-deeply moved rustics announced then they
mutati dominii novitatem metuentes et infortunium domus
of-changed ownership the-novelty fearing and the-misfortune of-the-house
herilis altius miserantes fugere comparant. Sed equorum
of-their-masters more-deeply pitying to-flee prepare but of-the-horses

magister qui me curandum magna ille quidem commendatione
the-master who me to-be-cared-for with-great he indeed commendation
susceperat, quidquid in casula pretiosum conditumque servabat
had-received whatever in little-hut precious and-stored he-kept
meo atque aliorum iumentorum dorso repositum asportans sedes
on-my and of-other beasts back placed carrying-off abodes
pristinas deserit. Gerebamus infantulos et mulieres, gerebamus
former deserts we-carried little-children and women we-carried
pullos, anseres, haedos, catellos, et quidquid infirmo gradu
chickens geese kids puppies and whatever with-weak step
fugam morabatur, nostris quoque pedibus ambulabat. Nec me
the-flight delayed on-our also feet walked nor me
pondus sarcinae, quanquam enormis, urguebat, quippe gaudiali
the-weight of-the-load although enormous oppressed naturally in-joyful
fuga detestabilem illum exsectorem virilitatis meae relinquentem.
flight detestable that cutter of-manhood my leaving
Silvosi montis asperum permensi iugum rursusque reposita
of-a-wooded mountain the-rough having-traversed ridge and-again remote
camporum spatia pervecti, iam vespera semitam tenebrante,
of-plains the-spaces carried-across now with-evening the-path darkening
pervenimus ad quoddam castellum frequens et opulens,
we-came to a-certain fort populous and wealthy
unde nos incolae nocturna, immo vero matutina
whence us the-inhabitants from-a-nighttime nay indeed from-a-morning
etiam prohibebant egressione: lupos enim numerosos, grandes
also forbade departure wolves for numerous great
et vastis corporibus sarcinosos ac nimia ferocitate
and with-huge bodies bulky and with-excessive ferocity
saevientes, passim rapinis assuetos infestare cunctam illam
raging everywhere to-plunder accustomed to-infest all that
regionem, iamque ipsas vias obsidere et in modum
region and-now the-very roads to-beset and in the-manner

latronum praetereuntes aggredi, immo etiam vesana fame
of-robbers passers-by to-attack nay even with-mad hunger
rabidos finitimas expugnare villas exitiumque inertissimorum
rabid neighboring to-storm farms and-the-destruction of-the-most-helpless
pecudum ipsis iam humanis capitibus imminere. Denique
flocks to-the-very now human heads to-threaten in-short
ob iter illud, qua nobis erat commeandum, iacere semesa
along road that by-which for-us it-was to-be-traveled to-lie half-eaten
hominum corpora suisque visceribus nudatis ossibus cuncta
of-men bodies and-of-their flesh with-stripped bones all
candere ac per hoc nos quoque summa cautione viae
to-gleam and for this us also with-highest caution to-the-road
reddi debere idque vel in primis observitare, ut luce
to-be-returned ought and-this even in the-first to-observe that in-light
clara et die iam provecto et sole florido, vitantes
clear and with-day already advanced and with-sun bright avoiding
undique latentes insidias, cum et ipso lumine dirarum
everywhere lurking ambushes since also by-the-very light of-dire
bestiarum repigratur impetus, non laciniatim disperso sed
beasts is-slowed the-attack not in-strips with-scattered but
cuneatim stipato commeatu difficultates illas transabiremus.
in-a-wedge with-packed convoy difficulties those we-should-pass-through
Sed nequissimi fugitivi ductores illi nostri caecae festinationis 16
but most-worthless runaway leaders those our of-blind haste
temeritate ac metu incertae insecutionis spreta salubri
by-rashness and by-fear of-uncertain pursuit with-spurned wholesome
monitione nec expectata luce proxuma, circa tertiam ferme
warning nor with-awaited light the-next about the-third almost
vigiliam noctis onustos nos ad viam propellunt. Tunc ego
watch of-night laden us onto the-road drive-forward then I
metu praedicti periculi quantum pote turbae medius
from-fear of-the-foretold danger as-far-as possible of-the-throng in-the-middle

et inter conferta iumenta latenter absconditus clunibus meis
and among packed beasts secretly hidden for-haunches my
ab aggressionibus ferinis consulebam, iamque me cursu
against attacks beastly I-provided and-now me in-running
celeri ceteros equos antecellentem mirabantur omnes; sed illa
swift the-other horses surpassing marveled-at all but that
pernicitas non erat alacritatis meae sed formidinis indicium.
swiftness not was of-eagerness my but of-terror the-sign
Denique mecum ipse reputabam, Pegasum inclutum illum
in-short with-myself I-myself reflected Pegasus famous that
metu magis volaticum fuisse ac per hoc merito pinnatum
by-fear rather flighty to-have-been and for this deservedly winged
proditum, dum in altum et adusque caelum sussilit ac
reported while into the-height and right-up-to heaven he-leaps-up and
resultat, formidans scilicet igniferae morsum Chimaerae.
bounds-back dreading of-course of-the-fire-bearing the-bite Chimaera
Nam et illi pastores qui nos agebant in speciem proelii
for also those herdsmen who us drove into the-appearance of-battle
manus obarmaverant: hic lanceam, ille venabulum, alius
hands had-armed this-one a-lance that-one a-hunting-spear another
gerebat spicula, fustem alius, sed et saxa, quae salebrosa semita
carried darts a-club another but also stones which the-rough path
largiter subministrabat; erant qui sudes praeacutas attollerent,
abundantly supplied there-were who stakes very-sharp raised
plerique tamen ardentibus facibus proterrebant feras: nec
most still with-burning torches frightened-off the-beasts nor
quicquam praeter unicam tubam deerat quin acies esset
anything except a-single trumpet was-lacking that the-line would-be
proeliaris. Sed nequicquam frustra timorem illum satis inanem
a-battle-line but in-vain to-no-purpose fear that quite empty
perfuncti longe peiores inhaesimus laqueos: nam lupi,
having-gone-through far worse we-stuck-in snares for the-wolves

forsitan confertae iuventutis strepitu vel certe nimia luce
perhaps of-the-crowded youth by-the-din or certainly by-the-excessive light
flammarum deterriti vel etiam aliorsum grassantes, nulli contra
of-flames frightened or even elsewhere prowling none against
nos aditum tulerunt ac ne procul saltem ulli comparuerant.
us approach made and not far-off even any had-appeared
Villae vero, quam tunc forte praeteribamus, coloni, 17
of-the-farm indeed which then by-chance we-were-passing the-farmers
multitudinem nostram latrones rati, satis agentes rerum
the-multitude our robbers thinking enough busy with-things
suarum eximieque trepidi canes rabidos et immanes et
their and-exceedingly alarmed dogs rabid and monstrous and
quibusvis lupis et ursis saeviores, quos ad tutelae praesidia
than-any wolves and bears fiercer which for of-protection the-defense
curiose fuerant alumnati, iubilationibus solitis et cuiuscemodi
carefully they-had reared with-halloos usual and of-every-kind
vocibus nobis inhortantur, qui praeter genuinam ferocitatem
cries against-us urge-on which besides native ferocity
tumultu suorum exasperati contra nos ruunt, et undique
by-the-tumult of-their-own exasperated against us rush and on-every-side
laterum circumfusi passim insiliunt ac sine ullo dilectu
of-the-flanks poured-around everywhere leap-on and without any distinction
iumenta simul et homines lacerant diuque grassati plerosque
beasts at-once and men they-tear and-long having-raged most
prosternunt. Cerneres non tam Hercule memorandum quam
they-lay-low you-would-see not so by-Hercules memorable as
miserandum etiam spectaculum, canes copiosos ardentibus
pitiable even a-spectacle dogs numerous with-burning
animis alios fugientes arripere, alios stantibus inhaerere,
spirits some fleeing to-seize others to-standing to-cling
quosdam iacentes inscendere et per omnem nostrum
some lying to-mount and through all our

commeatum morsibus ambulare. Ecce tanto periculo malum
convoy with-bites to-walk behold to-so-great a-peril an-evil
maius insequitur: de summis enim tectis ac de proxumo
greater follows from the-tops for of-roofs and from a-nearby
colle rusticani illi saxa super nos raptim devolvunt, ut
hill rustics those stones upon us hastily roll-down that
discernere prorsus nequiremus qua potissimum caveremus
to-distinguish at-all we-could-not which most we-should-beware-of
clade, comminus canum an eminus lapidum. Quorum quidem
disaster at-close-range of-dogs or from-afar of-stones of-which indeed
unus caput mulieris, quae meum dorsum residebat, repente
one the-head of-a-woman who my back was-sitting-on suddenly
percussit: quo dolore commota statim fletu cum clamore
struck by-which pain moved at-once with-weeping with a-cry
sublato maritum suum pastorem illum suppetiatum ciet.
raised husband her herdsman that to-bring-help summons
18 At ille deum fidem clamitans et cruorem uxoris abstergens
but he of-the-gods the-faith crying-out and the-blood of-his-wife wiping-off
altius quiritabat: "Quid miseros homines et laboriosos
more-loudly shrieked why wretched men and toiling
viatores tam crudelibus animis invaditis atque obteritis? Quas
travelers with-so cruel spirits do-you-attack and crush what
praedas inhiatis? Quae damna vindicatis? At non speluncas
plunders do-you-gape-for what losses do-you-avenge but not caves
ferarum vel cautes incolitis barbarorum, ut humano sanguine
of-wild-beasts or crags you-inhabit of-barbarians that with-human blood
profuso gaudeatis." Vix haec dicta, et statim lapidum
shed you-should-rejoice scarcely these-things said and at-once of-stones
congestus cessavit imber et infestorum canum revocata
heaped ceased the-shower and of-hostile dogs called-off
conquievit procella. Unus illinc denique de summo cupressus
subsided the-storm one from-there at-last from the-highest of-a-cypress

cacumine “At nos” inquit “Non vestrorum spoliorum cupidine
top but we he-says not of-your spoils from-desire
latrocinamur, sed hanc ipsam cladem de vestris protelamus
plunder but this very disaster from your we-drive-off
manibus: iam denique pace tranquilla securi potestis
hands now at-last in-peace tranquil safe you-can
incedere.” Sic ille, sed nos plurifariam vulnerati reliquam
to-proceed thus he but we in-many-places wounded the-remaining
viam capessimus, alius lapidis, alius morsus vulnera referentes,
road take-up one of-a-stone another of-a-bite wounds bearing-back
universi tamen saucii. Aliquanto denique viae permenso spatio
all still wounded with-some in-short of-road traversed space
pervenimus ad nemus quoddam proceris arboribus consitum
we-came to a-grove certain with-tall trees planted
et pratentibus virectis amoenum, ubi placuit illis ductoribus
and with-meadowy green-spots pleasant where it-pleased those leaders
nostris refectui paululum conquiescere corporaque sua diverse
our for-refreshment a-little to-rest and-bodies their variously
laniata sedulo recurare. Ergo passim prostrati solo
torn carefully to-tend therefore everywhere stretched on-the-ground
primum fatigatos animos recuperare ac dehinc vulneribus
first wearied spirits to-recover and then to-wounds
medelas varias adhibere festinant: hic cruorem praeterfluentis
remedies various to-apply they-hasten this-one the-blood of-flowing-by
aquae rore deluere, ille spongeis inacidatis tumores
water with-the-dew to-wash-off that-one with-sponges soaked-in-vinegar swellings
comprimere, alius fasciolis hiantes vincire plagas. Ad
to-press another with-little-bandages gaping to-bind wounds in
istum modum saluti suae quisque consulebat.
this way for-safety his each provided

An old man begs the travelers to save his grandson, fallen into a ditch. A young man goes with him and does not return; he has been eaten by a serpent, the old man's true form, and the travelers flee.

19 Interea quidam senex de summo colle prospectat, quem
meanwhile a-certain old-man from the-top of-the-hill looks-out whom
circum capellae pascentes opilionem esse profecto clamabant.
around she-goats grazing a-shepherd to-be surely proclaimed
Eum rogavit unus e nostris haberetne venui lactem vel adhuc
him asked one of our-men whether-he-had for-sale milk either still
liquidum vel in caseum recentem inchoatum. At ille diu
liquid or into cheese fresh begun but he long
capite quassanti "Vos autem" inquit "De cibo vel poculo vel
with-head shaking you however he-says about food or drink or
omnino ulla refectione nunc cogitatis? An nulli scitis quo
at-all any refreshment now do-you-think or none-of-you know in-what
loco consederitis?" Et cum dicto conductis oviculis conversus
place you-have-settled and with the-word with-gathered little-sheep turning
longe recessit. Quae vox eius et fuga pastoribus nostris non
far withdrew which speech his and flight to-herdsmen our not
mediocrem pavorem incussit: ac dum perterriti de loci
moderate fear struck and while terrified about of-the-place
qualitate sciscitari gestiunt nec est qui doceat, senex
the-nature to-inquire they-long nor is-there one-who might-tell old-man
alius, magnus ille quidem, gravatus annis, totus in baculum
another great he indeed weighed-down with-years wholly onto a-staff
pronus et lassum trahens vestigium, ubertim lacrimans
bent and weary dragging step copiously weeping

per viam proximat, visisque nobis cum fletu maximo
along the-road approaches and-with-seen us with weeping very-great
singulorum iuvenum genua contingens sic adorabat:
of-each of-the-young-men the-knees touching thus he-besought
"Per fortunas vestrosque genios, sic ad meae senectutis spatia 20
by fortunes and-your guardian-spirits so to of-my old-age the-span
validi laetique veniatis, decepto seni subsistite meumque
strong and-glad may-you-come to-a-deceived old-man give-aid and-my
parvulum ab inferis ereptum canis meis reddite. Nepos
little-one from the-dead snatched to-gray-hairs my restore grandson
namque meus et itineris huius suavis comes dum forte
for my and of-journey this sweet companion while by-chance
passerem incantantem saepiculae consectatur arripere, delapsus
a-sparrow singing on-a-little-hedge he-chases to-catch slipping
in proxumam foveam, quae fruticibus imis subpatet, in extremo
into the-nearest pit which under-bushes lowest lies-open in utmost
iam vitae consistit periculo, quippe cum de fletu ac voce
now of-life stands peril naturally since from weeping and voice
ipsius avum sibi saepicule clamitantis vivere illum quidem
his grandfather for-himself quite-often calling to-live him indeed
sentiam, sed per corporis, ut videtis, mei defectam valitudinem
I-perceive but through of-body as you-see my failing health
opitulari nequeam. At vobis aetatis et roboris beneficio facile
to-help I-cannot but for-you of-age and of-strength by-the-benefit easy
est suppetiari miserrimo seni puerumque illum novissimum
it-is to-help to-a-most-wretched old-man and-boy that the-last
successionis meae atque unicam stirpem sospitem mihi facere."
of-succession my and only stock safe for-me to-make
Sic deprecantis suamque canitiem distrahentis totos quidem 21
thus of-him-begging and-his gray-hair tearing all indeed
miseruit; sed unus prae ceteris et animo fortior et aetate
it-pitied but one before the-others both in-spirit braver and in-age

iuvenior et corpore validior, quique solus praeter alios
younger and in-body stronger and-who alone beyond the-others
incolumis proelium superius evaserat, exsurgit alacer et
unhurt the-battle earlier had-escaped rises-up eager and
percontatus quonam loci puer, ille decidisset, monstrantem
having-asked where of-the-place boy that had-fallen him-pointing
digito non longe frutices horridos senem illum impigre
with-finger not far bushes rough old-man that briskly
comitatur. Ac dum pabulo nostro suaque cura refecti
accompanies and when with-fodder our and-their-own care refreshed
sarcinulis quisque sumptis suis viam capessunt, clamore
little-packs each with-taken his the-road they-take-up with-shouting
primum nominatim cientes illum iuvenem frequenter inclamant;
first by-name calling that young-man often they-call-out
mox mora diutina commoti mittunt e suis arcessitorem
soon by-the-delay long disturbed they-send from their-own a-summoner
unum, qui requisitum comitem tempestivae viae commonefactum
one who the-sought companion of-the-timely road reminded
reduceret. At ille modicum commoratus refert sese
should-bring-back but he a-little having-lingered brings-back himself
buxanti pallore trepidus, miraque super conservo suo
with-boxwood pallor trembling and-wonders about fellow-slave his
renuntiat: conspicatum se quippe supinato illi et iam
reports to-have-seen himself namely laid-on-his-back over-him and already
ex maxima parte consumpto immanem draconem mandentem
in the-greatest part consumed a-monstrous serpent chewing
insistere nec ullum usquam miserrimum senem comparere
to-stand-over nor any anywhere wretched old-man to-appear
illum. Qua re cognita et cum pastoris sermone collata,
that with-which matter known and with the-shepherd's speech compared
qui saevum prorsus hunc illum nec alium locorum inquilinum
who savage utterly this that-one nor another of-the-places inhabitant

praeminabatur, pestilenti deserta regione velociori se fuga
had-forewarned with-pestilent deserted region with-swifter themselves flight
proripiunt nosque pellunt crebris tundentes fustibus.
they-hurl and-us drive with-frequent pounding clubs

LIII · THE SLAVE AND THE ANTS

At a village they hear how a master punished a slave whose adultery drove his wife to burn his accounts and stores and throw herself and their child into a well: he smeared him with honey and tied him to a fig tree, where ants devoured him. At the market no one will buy Lucius.

Celerrime denique longo itinere confecto pagum quendam 22
most-swiftly in-short with-long journey finished a-village certain
accedimus, ibique totam perquiescimus noctem; ubi coeptum
we-reach and-there whole we-rest-through night where an-undertaken
facinus oppido memorabile narrare cupio. Servus quidam,
deed exceedingly memorable to-tell I-wish a-slave certain
cui cunctam familiae tutelam dominus permiserat suus,
to-whom all of-the-household the-care master had-entrusted his
quique possessionem maximam illam, in quam deverteramus,
and-who estate very-great that at which we-had-lodged
villicabat, habens ex eodem famulitio conservam coniugam,
stewarded having from the-same household a-fellow-slave as-wife
liberae cuiusdam extrariaeque mulieris flagrabat cupidine.
for-a-free certain and-outside woman burned with-desire
Quo dolore paelicatus uxor eius instricta cunctas mariti
by-which pain of-rivalry wife his goaded all of-husband
rationes et quicquid horreo reconditum continebatur admoto
accounts and whatever in-the-barn stored was-contained with-applied
combussit igne. Nec tali damno tori sui contumeliam
burned fire nor by-such loss of-bed her the-insult

vindicasse contenta, iam contra sua saeviens viscera
to-have-avenged content now against her-own raging flesh
laqueum sibi nectit infantulumque, quem de eodem marito
a-noose for-herself she-ties and-the-little-child whom by the-same husband
iamdudum susceperat, eodem funiculo nectit seque per
long-since she-had-borne with-the-same cord she-ties and-herself into
altissimum puteum, appendicem parvulum trahens praecipitat.
a-very-deep well as-appendage the-little-one dragging hurls
Quam mortem dominus eorum aegerrime sustinens arreptum
which death master their most-grievously bearing seized
servulum, qui causam tanti sceleris uxori suae praestiterat,
the-slave who the-cause of-so-great crime to-wife his had-supplied
nudum ac totum melle perlitum firmiter alligavit arbori
naked and wholly with-honey smeared firmly bound to-a-tree
ficulneae, cuius in ipso carioso stipite inhabitantium
fig whose in very rotten trunk of-dwelling
formicarum nidificia borribant et ultro citro commeabant
ants nests swarmed and to and-fro passed
multiiuga scaturigine. Quae simul dulcem ac mellitum
with-manifold gushing which as-soon-as the-sweet and honeyed
corporis nidorem persentiscunt, parvis quidem sed numerosis
of-the-body smell perceive with-small indeed but numerous
et continuis morsiunculis penitus inhaerentes, per longi
and continuous little-bites deeply clinging through of-long
temporis cruciatum ita, carnibus atque ipsis visceribus adesis,
time torture so with-flesh and the-very entrails eaten
homine consumpto membra nudarunt, ut ossa tantum viduata
with-the-man consumed limbs they-stripped that bones only bereft
pulpis nitore nimio candentia funestae cohaererent arbori.
of-flesh with-brightness excessive gleaming to-the-deadly clung tree

Hac quoque detestabili deserta mansione, paganos in summo 23
with-this also detestable deserted lodging the-villagers in utmost
luctu relinquentes, rursum pergimus dieque tota campestres
grief leaving again we-go-on and-for-a-day whole level
emensi vias civitatem quandam populosam et nobilem
having-traversed roads a-city certain populous and famous
iam fessi pervenimus. Inibi Larem sedesque perpetuas pastores
already weary we-reached there a-Lar and-abodes permanent herdsmen
illi statuere decernunt, quod et longe a quaesituris firmae
those to-establish decide because both far from would-be-seekers secure
latebrae viderentur et annonae copiosae beata celebritas
hiding-places seemed and of-grain abundant the-blessed fame
invitabat. Triduo denique iumentorum refectis corporibus,
invited for-three-days in-short of-beasts with-refreshed bodies
quo vendibiliores videremur, ad mercatum producimur
that more-salable we-might-seem to the-market we-are-brought-out
magnaque voce praeconis pretia singulis nuntiantis equi atque
and-with-great voice of-the-crier prices for-each announcing horses and
alii asini opulentis emptoribus praestinantur; at me relictum
other asses to-rich buyers are-sold but me left
solum ac subsecivum cum fastidio plerique praeteribant.
alone and leftover with disdain most passed-by
Iamque taedio contrectationis eorum, qui de dentibus
and-now with-weariness of-the-handling of-those who from teeth
meis aetatem computabant, manum cuiusdam faetore
my age reckoned the-hand of-a-certain-man with-stench
sordentem, qui gingivas identidem meas putidis scalpebat
filthy who gums repeatedly my with-rotten scraped
digitis, mordicus arreptam plenissime conterui: quae res
fingers with-teeth seized very-thoroughly I-crushed which thing
circumstantium ab emptione mea utpote ferocissimi deterruit
of-the-bystanders from buying me as-being most-ferocious deterred

animos. Tunc praeco diruptis faucibus et rauca voce saucius
minds then the-crier with-burst throat and hoarse voice hurt
in meas fortunas ridiculos construebat iocos: "Quem ad
on my fortunes laughable built jokes what to
finem cantherium istum venui frustra subiciemus, et vetulum
end gelding that for-sale in-vain shall-we-put-up both oldish
et extritis ungulis debilem et dolore deformem et
and with-worn-down hooves feeble and from-pain misshapen and
in hebeti pigritia ferocem nec quicquam amplius quam
in dull sloth ferocious nor anything more than
ruderarium cribrum? Atque ideo vel donemus eum cuipiam,
a-rubble sieve and therefore even let-us-give him to-someone
si qui tamen faenum suum perdere non gravatur."
if anyone still hay his to-waste not is-reluctant

LIV · PHILEBUS BUYS THE ASS

Philebus, an old eunuch priest of the Syrian goddess, buys Lucius for seventeen denarii. His fellow priests, expecting a human servant, jeer when they find the new slave is an ass.

24 Ad istum modum praeco ille cachinnos circumstantibus
in this way crier that guffaws in-the-bystanders
commovebat. Sed illa fortuna mea saevissima, quam per tot
stirred but that fortune my most-savage which through so-many
regiones iam fugiens effugere vel praecedentibus malis placare
regions now fleeing to-escape or by-preceding evils to-appease
non potui, rursum in me caecos detorsit oculos et emptorem
not I-could again on me blind turned eyes and a-buyer
aptissimum duris meis casibus mire repertum obiecit.
most-fitted to-hard my fortunes wondrously found threw-in-my-way

Scitote qualem: cinaedum et senem cinaedum, calvum quidem
know what-kind a-catamite and an-old catamite bald indeed
sed cincinnis semicanis et pendulis capillatum, unum de triviali
but with-curls half-gray and hanging haired one of the-street
popularium faece, qui per plateas et oppida cymbalis et
of-the-populace dregs who through streets and towns with-cymbals and
crotalis personantes deamque Syriam circumferentes mendicare
castanets resounding and-the-goddess Syrian carrying-around to-beg
compellunt. Is nimio praestinandi studio praeconem rogat
compel he with-excessive of-buying eagerness the-crier asks
cuiatis essem: at ille Cappadocum me et satis
from-what-country I-was but he a-Cappadocian me and quite
forticulum denuntiat. Rursum requirit annos aetatis meae:
sturdy declares again he-asks the-years of-age my
sed praeco lasciviens: "Mathematicus quidem, qui stellas eius
but the-crier frolicking the-astrologer indeed who the-stars his
disposuit, quintum ei numeravit annum; sed ipse scilicet
arranged the-fifth to-him counted year but himself of-course
melius istud de suis novit professionibus. Quanquam enim
better this from his-own knows declarations although for
prudens crimen Corneliae legis incurram, si civem Romanum
knowingly the-charge of-the-Cornelian law I-shall-incur if a-citizen Roman
pro servo tibi vendidero, quin emis bonum et frugi
as a-slave to-you I-sell why-not buy a-good and honest
mancipium, quod te et foris et domi poterit iuvare?" Sed
chattel which you both abroad and at-home will-be-able to-help but
exinde odiosus emptor aliud de alio non desinit quaerere,
thereafter the-tiresome buyer one-thing after another not ceases to-ask
denique de mansuetudine etiam mea percontatur anxie.
in-short about gentleness also my he-inquires anxiously

25 At praeco "Vervecem," inquit "Non asinum vides ad usus
but the-crier a-wether he-says not an-ass you-see for uses
omnes quietum; non mordacem, nec calcitronem quidem sed
all quiet not biting nor a-kicker indeed but
prorsus ut in asini corio modestum hominem inhabitare
utterly so-that in of-an-ass hide a-modest man to-dwell
credas. Quae res cognitu non ardua: nam si faciem tuam
you-would-believe which thing to-learn not hard for if face your
mediis eius feminibus immiseris, facile periclitaberis quam
between his thighs you-thrust easily you-will-test how
grandem tibi demonstret patientiam." Sic praeco lurchonem
great to-you he-shows patience thus the-crier the-glutton
tractabat dicacule; sed ille cognito cavillatu, similis indignanti
handled wittily but he with-recognized mockery like one-indignant
"At te" inquit "Cadaver surdum et mutum delirumque
but you he-says corpse deaf and dumb and-crazy
praeconem, omnipotens et omniparens dea Syria et sanctus
crier all-powerful and all-mother goddess Syrian and holy
Sabadius et Bellona et Mater Idaea, et cum suo Adone
Sabadius and Bellona and the-Mother Idaean and with her Adonis
Venus domina caecum reddant, qui scurrilibus iamdudum
Venus the-lady blind may-make who with-buffoonish long-now
contra me velitaris iocis. An me putas, inepte, iumento fero
against me you-skirmish jests or me you-think foolishly to-a-beast wild
posse deam committere, ut turbatum repente divinum
to-be-able the-goddess to-entrust so-that disturbed suddenly the-divine
deiciat simulacrum, egoque miser cogar crinibus solutis
he-throw-down image and-I wretched be-forced with-hair loosed
discurrere et deae meae humi iacenti aliquem medicum
to-run-about and for-goddess my on-the-ground lying some doctor
quaerere?" Accepto tali sermone cogitabam subito velut
to-seek with-received such talk I-was-thinking suddenly like

lymphaticus exsilire, ut me ferocitate cernens exasperatum
a-madman to-leap-up that me with-ferocity seeing exasperated
emptionem desineret. Sed praevenit cogitatum meum emptor
the-purchase he-might-drop but forestalled thought my the-buyer
anxius pretio depenso statim, quod quidem gaudens dominus
anxious with-price paid at-once which indeed rejoicing owner
scilicet taedio mei facile suscepit, septemdecim denarium,
of-course from-weariness of-me easily accepted seventeen of-denarii
et illico me tumicla spartea deligatum tradidit
and on-the-spot me with-a-little-cord of-broom tied handed-over
Philebo: hoc enim nomine censebatur iam meus dominus.
to-Philebus by-this for name was-rated now my master
At ille susceptum novicium famulum trahebat ad domum 26
but he received new servant dragged to home
statimque illinc de primo limine proclamat: "Puellae, servum
and-at-once there from the-first threshold cries-out girls a-slave
vobis pulchellum en ecce mercata perduxi." Sed illae puellae
for-you pretty look behold having-bought I-have-brought but those girls
chorus erat cinaedorum, quae statim exultantes in gaudium,
a-chorus were of-catamites who at-once exulting into joy
fracta et rauca et effeminata voce clamores absonos
with-broken and hoarse and effeminate voice cries discordant
intollunt, rati scilicet vere quempiam hominem servulum
raise thinking of-course truly some man a-slave
ministerio suo paratum. Sed postquam non cervam pro
for-service their prepared but after not a-hind for
virgine sed asinum pro homine succidaneum videre, nare
a-maiden but an-ass for a-man as-substitute they-saw with-nose
detorta magistrum suum varie cavillantur: non enim servum
twisted master their variously mock not for a-slave
sed maritum illum scilicet sibi perduxisse: et "Heus"
but a-husband him of-course for-himself to-have-brought and hey

aiunt “Cave ne solus exedas tam bellum scilicet pullulum,
they-say beware lest alone you-eat-up so pretty of-course a-little-chick
sed nobis quoque tuis palumbulis nonnunquam impertias.”
but to-us also your little-doves sometimes share
Haec et huiusmodi mutuo blaterantes praesepio me
these-things and such mutually babbling to-the-manger me
proximum deligant. Erat quidam iuvenis satis corpulentus,
near they-tie there-was a-certain young-man quite stout
choraula doctissimus, collaticia stipe de mensa paratus,
a-piper most-skilled with-pooled money from the-table procured
qui foris quidem circumgestantibus deam cornu
who out-of-doors indeed to-those-carrying-around the-goddess on-the-horn
canens adambulabat, domi vero promiscui operis partiarius
playing walked-beside at-home indeed of-promiscuous labor as-sharer
agebat concubinus. Hic me simul domi conspexit libenter,
acted a-concubine he me as-soon-as at-home saw gladly
appositis largiter cibariis, gaudens alloquitur: “Venisti
with-set-before-me abundantly rations rejoicing addresses you-have-come
tandem miserrimi laboris vicarius: sed diu vivas et
at-last of-most-wretched toil a-substitute but long may-you-live and
dominis placeas et meis defectis iam lateribus consulas.”
masters please and for-my exhausted now flanks provide
Haec audiens iam meas futuras novas cogitabam aerumnas.
these-things hearing now my future new I-pondered hardships

The priests tour the countryside with the goddess, whipping themselves and collecting alms. When they abuse a young farmhand, Lucius' bray brings villagers who expose their vices. They flee to a new town, where a dog steals the haunch of venison meant for their host's dinner, and the cook's wife urges him to kill the ass and serve its haunch instead.

Die sequenti variis coloribus indusiati et deformiter 27
on-the-day following in-various colors dressed and hideously
quisque formati, facie caenoso pigmento delita et oculis
each made-up with-face with-muddy paint smeared and with-eyes
obunctis graphice prodeunt; mitellis et crocotis et
anointed artfully they-come-out with-turbans and saffron-robes and
carbasinis et bombycinis iniecti, quidam tunicas albas
linen and silks covered some tunics white
in modum lanciolarum quoquoversum fluente purpura
in the-manner of-little-lances in-every-direction with-flowing purple
depictas cingulo subligati, pedes luteis induti calceis;
painted with-a-girdle bound-up feet in-yellow clad shoes
deamque serico contectam amiculo mihi gerendam imponunt
and-the-goddess with-silk covered cloak to-me to-be-carried they-put-on
brachiisque suis humero tenus renudatis, attollentes immanes
and-with-arms their the-shoulder up-to bared raising huge
gladios ac secures, evantes exsiliunt incitante tibiae
swords and axes crying-euhoe they-leap-forth with-rousing of-the-pipe
cantu lymphaticum tripudium. Nec paucis pererratis casulis
the-song a-frenzied dance nor with-few wandered-through cottages
ad quandam villam possessoris beati perveniunt et ab
to a-certain country-house of-an-owner wealthy they-come and from
ingressu primo statim absonis ululatibus constrepentes
the-entrance first at-once with-discordant howls resounding

fanatice pervolant, diuque capite demisso cervices lubricis
fanatically they-fly-through and-long with-head lowered necks with-supple
intorquentes motibus crinesque pendulos in circulum rotantes,
twisting movements and-hair hanging in a-circle whirling
et nonnunquam morsibus suos incursantes musculos, ad
and sometimes with-bites their attacking muscles at
postremum ancipiti ferro quod gerebant sua quisque
last with-two-edged iron which they-carried his-own each
brachia dissicant. Inter haec unus ex illis bacchatur
arms cut among these-things one of them raves
effusius ac de imis praecordiis anhelitus crebros referens,
more-wildly and from deepest breast pantings frequent bringing-up
velut numinis divino spiritu repletus, simulabat sauciam
as-if of-the-deity with-the-divine breath filled feigned wounded
vecordiam, prorsus quasi deum praesentia soleant homines
madness just as-if of-the-gods by-the-presence are-wont men
non sui fieri meliores sed debiles effici vel aegroti.
not of-themselves to-become better but weak to-be-made or sick
28 Specta denique quale caelesti providentia meritum reportaverit.
observe in-short what-kind by-heavenly providence reward he-brought-back
Infit vaticinatione clamosa conficto mendacio semet ipsum
he-begins with-prophecy noisy with-fabricated lie him himself
incessere atque criminari, quasi contra fas sanctae religionis
to-assail and to-accuse as-if against the-law of-holy religion
dissignasset aliquid et insuper iustas poenas noxi facinoris
he-had-committed something and moreover just penalties of-the-guilty deed
ipse de se suis manibus exposcere. Arrepto denique
himself from himself with-his-own hands to-demand with-seized in-short
flagro, quod semiviris illis proprium gestamen est, contortis
a-whip which to-half-men those the-proper gear is with-twisted
taeniis lanosi velleris prolixe fimbriatum et multiiugis talis
ribbons of-woolly fleece amply fringed and with-many knuckle-bones

ovium tesseratum, indidem sese multinodis commulcat
of-sheep checkered with-it himself with-many-knotted batters
ictibus, mire contra plagarum dolores praesumptione munitus.
blows wondrously against of-the-blows the-pains by-anticipation fortified
Cerneres prosectu gladiorum ictuque flagrorum solum
you-would-see by-the-cutting of-swords and-by-stroke of-whips the-ground
spurcitia sanguinis effeminati madescere. Quae res incutiebat
with-filth of-blood effeminate grow-wet which thing struck
mihi non parvam sollicitudinem videnti tot vulneribus
into-me not small anxiety seeing by-so-many wounds
largiter profusum cruorem, ne quo casu deae peregrinae
abundantly poured-out gore lest by-some chance of-the-goddess foreign
stomachus, ut quorundam hominum lactem, sic illa sanguinem
the-stomach as of-certain men milk so she blood
concupisceret asininum. Sed ubi tandem fatigati, vel certe
should-crave asinine but when at-last wearied or certainly
suo laniatu satiati, pausam carnificinae dedere, stipes
with-their-own butchery sated a-pause to-the-torture they-gave coins
aereas, immo vero et argenteas multis certatim offerentibus,
copper nay indeed also silver with-many vying offering
sinu recepere patulo necnon et vini cadum et lactem et
in-a-fold they-received open and-also both of-wine a-jar and milk and
caseos et farris et siliginis aliquid, et nonnullis hordeum
cheeses and of-spelt and of-wheat some and with-some barley
deae gerulo donantibus. Avidis animis corradentes
to-the-goddess's carrier giving with-greedy minds scraping-together
omnia et in sacculos huic quaestui de industria praeparatos
all and into little-sacks for-this gain on purpose prepared
farcientes dorso meo congerunt, ut duplici scilicet sarcinae
stuffing on-back my they-heap so-that by-a-double of-course of-load
pondere gravatus, et horreum simul et templum incederem.
weight burdened both a-barn at-once and a-temple I-walked

29 Ad istum modum palantes omnem illam depraedabantur
in this way wandering all that they-plundered
regionem. Sed in quodam castello copia laetati largioris
region but in a-certain fort by-the-abundance gladdened of-larger
quaesticuli gaudiales instruunt dapes: a quodam colono
little-gain festive they-prepare feasts from a-certain farmer
fictae vaticinationis mendacio pinguissimum deposcunt
of-a-feigned prophecy by-the-lie the-fattest they-demand
arietem, qui deam Syriam esurientem suo satiaret sacrificio,
ram which the-goddess Syrian hungry by-its might-sate sacrifice
probeque disposita cenula balneas obeunt ac dehinc lauti
and-properly with-arranged little-dinner the-baths they-go-to and then washed
quendam fortissimum rusticanum, industria laterum atque
a-certain very-strong rustic by-the-industry of-flanks and
imis ventris bene praeparatum, comitem cenae
by-the-lowest(-parts) of-the-belly well prepared as-companion of-the-dinner
secum adducunt paucisque admodum praegustatis olusculis,
with-them they-bring and-with-few quite tasted little-vegetables
ante ipsam mensam spurcissima illa propudia ad illicitae
before the-very table most-filthy those wretches to of-unlawful
libidinis extrema flagitia infandis uriginibus efferantur,
lust the-utmost outrages by-unspeakable itchings are-maddened
passimque circumfusi nudatum supinatumque iuvenem
and-everywhere poured-around stripped and-laid-on-his-back the-young-man
execrandis oribus flagitabant. Nec diu tale facinus meis oculis
with-accursed mouths they-importuned nor long such a-deed my with-eyes
tolerantibus "Porro Quirites" proclamare gestivi, sed viduatum
enduring come-on citizens to-cry-out I-was-eager but bereft
ceteris syllabis ac litteris processit "O" tantum, sane clarum
of-the-other syllables and letters came-out O only truly clear
ac validum et asino proprium sed inopportuno plane tempore:
and strong and to-an-ass proper but at-an-unseasonable plainly time

namque de pago proxumo complures iuvenes abactum sibi
for from the-village nearest several young-men stolen from-them
noctu perquirentes asellum, nimioque studio cuncta devorsoria
by-night searching-for a-little-ass and-with-excessive zeal all the-lodgings
scrutantes, intus aedium audito ruditu meo, praedam
examining inside of-the-house with-heard braying my the-booty
absconditam latibulis aedium rati, coram rem invasuri
hidden in-the-recesses of-the-house thinking openly property going-to-seize
suam improvisi conferto gradu se penetrant, palamque
their unexpected with-close-packed step themselves force-in and-openly
illos execrandas foeditates obeuntes deprehendunt: iam iamque
those accursed foulnesses committing they-catch now and-now
vicinos undique percientes turpissimam scaenam patefaciunt,
neighbors from-everywhere rousing the-most-shameful scene they-disclose
insuper ridicule sacerdotum purissimam laudantes castimoniam.
moreover mockingly of-the-priests the-purest praising chastity
Hac infamia consternati, quae per ora populi 30
by-this infamy dismayed which through the-mouths of-the-people
facile dilapsa merito invisos ac detestabiles eos cunctis
easily spread deservedly hated and detestable them to-all
effecerat, noctem ferme circa mediam collectis omnibus
had-made night nearly about middle with-gathered all-things
furtim castello facessunt, bonaque itineris parte ante
secretly from-the-fort they-take-off and-with-a-good of-the-journey part before
iubaris exortum transacta, iam die claro solitudines avias
of-the-dawn-star the-rising completed now in-day bright wildernesses pathless
nacti, multa secum prius collocuti accingunt
having-reached many-things among-themselves first having-discussed gird
se meo funeri; deaque vehiculo meo sublata
themselves for-my death and-the-goddess from-the-vehicle my lifted
et humi reposita cunctis stramentis me renudatum
and on-the-ground set-down of-all coverings me stripped

ac de quadam quercu destinatum flagro illo pecuinis
and to a-certain oak tied with-whip that with-sheep's
ossibus catenato verberantes paene ad extremam confecerant
bones linked beating almost to extreme they-had-finished-off
mortem. Fuit unus qui poplites meos enervare secure
death there-was one who hams my to-hamstring with-ax
sua comminaretur, quod de pudore illo candido scilicet suo
his threatened because over modesty that spotless of-course his
tam deformiter triumphassem: sed ceteri non meae salutis
so hideously I-had-triumphed but the-others not of-my safety
sed simulacri iacentis contemplatione in vita me retinendum
but of-the-image lying out-of-regard in life me to-be-kept
censuere. Rursum itaque me refertum sarcinis planis gladiis
voted again and-so me stuffed with-packs with-flat swords
minantes perveniunt ad quandam nobilem civitatem. Inibi
threatening they-come to a-certain famous city there
vir principalis et alias religiosus et eximie deam
a-man leading both otherwise pious and exceedingly the-goddess
reverens, tinnitu cymbalorum et sonu tympanorum
revering by-the-clang of-cymbals and the-sound of-drums
cantusque Phrygii mulcentibus modulis excitus, procurrit
and-of-song Phrygian by-soothing measures roused runs-out
obviam, deamque votivo suscipiens hospitio nos omnes
to-meet-us and-the-goddess with-devout receiving hospitality us all
intra consaeptum domus amplissimae constituit, numenque
within the-enclosure of-a-house very-large he-settled and-the-deity
summa veneratione atque hostiis opimis placare contendit.
with-highest veneration and with-victims rich to-appease strove
31 Hic ego me potissimum capitis periclitatum memini.
here I myself especially of-my-life endangered remember
Nam quidam colonus partem venationis, immanis cervi
for a-certain farmer part of-the-hunt of-a-huge stag

pinguissimum femus, domino illi suo muneri miserat, quod
the-fattest haunch to-master that his as-a-gift had-sent which
incuriose pone culinae fores non altiuscule suspensum
carelessly behind of-the-kitchen the-door not rather-high hung
canis adaeque venaticus latenter invaserat, laetusque, praeda
a-dog equally hunting secretly had-attacked and-glad at-the-prey
propere custodientes oculos evaserat. Quo damno cognito
swiftly guarding eyes had-escaped with-which loss known
suaque reprehensa neglegentia cocus diu lamentatus lacrimis
and-his-own rebuked negligence the-cook long having-lamented with-tears
inefficacibus, iam iamque domino cenam flagitante maerens
ineffective now and-now with-the-master dinner demanding grieving
et utcunque metuens altius, filio suo parvulo consalutato
and in-every-way fearing more-deeply with-son his little greeted
arreptoque funiculo, mortem sibi nexu laquei comparabat.
and-with-seized cord death for-himself by-the-tie of-a-noose was-preparing
Nec tamen latuit fidam uxorem eius casus extremus
nor still escaped faithful wife his the-plight extreme
mariti, sed funestum nodum violenter invadens manibus
of-her-husband but the-deadly knot violently seizing with-hands
ambabus "Adeone" inquit "Praesenti malo perterritus mente
both so-far she-says by-the-present evil terrified from-mind
excidisti tua, nec fortuitum istud remedium, quod deum
have-you-fallen your nor chance that remedy which of-the-gods
providentia subministrat, intueris? Nam si quid in ultimo
the-providence supplies do-you-see for if at-all in the-last
fortunae turbine resipiscis, expergite mi ausculta et
of-fortune whirlwind you-come-to-your-senses waking to-me listen and
advenam istum asinum remoto quodam loco deductum
stranger that ass to-a-remote certain place led-off
iugula, femusque eius ad similitudinem perditi detractum
slaughter and-haunch his to the-likeness of-the-lost cut-off

et accuratius in protrimentis sapidissime percoctum appone
and very-carefully in sauces most-savorily cooked-through serve
domino cervini vicem." Nequissimo verberoni sua
to-the-master of-the-venison in-place to-the-most-worthless rascal his
placuit salus de mea morte, et multum conservae laudata
pleased safety from my death and much of-his-fellow-slave with-praised
sagacitate destinatae iam lanienae cultros acuebat.
shrewdness for-the-appointed now butchery knives he-was-sharpening

BOOK IX

LVI · THE RABID DOG

Lucius breaks free and bursts into the dining room, upsetting the tables, and is ordered shut away. A rabid dog has bitten men and beasts, and the household, thinking Lucius mad too, hunts him until he takes refuge in a bedroom, where they besiege him; next morning they test him with a basin of water, and when he drinks calmly they know he is sane.

Sic ille nequissimus carnifex contra me manus impias obarmabat, 1
thus that most-worthless butcher against me hands impious was-arming
at ego, praecipitante consilium periculi tanti praesentia nec
but I with-hastening counsel of-a-peril so-great the-presence nor
expectata diutina cogitatione, lanienam imminentem fuga vitare
with-awaited long reflection the-butchery threatening by-flight to-avoid
statui; protinusque vinculo, quo fueram deligatus, abrupto,
I-resolved and-at-once with-the-halter by-which I-had-been tied broken
cursu me proripio totis pedibus, ad tutelam salutis crebris
at-a-run myself I-hurl with-all feet for the-protection of-safety with-frequent
calcibus velitatus; illicoque me, raptim transcursa proxima
kicks skirmishing and-on-the-spot myself hastily with-crossed nearest
porticu, triclinio, in quo dominus aedium sacrificales
colonnade into-the-dining-room in which the-master of-the-house sacrificial
epulas cum sacerdotibus deae cenitabat, incunctanter
feasts with the-priests of-the-goddess was-dining without-hesitation
immitto nec pauca rerum apparatus cibarii, mensas etiam
I-launch nor few of-things of-the-furnishing for-food tables also
impetu meo collido atque disturbo. Qua rerum deformi
by-charge my I-dash-together and upset by-which of-things hideous
strage pater familias commotus, ut importunum atque
havoc the-father of-the-household moved as troublesome and

lascivum me cuidam famulo curiose traditum certo aliquo
wanton me to-a-certain servant carefully handed-over in-a-fixed some
loco clausum iubet cohiberi, ne rursum convivium placidum
place shut-up orders to-be-confined lest again the-banquet peaceful
simili petulantia dissiparem. Hoc astutulo commento scitule
with-like wantonness I-scatter by-this clever-little device neatly
munitus et mediis lanii manibus ereptus custodela
protected and from-the-midst of-the-butcher hands snatched in-the-custody
salutaris mihi gaudebam carceris. Sed nimirum nihil Fortuna
saving to-me I-rejoiced of-the-prison but no-doubt nothing with-Fortune
renuente licet homini nato dexterum provenire, nec consilio
refusing is-allowed to-man born favorable to-come-out nor by-counsel
prudenti vel remedio sagaci divinae providentiae fatalis dispositio
prudent or by-remedy shrewd of-divine providence the-fated arrangement
subverti vel reformari potest. Mihi denique id ipsum
to-be-overturned or to-be-reshaped can for-me in-short that very
commentum, quod momentariam salutem repperisse videbatur,
device which momentary safety to-have-found seemed
periculum grande, immo praesens exitium conflavit aliud.
a-peril great nay present destruction kindled another
2 Nam quidam subito puer mobili ac trepida facie percitus, ut
for a-certain suddenly boy with-agitated and trembling face roused as
familiares inter se susurrabant, irrumpit triclinium suoque
the-household among themselves whispered bursts-into the-dining-room and-to-his
annuntiat domino de proxumo angiportu canem rabidam paulo
announces master from the-nearest alley a-dog rabid a-little
ante per posticam impetu miro sese direxisse ardentique
before through the-back-door with-a-rush wondrous itself to-have-directed and-with-burning
prorsus furore venaticos canes invasisse, ac dehinc proxumum
utterly frenzy the-hunting dogs to-have-attacked and then the-nearest
petisse stabulum atque ibi pleraque iumenta incurrisse
to-have-sought stable and there most beasts to-have-assailed

pari saevitia, nec postremum saltem ipsis hominibus
with-equal savagery nor last at-least the-very men
pepercisse: nam Myrtilum mulionem et Hephaestionem cocum
to-have-spared for Myrtilus the-muleteer and Hephaestion the-cook
et Hypatarium cubicularium et Apollonium medicum, immo
and Hypatarius the-chamberlain and Apollonius the-doctor nay
vero et plures alios ex familia abigere temptantes variis
indeed and more others of the-household to-drive-off trying with-various
morsibus quemque lacerasse, certe venenatis morsibus contacta
bites each to-have-torn certainly by-poisoned bites touched
nonnulla iumenta efferari simili rabie. Quae res omnium
some beasts to-run-wild with-like madness which thing of-all
statim percussit animos, ratique me etiam eadem peste
at-once struck minds and-thinking me also with-the-same plague
infectum ferocire, arreptis cuiuscemodi telis mutuoque ut
infected to-rage with-seized of-every-kind weapons and-mutually that
exitium commune protelarent cohortati, ipsi potius
destruction common they-might-drive-off having-exhorted themselves rather
eodem vesaniae morbo laborantes persequuntur. Nec
with-the-same of-madness disease suffering pursue nor
dubio me lanceis illis vel venabulis, immo vero et
in-doubt me with-lances those or with-hunting-spears nay indeed and
bipennibus, quae facile famuli subministraverant, membratim
with-double-axes which readily the-servants had-supplied limb-by-limb
compilassent, ni respecto subiti periculi turbine
they-would-have-plundered had-not with-regarded of-sudden danger the-whirlwind
cubiculum, in quo mei domini devertebant, protinus irrupissem.
the-bedroom in which my masters were-lodging at-once I-had-burst-into
Tunc clausis obseratisque super me foribus obsidebant locum,
then with-shut and-bolted over me doors they-besieged the-place
quoad sine ullo congressionis suae periculo pestilentiae
until without any of-encounter their danger of-plague

letalis pervicaci rabie possessus ac peresus absumerer:
deadly by-stubborn madness possessed and eaten-away I-should-be-consumed
quo facto tandem libertatem nanctus, solitariae fortunae
which done at-last liberty having-gained of-solitary fortune
munus amplexus, super constratum lectum abiectus post
the-gift embracing on a-made-up bed thrown-down after
multum equidem temporis somnum humanum quievi.
much indeed of-time sleep human I-slept
3 Iamque clara die, mollitie cubiculi refota lassitudine,
and-now in-bright day by-the-softness of-the-bedroom with-refreshed weariness
vegetus exsurgo atque illos, qui meae tutelae pervigiles excubias
lively I-rise and those who of-my guarding sleepless watches
agitaverant, ausculto de meis sic altercare fortunis: "Adhuccine
had-kept I-hear about my thus to-dispute fortunes still
miserum istum asinum iugi furore iactari credimus?
wretched that ass with-constant frenzy to-be-tossed do-we-believe
Immo vero iam virus increscente saevitia prorsus extinctum."
nay indeed now the-poison with-increasing savagery utterly extinguished
Sic opinionis variae terminum ad explorationem conferunt
thus of-opinion varied the-settlement to inspection they-bring
ac de rima quadam prospiciunt sanum me atque sobrium
and through a-crack certain they-look-out sound me and sober
otiose consistere: iamque ultro foribus patefactis plenius an
at-ease to-stand and-now further with-doors opened more-fully whether
iam sim mansuefactus periclitantur. Sed unus ex his, de
now I-am tamed they-test but one of them from
caelo scilicet missus mihi sospitator, argumentum explorandae
heaven of-course sent to-me as-savior a-proof of-testing
sanitatis meae tale commonstrat ceteris, ut aquae recentis
health my such shows to-the-others that with-water fresh
completam pelvem offerrent potui meo, ac si intrepidus
filled a-basin they-should-offer for-drinking my and if fearless

et more solito sumens aquis allibescerem, sanum me
and in-manner usual taking to-the-waters I-took-pleasure sound me
atque omni morbo scirent expeditum: contra vero
and from-all disease they-should-know freed on-the-other-hand indeed
si visum contactumque laticis vitarem ac perhorrescerem,
if the-sight and-touch of-the-liquid I-avoided and shuddered-at
pro comperto noxiam rabiem pertinaciter durare: hoc enim
for certain harmful madness stubbornly to-last this for
libris etiam pristinis proditum observari solere.
in-books also ancient reported to-be-observed to-be-wont
Isto placito vas immane confestim aquae pellucidae de 4
with-this resolution a-vessel huge at-once of-water clear from
proxumo petitae fonte cunctantes adhuc offerunt mihi: at
the-nearest fetched spring hesitating still they-offer to-me but
ego sine ulla mora progressus etiam obvio gradu satis
I without any delay going-forward even with-meeting step quite
sitienter pronus et totum caput inferens salutares vere
thirstily bent and whole head plunging saving truly
equidem illas aquas hauriebam. Iamque et plausus manuum
indeed those waters I-drank and-now both the-pats of-hands
et aurium flexus et ductum capistri et quidvis aliud
and of-ears the-bendings and the-leading of-the-halter and anything else
periclitantium placide patiebar, quoad contra vesanam eorum
of-those-testing calmly I-endured until against mad their
praesumptionem modestiam meam liquido cunctis approbarem.
presumption gentleness my clearly to-all I-proved
Ad istum modum vitato duplici periculo, die sequenti
in this way with-avoided double danger on-the-day following
rursum divinis exuviis onustus cum crotalis et cymbalis
again with-divine trappings laden with castanets and cymbals
circumforaneum mendicabulum producor ad viam. Nec
as-an-itinerant beggar I-am-brought-out onto the-road nor

paucis casulis atque castellis oberratis devertimus ad
with-few cottages and forts wandered-past we-turn-aside to
quempiam pagum urbis opulentae quondam, ut memorabant
some village of-a-city wealthy formerly as related
incolae, inter semiruta vestigia conditum, et hospitio
the-inhabitants among half-ruined traces founded and in-the-lodging
proxumi stabuli recepti cognoscimus lepidam de adulterio
of-the-nearest inn received we-learn a-charming about the-adultery
cuiusdam pauperis fabulam, quam vos etiam cognoscatis volo.
of-a-certain poor-man tale which you also should-know I-wish

LVII · THE JAR

At a village inn the travelers hear a tale. A poor workman came home early while his wife's lover was with her; she hid the lover in a jar and scolded her husband for idling. He had sold the jar for five denarii, she said she had sold it for seven, and while the husband scraped it clean inside, the lover, posing as the buyer, took his pleasure with the wife, and the husband was made to carry the jar to the lover's lodging.

5 Is gracili pauperie laborans fabriles operas praebendo parvis
he by-slender poverty laboring craftsman's labors by-supplying for-small
illis mercedibus vitam tenebat. Erat ei tamen uxorcula
those wages life maintained there-was to-him still a-little-wife
etiam, satis quidem tenuis et ipsa, verum tamen postrema
also quite indeed poor and herself but still for-utmost
lascivia famigerabilis. Sed die quadam dum matutino ille
wantonness notorious but on-a-day certain while in-the-morning he
ad opus susceptum proficiscitur, statim latenter irrepit eius
to the-work undertaken sets-out at-once secretly creeps-into his
hospitium temerarius adulter: ac dum Veneris colluctationibus
lodging a-reckless adulterer and while in-Venus' wrestlings

securius operantur, maritus ignarus rerum ac nihil etiam
more-carelessly they-are-busy the-husband unaware of-things and nothing even
tum tale suspicans improvisus hospitium repetit. Iamque
then such suspecting unexpected the-lodging seeks-again and-now
clausis et obseratis foribus uxoris laudata continentia
with-closed and bolted doors of-his-wife with-praised the-continence
ianuam pulsat, sibilo etiam praesentiam suam denuntiante:
the-door he-knocks with-a-whistle also presence his announcing
tunc mulier callida et ad huiusmodi flagitia perastutula
then the-woman cunning and for such outrages very-crafty
tenacissimis amplexibus expeditum hominem dolio, quod
from-most-tenacious embraces released the-man in-a-jar which
erat in angulo semiobrutum sed alias vacuum, dissimulanter
was in the-corner half-buried but otherwise empty dissemblingly
abscondit, et patefactis aedibus adhuc introeuntem maritum
hides and with-opened house still entering husband
aspero sermone accipit: “Siccine vacuus et otiosus insinuatis
with-harsh speech receives thus empty and idle with-tucked-in
manibus ambulabis mihi nec obito consueto labore
hands will-you-walk for-me nor with-undertaken usual labor
vitae nostrae prospicies et aliquid cibatui parabis? At
for-life our will-you-provide and something for-food will-you-get but
ego misera pernox et per diem lanificio nervos meos
I wretched all-night and through the-day with-spinning sinews my
contorqueo, ut intra cellulam nostram saltem lucerna luceat.
I-twist that within little-room our at-least the-lamp may-shine
Quanto me felicior Daphne vicina, quae mero
how-much than-me happier Daphne the-neighbor who with-unmixed-wine
et prandio matutino saucia cum suis adulteris volutatur!”
and lunch morning drunk with her adulterers wallows

6 Sic confutatus maritus "Et quid istic est?" ait "Nam licet
thus refuted the-husband and what there is he-says for though
forensi negotio officinator noster attentus ferias nobis fecerit,
by-court business the-foreman our occupied a-holiday for-us has-made
tamen hodiernae cenulae nostrae prospexi. Vides istud
still for-today's little-dinner our I-have-provided do-you-see that
dolium, quod semper vacuum frustra locum detinet tantum
jar which always empty in-vain space occupies only
et revera praeter impedimentum conversationis nostrae nihil
and in-truth besides hindrance of-living-space our nothing
praestat amplius? Istud ego quinque denariis cuidam
provides more that I for-five denarii to-a-certain-man
venditavi; et adest, ut dato pretio secum rem suam
have-sold and he-is-here that with-given price with-him property his
ferat. Quin itaque praecingeris mihique manum tantisper
he-may-carry why-not and-so do-you-gird-yourself and-to-me a-hand for-a-while
accommodas, ut exobrutum protinus tradatur emptori." E
lend that dug-out at-once it-be-handed-over to-the-buyer from
re nata fallacia, mulier temerarium tollens cachinnum
the-circumstance arising by-a-trick the-woman reckless raising a-guffaw
"Magnum" inquit "Istum virum ac strenuum negotiatorem
a-great she-says that man and vigorous trader
nacta sum, qui rem, quam ego mulier et intra hospitium
got I-have who the-thing which I a-woman and within the-lodging
contenta iamdudum septem denariis vendidi, minoris distraxit."
content long-since for-seven denarii have-sold for-less sold-off
Additamento pretii laetus maritus "Et quis est ille," ait
at-the-increase of-the-price glad the-husband and who is he he-says
"Qui tanto praestinavit?" At illa "Olim, inepte," inquit
who for-so-much has-bought but she long-ago foolish she-says
"Descendit in dolium sedulo soliditatem eius probaturus."
he-went-down into the-jar carefully the-soundness its going-to-test

Nec ille sermoni mulieris defuit sed exsurgens alacriter 7
nor he to-the-speech of-the-woman was-wanting but rising eagerly
"Vis" inquit "Verum scire, materfamilias? Hoc tibi
do-you-wish he-says the-truth to-know mistress this to-you
dolium nimis vetustum est et multifariam rimis hiantibus
jar too old is and in-many-places with-cracks gaping
quassum"; ad maritumque eius dissimulanter conversus "Quin
shaken to and-the-husband her dissemblingly turned why-not
tu, quicunque es homuncio, lucernam" ait "Actutum
you whoever you-are little-man a-lamp he-says at-once
mihi expedis, ut erasis intrinsecus sordibus diligenter
to-me fetch that with-scraped-off inside dirt carefully
an aptum usui possim dinoscere, nisi nos putas aes de
whether fit for-use I-may to-discern unless us you-think bronze from
malo habere?" Nec quicquam moratus ac suspicatus acer
evil to-have nor at-all delaying or suspecting the-keen
et egregius ille maritus, accensa lucerna, "Discede," inquit
and excellent that husband with-lit lamp go-away he-says
"Frater, et otiosus assiste, donec probe procuratum istud
brother and idle stand-by until properly put-in-order this
tibi repraesentem," et cum dicto nudatus ipse, delato
to-you I-present and with the-word stripped himself with-brought-down
lumine, scabiem vetustam cariosae testae occipit exculpere.
light the-scurf old of-the-rotten earthenware begins to-scrape-out
At vero adulter, bellissimus ille pusio, inclinatam dolio
but indeed the-adulterer most-charming that boy bent over-the-jar
pronam uxorem fabri superincurvatus secure dedolabat.
prone the-wife of-the-craftsman bending-over unconcernedly was-planing
Ast illa capite in dolium demisso maritum suum astu
but she with-head into the-jar lowered husband her with-craft
meretricio tractabat ludicre: hoc et illud et aliud et rursus
whorish handled playfully this and that and another and again

aliud purgandum demonstrat digito suo, donec utroque opere
another to-be-cleaned she-points-out with-finger her until with-both work
perfecto, acceptis septem denariis, calamitosus faber collo
finished with-received seven denarii the-unlucky craftsman on-neck
suo gerens dolium coactus est ad hospitium adulteri perferre.
his bearing the-jar forced was to the-lodging of-the-adulterer to-carry

LVIII · THE PRIESTS CAUGHT

The priests make money with an oracle that fits every question. On the road they are overtaken by horsemen who accuse them of stealing a golden cup from the temple of the Mother of the gods. It is found in the goddess's lap on Lucius' back, the priests are jailed, and Lucius is sold to a baker.

8 Pauculis ibi diebus commorati et munificentia publica
a-few there days having-stayed and by-generosity public
saginati vaticinationisque crebris mercedibus suffarcinati
fattened and-of-prophecy by-frequent fees stuffed
purissimi illi sacerdotes novum quaestus genus sibi
most-pure those priests a-new of-gain kind for-themselves
comminiscuntur. Sorte unica pro casibus pluribus enotata
devise with-an-oracle single for cases many written-out
consulentes de rebus variis plurimos ad hunc modum
consulting about matters various very-many in this way
cavillantur. Sors haec erat:
they-hoax the-oracle this was

"Ideo coniuncti terram proscindunt boves,
therefore yoked the-earth cleave oxen
ut in futurum laeta germinent sata."
that in the-future glad may-sprout the-sown-crops

Tum si qui matrimonium forte coaptantes interrogarent, rem
then if any marriage perhaps arranging inquired the-matter
ipsam responderi aiebant, iungendos connubio et satis liberum
itself to-be-answered they-said to-be-joined in-wedlock and plenty of-children
procreandis. Si possessiones praestinaturus quaereret, merito
to-be-begotten if possessions going-to-buy one-asked rightly
boves ut et iugum et arva sementis florentia pronuntiari. Si
oxen as both the-yoke and fields with-seed blooming to-be-proclaimed if
qui de profectione sollicitus divinum caperet auspicium, iunctos
any about departure anxious divine took the-auspice yoked
iam paratosque quadripedum cunctorum mansuetissimos
already and-ready of-four-footed all the-gentlest
et lucrum promitti de glebae germine. Si proelium
and gain to-be-promised from of-the-soil the-sprouting if battle
capessiturus vel latronum factionem persecuturus utiles necne
going-to-undertake or of-robbers a-gang going-to-pursue profitable or-not
processus sciscitaretur addictam victoriam forti praesagio
outcomes one-asked assured victory by-the-strong omen
contendebant, quippe cervices hostium iugo subactum iri
they-maintained namely the-necks of-the-enemy to-the-yoke subdued to-be
et praedam de rapinis uberrimam fructuosamque captum iri.
and booty from plunders most-abundant and-fruitful taken to-be
Ad istum modum divinationis astu captioso 9
in this way of-divination by-the-cunning crafty
corraserant non parvas pecunias, sed assiduis
they-had-scraped-together not small moneys but by-constant
interrogationibus argumenti satietate iam defecti, rursum ad
questionings of-the-device with-satiety now exhausted again to
viam prodeunt, via tota quam nocte confeceramus
the-road they-come-out than-the-road whole which by-night we-had-traversed
longe peiorem. Quidni? Lacunosis incilibus voraginosam,
far worse why-not with-pitted ditches full-of-chasms

partim stagnanti palude fluidam et alibi subluvie caenosa
partly with-stagnant marsh swimming and elsewhere with-mire muddy
lubricam. Crebris denique offensaculis et assiduis lapsibus
slippery with-frequent in-short stumblings and constant slips
iam contusis cruribus meis vix tandem ad campestres
now bruised legs my scarcely at-last to the-plain
semitas fessus evadere potui. Et ecce nobis repente de
paths weary to-come-out I-could and behold on-us suddenly from
tergo manipulus armati supercurrunt equites, aegreque
behind a-company armed run-up horsemen and-with-difficulty
cohibita equorum curriculi rabie, Philebum ceterosque
checked of-the-horses of-running the-fury on-Philebus and-the-other
comites eius involant avidi colloque constricto et sacrilegos
companions his they-fly greedy and-with-neck gripped both sacrilegious
impurosque compellantes interdum pugnis obverberant,
and-impure calling-them sometimes with-fists they-beat
necnon manicis etiam cunctos coartant et identidem
and-also with-manacles also all they-confine and repeatedly
urgenti sermone comprimunt, promerent potius aureum
with-urgent speech press they-should-produce rather the-golden
cantharum, promerent auctoramentum illud sui sceleris,
goblet they-should-produce the-wages that of-their crime
quod simulatione sollemnium, quae in operto factitaverant,
which under-pretense of-rites which in secret they-had-practiced
ab ipsis pulvinaribus matris deum clanculo furati,
from the-very couches of-the-mother of-the-gods secretly having-stolen
prorsus quasi possent tanti facinoris evadere supplicium
just as-if they-could of-so-great a-crime to-escape the-punishment
tacita profectione, adhuc luce dubia pomerium pervaserint.
by-silent departure still in-light doubtful the-boundary they-crossed

Nec defuit qui, manu super dorsum meum iniecta, in
nor was-there-lacking one-who with-hand upon back my thrown in
ipso deae quam gerebam gremio scrutatus, repperiret
the-very of-the-goddess whom I-was-carrying lap searching should-find
atque incoram omnium aureum depromeret cantharum. Nec
and in-the-presence of-all the-golden should-bring-out goblet nor
isto saltem tam nefario scelere impuratissima illa capita
by-this at-least so wicked crime most-impure those heads
confutari terrerive potuere, sed mendacioso risu
to-be-confounded or-to-be-frightened could but with-lying laughter
cavillantes, "En" inquiunt "Indignae rei scaevitatem, qua
mocking look they-say of-an-unworthy thing the-perversity by-which
plerumque insontes periclitantur homines! Propter unicum
often innocent are-endangered men on-account-of a-single
caliculum, quem deum mater sorori suae deae Syriae
little-cup which of-the-gods the-mother to-sister her the-goddess Syrian
hospitale munus obtulit, noxios religionis antistites ad discrimen
as-a-guest's gift offered guilty of-religion the-overseers to the-hazard
vocari capitis!" Haec et alias similes afannas frustra
to-be-called of-life these-things and other similar trifles in-vain
blaterantes eos retrorsus abducunt pagani statimque vinctos
babbling them backward lead-off the-villagers and-at-once bound
in Tullianum compingunt cantharoque et ipso simulacro,
into the-Tullianum they-thrust and-with-the-goblet and the-very image
quod gerebam, apud fani donarium redditis ac consecratis,
which I-was-carrying at of-the-shrine the-treasury restored and consecrated
altera die productum me rursum voce praeconis venui
on-the-next day brought-out me again by-the-voice of-the-crier for-sale
subiciunt septemque nummis carius, quam prius me
they-put and-for-seven coins more-dearly than before me
comparaverat Philebus, quidam pistor de proximo castello
had-bought Philebus a-certain baker from the-nearest fort

praestinavit, protinusque frumento etiam coempto affatim
bought and-at-once with-grain also bought-up abundantly
onustum per iter arduum, scrupis et cuiuscemodi
loaded through a-road steep with-sharp-stones and of-every-kind
stirpibus infestum ad pistrinum, quod exercebat, perducit.
with-stumps hostile to the-mill which he-worked he-brings

LIX · THE MILL

At the mill Lucius is blindfolded and set to turn the millstone, and he feigns stupidity until blows teach him. He describes the slaves, branded and half naked, and the worn-out mules and horses, and finds his only comfort in overhearing what everyone says, made, like Homer's much-traveled Ulysses, knowing in many things if not wise.

11 Ibi complurium iumentorum multivii circuitus intorquebant
there of-many beasts many-wayed circuits turned
molas ambage varia; nec die tantum, verum perpeti
the-mills by-a-winding varied nor by-day only but through-the-unbroken
etiam nocte prorsus instabili machinarum vertigine
also night utterly with-unresting of-the-machines whirling
lucubrabant pervigilem farinam. Sed mihi, ne rudimentum
they-worked-by-night sleepless flour but to-me lest the-first-lesson
servitii perhorrescerem scilicet, novus dominus loca
of-servitude I-should-dread no-doubt the-new master lodging
lautia prolixe praebuit: nam et diem primum illum
and-entertainment amply provided for both day first that
feriatum dedit et cibariis abundanter instruxit praesepium.
as-a-holiday he-gave and with-rations abundantly furnished the-manger
Nec tamen illa otii saginaeque beatitudo duravit ulterius,
nor still that of-leisure and-fattening bliss lasted further

sed die sequenti molae, quae maxima videbatur, matutinus
but on-the-day following to-the-mill which largest seemed in-the-morning
adstituor et illico velata facie propellor ad incurva spatia
I-am-set and at-once with-veiled face I-am-driven to the-curving spaces
flexuosi canalis, ut in orbe termini circumfluentis
of-the-winding channel that in the-round of-a-boundary flowing-round
reciproco gressu mea recalcans vestigia vagarer errore
with-backward step my treading-again tracks I-might-wander with-error
certo. Nec tamen sagacitatis ac prudentiae meae prorsus
fixed nor still of-shrewdness and prudence my utterly
oblitus facilem me tirocinio disciplinae praebui sed,
forgetful easy myself for-the-apprenticeship of-the-training I-showed but
quamquam frequenter, cum inter homines agerem, machinas
although often when among men I-lived machines
similiter circumrotari vidissem, tamen, ut expers et
likewise to-be-turned-round I-had-seen still as inexperienced and
ignarus operis, stupore mentito defixus haerebam, quod
ignorant of-the-work with-stupor feigned fixed I-stuck-fast because
enim rebar ut minus aptum et huiusmodi ministerio satis
for I-thought as less fit and for-such service quite
inutilem me ad alium quempiam, utique leviorem laborem
useless me to another some certainly lighter labor
legatum iri, vel otiosum certe cibatum iri. Sed frustra
assigned to-be or idle certainly fed to-be but in-vain
sollertiam damnosam exercui: complures enim protinus baculis
cleverness ruinous I-exercised several for at-once with-sticks
armati me circumsteterunt atque, ut eram luminibus obtectis
armed me surrounded and as I-was with-eyes covered
securus etiamnunc, repente signo dato et clamore
carefree still suddenly with-a-signal given and with-shouting
conferto plagas ingerentes acervatim, adeo me strepitu
massed blows heaping in-heaps so me with-din

turbulentant, ut cunctis consiliis abiectis illico scitissime
they-confound that with-all plans thrown-aside at-once most-skillfully
taeniae sparteae totus innixus discursus alacres obirem:
on-the-band of-broom wholly leaning runs eager I-went-through
12 at subita sectae commutatione risum toti coetu
but by-a-sudden of-conduct change laughter in-the-whole company
commoveram. Iamque maxima diei parte transacta
I-had-stirred and-now with-the-greatest of-the-day part spent
defectum alioquin me, helcio sparteo dimoto, nexu
exhausted anyway me with-the-collar broom removed from-the-bond
machinae liberatum applicant praesepio. At ego quamquam
of-the-machine freed they-set to-the-manger but I although
eximie fatigatus et refectione virium vehementer indiguus
exceedingly wearied and of-the-restoring of-strength greatly needy
et prorsus fame perditus, tamen familiari curiositate
and utterly by-hunger ruined still by-habitual curiosity
attonitus et satis anxius, postposito cibo qui copiosus
thunderstruck and quite anxious with-put-aside food which plentiful
aderat, inoptabilis officinae disciplinam cum delectatione
there-was of-the-undesirable workshop the-routine with delight
quadam arbitrabar. Dii boni! Quales illic homunculi vibicibus
a-certain I-watched gods good what-kind there little-men with-weals
lividis totam cutem depicti dorsumque plagosum scissili
livid whole skin painted and-back scarred with-a-torn
centunculo magis inumbrati quam obtecti, nonnulli exiguo
patchwork more shaded than covered some with-a-slight
tegili tantum modo pubem iniecti, cuncti tamen sic tunicati
covering only merely the-groin covered all still so tunicked
ut essent per pannulos manifesti, frontes litterati et
that they-were through the-rags plain foreheads lettered and
capillum semirasi et pedes annulati, tum lurore deformes
hair half-shaven and feet ringed then with-sallowness disfigured

et fumosis tenebris vaporosae caliginis palpebras adesi atque
and by-smoky darkness of-steamy gloom eyelids eaten and
adeo male luminati, et in modum pugilum, qui pulvisculo
so ill sighted and in the-manner of-boxers who with-fine-dust
perspersi dimicant, farinulenta cinere sordide candidati.
sprinkled fight with-floury ash dirtily whitened
Iam de meo iumentario contubernio quid vel ad quem 13
now about my beastly company what or in what
modum memorem? Quales illi muli senes vel cantherii
way should-I-relate what-kind those mules old or geldings
debiles! Circa praesepium capita demersi contruncabant moles
feeble around the-manger heads sunk they-chopped heaps
palearum, cervices cariosa vulnerum putredine follicantes, nares
of-chaff necks with-rotten of-wounds putrefaction puffing nostrils
languidas assiduo pulsu tussedinis hiulci, pectora copulae
languid with-constant beat of-coughing gaping in-chests of-the-tether
sparteae tritura continua exulcerati, costas perpetua
broom by-the-chafing continual ulcerated in-ribs with-perpetual
castigatione ossium tenus renudati, ungulas multivia
chastising of-bones as-far-as bared in-hooves with-many-wayed
circumcursione in enorme vestigium porrecti totumque
running-round into enormous track stretched and-whole
corium veterno atque scabiosa macie exasperati. Talis familiae
in-hide with-lethargy and scabby leanness roughened of-such a-household
funestum mihi etiam metuens exemplum veterisque Lucii
deadly for-myself also fearing the-example and-of-the-former Lucius
fortunam recordatus et ad ultimam salutis metam detrusus
the-fortune recalling and to the-last of-safety goal pushed
summisso capite maerebam. Nec ullum uspiam cruciabilis
with-lowered head I-grieved nor any anywhere of-tormented
vitae solacium aderat, nisi quod ingenita mihi curiositate
life solace was-present except that by-inborn in-me curiosity

recreabar dum praesentiam meam parvi facientes libere quae
I-was-refreshed while presence my of-little making freely what
volunt omnes et agunt et loquuntur. Nec immerito priscae
they-wish all both do and say nor undeservedly of-ancient
poeticae divinus auctor apud Graios summae prudentiae
poetry the-divine author among the-Greeks of-highest prudence
virum monstrare cupiens multarum civitatum obitu et
a-man to-show wishing of-many cities by-the-visiting and
variorum populorum cognitu summas adeptum virtutes
of-various peoples by-knowing the-highest having-attained virtues
cecinit: nam et ipse gratas gratias asino meo memini, quod
sang for also I-myself grateful thanks to-ass my remember because
me suo celatum tegmine variisque fortunis exercitatum,
me with-its hidden covering and-by-various fortunes exercised
etsi minus prudentem, multiscium reddidit.
although less prudent much-knowing made

LX · THE BAKER'S WIFE

The baker's wife is the worst of women: cruel, drunken, greedy, adulterous, a mocker of the gods who claims to worship one god only. She hates Lucius and has him beaten. Lucius overhears an old go-between urge her to take a bolder lover, Philesitherus.

14 Fabulam, denique bonam prae ceteris suavem compertu ad
a-tale in-short good beyond others sweet to-learn to
aures vestras afferre decrevi, et en occipio. Pistor ille qui
ears your to-bring I-have-decided and look I-begin the-baker that who
me pretio suum fecerat, bonus alioquin vir et apprime
me by-price his had-made good otherwise a-man and exceedingly
modestus, pessimam et ante cunctas mulieres longe deterrimam
moderate the-worst and before all women by-far most-wicked

sortitus coniugam poenas extremas tori Larisque sustinebat,
having-drawn wife penalties extreme of-bed and-of-hearth endured
ut Hercule eius vicem ego quoque tacitus frequenter
so-that by-Hercules his lot I also silent often
ingemescerem. Nec enim vel unum vitium nequissimae illi
I-groaned-over nor for even one vice to-most-worthless that
feminae deerat, sed omnia prorsus, ut in quandam caenosam
woman was-lacking but all utterly as into a-certain filthy
latrinam, in eius animum flagitia confluxerant: saeva, scaeva,
privy into her mind outrages had-flowed-together cruel perverse
virosa, ebriosa, pervicax, pertinax, in rapinis turpibus avara,
man-mad drunken obstinate stubborn in plunders shameful greedy
in sumptibus foedis profusa, inimica fidei, hostis pudicitiae:
in expenses foul lavish an-enemy to-faith a-foe to-chastity
tunc spretis atque calcatis divinis numinibus in vicem
then with-spurned and trampled divine powers in place
certae religionis mentita sacrilega praesumptione dei,
of-true religion having-feigned with-sacrilegious presumption a-god
quem praedicaret unicum, confictis observationibus vacuis
whom she-proclaimed single with-fabricated observances empty
fallens omnes homines et miserum maritum decipiens
deceiving all men and wretched husband cheating
matutino mero et continuo stupro corpus manciparat.
to-morning wine and constant lewdness body had-sold
Talis illa mulier miro me persequebatur odio: nam 15
such that woman with-wondrous me pursued hatred for
et antelucio recubans adhuc subiungi machinae novicium
both before-dawn lying still to-be-yoked to-the-machine the-new
clamabat asinum, et statim ut cubiculo primum processerat
she-shouted ass and at-once as from-the-bedroom first she-had-come
insistens iubebat incoram sui plagas mihi quam plurimas
standing-over she-ordered in-presence of-herself blows on-me as very-many

irrogari et, cum tempestivo prandio laxarentur iumenta
to-be-inflicted and when at-the-timely lunch were-loosed beasts
cetera, longe tardius applicari praesepio iubebat. Quae saevitia
other much later to-be-put to-the-manger she-ordered which savagery
multo mihi magis genuinam curiositatem in suos mores
much in-me more inborn curiosity into her habits
ampliaverat: nam et assiduo plane commeantem in eius
had-enlarged for both constantly plainly visiting to her
cubiculum quendam sentiebam iuvenem, cuius et faciem videre
bedroom a-certain I-perceived young-man whose also face to-see
cupiebam ex summo studio, si tamen velamentum capitis
I-longed with highest zeal if still the-covering of-my-head
libertatem tribuisset meis aliquando luminibus; nec enim mihi
liberty had-granted to-my at-some-time eyes nor for to-me
sollertia defuisset ad detegenda quoquo modo pessimae
cleverness would-have-been-lacking for uncovering in-any way of-the-worst
feminae flagitia. Sed anus quaedam stuprum sequestra et
woman the-outrages but an-old-woman certain of-lusts go-between and
adulterorum internuntia de die cotidie inseparabilis aderat,
of-adulterers messenger from day daily inseparable was-present
cum qua protinus ientaculo ac dehinc vino mero mutuis
with whom at-once with-breakfast and then with-wine unmixed in-mutual
vicibus velitata scaenas fraudulentas in exitium miserrimi
turns skirmishing scenes fraudulent for the-ruin of-the-most-wretched
mariti subdolis ambagibus construebat. At ego, quamquam
husband with-crafty windings built but I although
graviter suscensens errori Fotidis, quae me dum avem fabricat,
gravely angry at-the-error of-Fotis who me while a-bird she-makes
perfecit asinum, isto tamen vel unico solacio aerumnabilis
made an-ass by-this still even single solace of-wretched

deformitatis meae recreabar, quod auribus grandissimis
deformity my I-was-refreshed that with-ears very-great
praeditus cuncta longule etiam dissita facillime sentiebam.
endowed everything rather-far even distant most-easily I-perceived
Denique die quadam madidae illius aniculae sermo 16
in-short on-a-day certain of-sodden that little-old-woman speech
talis meas affertur aures: “De isto quidem, mi herilis,
such to-my is-brought ears about that-one indeed my mistress
tecum ipsa videris, quem sine meo consilio pigrum et
with-yourself yourself you-must-see whom without my counsel sluggish and
formidulosum familiarem istum sortita es, qui insuavis et
timid intimate that drawn you-have who of-unpleasant and
odiosi mariti tui caperratum supercilium ignaviter perhorrescit
hateful husband your the-wrinkled brow cowardly dreads
ac per hoc amoris languidi desidia tuos volentes amplexus
and for this of-love languid by-the-sloth your willing embraces
discruciat. Quanto melior Philesitherus adulescens et formosus
torments how-much better Philesitherus young and handsome
et liberalis et strenuus et contra maritorum inefficaces
and generous and vigorous and against of-husbands ineffectual
diligentias constantissimus, dignus Hercule solus omnium
diligences most-steadfast worthy by-Hercules alone of-all
matronarum deliciis perfrui, dignus solus coronam auream
matrons the-delights to-enjoy worthy alone a-crown golden
capite gestare, vel ob unicum istud, quod nunc nuper in
on-head to-wear even for single that-thing which now lately against
quendam zelotypum maritum eximio studio commentus
a-certain jealous husband with-exceptional zeal devised
est. Audi denique et amatorum diversum ingenium compara.
has listen in-short and of-lovers different character compare

The old woman tells how Philesitherus bribed the slave Myrmex to let him into the house of the jealous Barbarus. The husband came home unexpectedly; the lover fled barefoot, and the husband found his sandals. Next day, meeting Barbarus leading Myrmex in chains, Philesitherus accused the slave of stealing his sandals at the baths, and so saved them both.

17 "Nosti quendam Barbarum nostrae civitatis decurionem,
do-you-know a-certain Barbarus of-our city a-councilor
quem Scorpionem prae morum acritudine vulgus appellat?
whom Scorpion for of-character the-sharpness the-crowd calls
Hic uxorem generosam et eximia formositate praeditam
he a-wife well-born and with-exceptional beauty endowed
mira custodela munitam domi suae quam cautissime
with-wondrous custody fortified at-home his as most-cautiously
cohibebat." Ad haec ultima pistoris illa uxor subiciens,
kept-confined to these last of-the-baker that wife putting-in
"Quidni?" inquit "Novi diligenter. Areten meam condiscipulam
why-not she-says I-know-her well Arete my schoolfellow
memoras." "Ergo" inquit anus "Nosti totam Philesitheri
you-mention therefore says the-old-woman do-you-know the-whole of-Philesitherus
et ipsius fabulam?" "Minime gentium," inquit "Sed nosse
and of-her tale not-at-all of-peoples she-says but to-know
valde cupio, et oro, mater, ordine mihi singula retexe." Nec
greatly I-long and I-beg mother in-order to-me each-thing unfold nor
commorata illa sermocinatrix immodica sic anus incipit:
delaying that chatterer immoderate thus the-old-woman begins
"Barbarus iste cum necessariam profectionem pararet
Barbarus that when a-necessary journey he-was-preparing
pudicitiamque carae coniugis conservare summa diligentia
and-the-chastity of-his-dear wife to-preserve with-highest diligence

cuperet, servulum suum Myrmecem, fidelitate praecipua
he-wished slave his Myrmex for-fidelity outstanding
cognitum, secreto commonet suaeque dominae custodelam
known secretly instructs and-of-his mistress the-custody
omnem permittit, carcerem et perpetua vincula, mortem
all entrusts prison and perpetual chains death
denique violentam defamem comminatus, si quisquam hominum
in-short violent infamous having-threatened if anyone of-men
vel in transitu digito tenus eam contigisset, idque deierans
even in passing with-a-finger as-far-as her had-touched and-this swearing
etiam confirmat per omnia divina numina. Ergo igitur summo
also he-confirms by all divine powers therefore then in-highest
pavore perculsum Myrmecem acerrimum relinquens uxori
fear struck Myrmex as-a-most-keen leaving for-his-wife
secutorem, securam dirigit profectionem. Tunc obstinato
attendant carefree he-directs his-journey then with-obstinate
animo vehementer anxius Myrmex nec usquam dominam suam
mind vehemently anxious Myrmex nor anywhere mistress his
progredi sinebat, et lanificio domestico destrictam inseparabilis
to-go-out allowed and to-spinning domestic tied inseparable
assidebat, ac tantum necessario vespertini lavacri progressu
sat-by and only at-the-necessary evening bath's going-out
affixus atque conglutinatus, extremas manu prendens lacinias,
fastened and glued the-outermost with-hand grasping flaps
mira sagacitate commissae provinciae fidem tuebatur.
with-wondrous shrewdness of-the-entrusted charge the-faith guarded
"Sed ardentem Philesitheri vigilantiam matronae nobilis 18
but the-ardent of-Philesitherus vigilance of-the-matron noble
pulchritudo latere non potuit, atque hac ipsa potissimum
the-beauty to-escape not could and by-this very most-of-all
famosa castitate et insignis tutelae nimietate instinctus
famous chastity and of-remarkable guarding by-the-excess goaded

atque inflammatus, quidvis facere, quidvis pati paratus, ad
and inflamed anything to-do anything to-suffer ready for
expugnandam tenacem domus disciplinam totis accingitur
storming the-tenacious of-the-house discipline with-all he-girds-himself
viribus; certusque fragilitatis humanae fidei et quod pecuniae
strength and-sure of-the-frailty human of-faith and that to-money
cunctae sint difficultates perviae auroque soleant adamantinae
all are difficulties passable and-by-gold are-wont adamantine
etiam perfringi fores, opportune nanctus Myrmecis solitatem,
even to-be-broken doors opportunely having-got of-Myrmex the-solitude
ei amorem suum aperit et supplex eum medelam
to-him love his reveals and suppliant him for-a-remedy
cruciatui deprecatur; nam sibi statutam decretamque
to-the-torment begs for for-himself appointed and-decreed
mortem proximare ni maturius cupito potiatur: nec
death to-draw-near unless rather-soon the-desired he-enjoys nor
eum tamen quicquam in re facili formidare debere,
him still anything in a-matter easy to-fear ought
quippe cum vespera solus, fide tenebrarum contectus
naturally since at-evening alone by-the-trust of-darkness covered
atque absconditus, introrepere et intra momentum temporis
and hidden to-creep-in and within a-moment of-time
remeare posset. His et huiuscemodi suadelis validum
to-return he-could to-these and of-this-kind persuasions a-strong
addebat cuneum, qui rigentem prorsus servi tenacitatem
he-added wedge which the-rigid utterly of-the-slave tenacity
violenter diffinderet; porrecta enim manu sua demonstrat
violently should-split with-stretched-out for hand his he-shows
ei novitate nimia candentes solidos aureos, quorum viginti
him with-newness excessive gleaming gold-pieces golden of-which twenty
quidem puellae destinasset, ipsi vero decem libenter offerret.
indeed for-the-girl he-had-intended to-him indeed ten gladly he-offered

"Exhorruit Myrmex inauditum facinus et occlusis auribus 19
shuddered-at Myrmex the-unheard-of deed and with-stopped ears
effugit protinus: nec auri tamen splendor flammeus oculos
fled at-once nor of-the-gold still the-gleam flaming the-eyes
ipsius exire potuit, sed quam procul semotus et domum celeri
his to-leave could but however far removed and home with-swift
gradu pervectus videbat tamen decora illa monetae lumina
step carried he-saw still lovely those of-the-coin lights
et opulentam praedam iam tenebat animo, miroque
and the-rich booty already he-held in-mind and-with-wondrous
mentis salo et cogitationum dissensione misellus in
of-mind tossing and of-thoughts by-conflict the-poor-wretch into
diversas sententias carpebatur ac distrahebatur: illic fides,
different opinions was-plucked and torn-apart there faith
hic lucrum; illic cruciatus, hic voluptas. Ad postremum
here gain there torture here pleasure at last
tamen formidinem mortis vicit aurum: nec saltem spatio
still the-fear of-death conquered gold nor at-least by-distance
cupido formosae pecuniae leniebatur, sed nocturnas etiam
the-desire of-the-beautiful money was-softened but nocturnal also
curas invaserat pestilens avaritia, ut quamvis herilis eum
cares had-invaded pestilent avarice so-that although of-his-master him
comminatio domi cohiberet, aurum tamen foras evocaret.
the-threat at-home confined the-gold still out-of-doors called
Tunc devorato pudore et dimota cunctatione, sic ad aures
then with-swallowed shame and with-removed hesitation thus to the-ears
dominae mandatum perfert: nec a genuina levitate descivit
of-his-mistress the-message he-carries nor from native fickleness departed
mulier sed execrando metallo pudicitiam suam protinus
the-woman but for-the-accursed metal chastity her at-once
auctorata est. Ita gaudio perfusus ad suae fidei praecipitium
sold has thus with-joy flooded to of-his faith the-precipice

praecipitat Myrmex, non modo capere, verum saltem contingere,
rushes Myrmex not only to-take but at-least to-touch
quam exitio suo viderat, pecuniam cupiens et magnis suis
which to-ruin his he-had-seen the-money longing and by-great his
laboribus perfectum desiderium Philesithero laetitia percitus
labors accomplished desire to-Philesitherus with-gladness roused
nuntiat, statimque destinatum praemium reposcit; et tenet
he-announces and-at-once the-appointed reward he-demands and holds
nummos aureos manus Myrmecis quae nec aereos norat.
coins golden the-hand of-Myrmex which not-even copper had-known
20 "Iamque nocte promota solum perducit ad domum, probeque
and-now with-night advanced alone he-leads to the-house and-properly
capite contectum amatorem strenuum infert adusque dominae
in-head covered the-lover vigorous brings-in right-up-to of-the-mistress
cubiculum. Commodum novis amplexibus amori rudi
the-bedroom just-now with-new embraces to-love raw
litabant, commodum prima stipendia Veneri militabant
they-were-offering just-now first campaigns for-Venus were-serving
nudi milites; et contra omnium opinionem captata noctis
naked soldiers and against of-all expectation with-seized of-night
opportunitate improvisus maritus assistit. Suae domus ianuam
opportunity unexpected the-husband stands-there of-his house the-door
iam pulsat, iam clamat, iam saxo fores verberat, et
now he-knocks now he-shouts now with-a-stone the-doors he-beats and
ipsa tarditate magis magisque suspectus dira comminatur
by-the-very delay more and-more suspicious dire he-threatens
Myrmeci supplicia. At ille repentino malo perturbatus et
on-Myrmex punishments but he by-the-sudden evil disturbed and
misera trepidatione ad inopiam consilii deductus, quod solum
by-wretched trembling to helplessness of-counsel brought what alone
poterat, nocturnas tenebras sibi causabatur obsistere quin
he-could the-night darkness for-himself pleaded to-hinder that

clavem curiose absconditam repperiret: interdum Philesitherus
the-key carefully hidden he-should-find meanwhile Philesitherus
cognito strepitu raptim tunicas iniectus sed plane
with-recognized noise hastily tunic having-thrown-on but plainly
prae turbatione pedibus intectis procurrit cubiculo. Tunc
through confusion with-feet uncovered runs-out from-the-bedroom then
Myrmex tandem clave pessulis subiecta repandit fores
Myrmex at-last the-key to-the-bolts applied opens the-doors
et recipit etiam tunc fidem deum boantem dominum,
and receives even then the-faith of-the-gods bellowing the-master
eoque propere cubiculum petente, clandestino transcursu
and-with-him quickly the-bedroom seeking by-a-secret passing-across
dimittit Philesitherum. Quo iam pro limine liberato
lets-out Philesitherus with-whom now beyond the-threshold freed
securus sui clausa domo rursum se reddidit quieti.
carefree for-himself with-shut house again himself he-gave-back to-rest
"Sed dum prima luce Barbarus procedit cubiculo, videt 21
but while at-first light Barbarus comes-out from-the-bedroom he-sees
sub lectulo soleas incognitas quibus inductus Philesitherus
under the-bed sandals unknown in-which shod Philesitherus
irrepserat, suspectisque e re nata quae gesta
had-crept-in and-suspecting from the-circumstance arising what done
sunt, non uxori, non ulli familiarium cordolio patefacto,
had-been not to-wife not to-any of-the-household with-heartache revealed
sublatis iis et in sinum furtim absconditis, iusso
with-taken-up those and into the-fold secretly hidden with-ordered
tantum Myrmece per conservos vincto forum versus attrahi,
only Myrmex by fellow-slaves bound the-forum toward to-be-dragged
tacitos secum mugitus iterans rapidum dirigit gressum,
silent within-himself bellowings repeating swift directs his-step
certus solearum indicio vestigium adulteri posse se
sure by-the-sandals' evidence the-track of-the-adulterer to-be-able himself

perfacile indipisci. Sed ecce per plateam dum Barbarus vultu
very-easily to-overtake but behold through the-street while Barbarus with-face
turgido subductisque superciliis incedit iratus ac pone eum
swollen and-with-drawn brows walks angry and behind him
Myrmex vinculis obrutus, non quidem coram noxae prehensus,
Myrmex with-chains loaded not indeed openly in-guilt caught
conscientia tamen pessima permixtus, lacrimis uberibus ac
by-conscience still worst mixed with-tears copious and
postremis lamentationibus inefficacem commovet miserationem,
with-final lamentations ineffectual stirs pity
opportune Philesitherus occurrens, quamquam diverso quodam
opportunely Philesitherus running-up although on-different some
negotio destinatus, repentina tamen facie permotus, non
business bound by-the-sudden still sight moved not
enim deterritus, recolens festinationis suae delictum et cetera
for frightened recalling of-haste his the-slip and the-rest
consequenter suspicatus sagaciter, extemplo sumpta familiari
consequently suspecting shrewdly at-once with-assumed habitual
constantia, dimotis servulis invadit cum summo clamore
composure with-removed slaves rushes-upon with highest shouting
Myrmecem pugnisque malas eius dementer obtundens, 'At
Myrmex and-with-fists the-cheeks his madly pounding but
te' inquit 'Nequissimum et periurum caput, dominus iste
you he-says most-worthless and perjured head master that
tuus et cuncta caeli numina, quae deierando temere
your and all of-heaven the-powers which by-swearing rashly
devorasti, pessimum pessime perduint, qui de balneis
you-have-devoured worst-one worst may-ruin who from the-baths
soleas hesterna die mihi furatus es. Dignus Hercule,
sandals on-yesterday's day from-me stolen you-have you-are-worthy by-Hercules
dignus qui et ista vincula conteras et insuper carceris
worthy who both those chains should-wear-out and moreover of-prison

etiam tenebras perferas.' Hac opportuna fallacia vigorati
also the-darkness should-endure by-this opportune deception of-the-invigorated
iuvenis inductus, immo sublatus et ad credulitatem delapsus
young-man led-on nay lifted-up and into credulity having-slipped
Barbarus, postliminio domum regressus, vocato Myrmece
Barbarus by-right-of-return home having-gone-back with-called Myrmex
soleas illas offerens et ignovit ex animo et uti domino
the-sandals those offering both forgave from the-heart and that to-their-owner
redderet, cui surripuerat, suasit."
he-should-return from-whom he-had-stolen he-urged

LXII · THE FULLER'S WIFE

The baker's wife waits for Philesitherus, but her husband returns early, and she hides the young man under a tub. The baker tells how the fuller's wife hid her lover in a wicker cage over burning sulfur; his sneezing betrayed him, and the baker had to restrain the fuller from killing him.

Hactenus adhuc anicula garriente suscipit mulier: 22
so-far still with-the-little-old-woman chattering takes-up the-woman
"Beatam illam quae tam constantis sodalis libertate fruitur!
happy that-woman who of-so steadfast a-companion the-freedom enjoys
At ego misella molae etiam sonum et ecce illius scabiosi asini
but I poor-me of-the-mill even the-sound and look of-that scabby ass
faciem timentem familiarem incidi." Ad haec anus:
the-face fearing an-intimate I-have-fallen-upon to this the-old-woman
"Iam tibi ego probe suasum et confirmatum animi amatorem
now for-you I properly persuaded and confirmed in-spirit lover
illum alacrem vadimonium sistam," et insuper condicta
that eager to-the-appointment shall-produce and moreover with-agreed
vespertina regressione cubiculo facessit. At pudica uxor
evening return from-the-bedroom she-departs but the-chaste wife

statim cenas saliares comparat, vina pretiosa defaecat, pulmenta
at-once dinners Salian prepares wines costly strains relishes
recentia tuccetis temperat mensa largiter instructa. Denique
fresh with-sausages mixes with-the-table abundantly furnished in-short
ut dei cuiusdam adventus, sic expectatur adulteri; nam
as of-a-god a-certain the-arrival so is-awaited of-the-adulterer for
et opportune maritus foris apud naccam proximum cenitabat.
also opportunely the-husband out at a-fuller nearby was-dining
Ergo igitur metis die propinquante helcio tandem
therefore then to-its-goal with-day approaching from-the-collar at-last
absolutus refectuique secure redditus non tam Hercule
released and-to-refreshment carefree restored not so-much by-Hercules
laboris libertatem gratulabar, quam quod revelatis luminibus
from-labor freedom I-rejoiced-at as that with-uncovered eyes
libere iam cunctas facinorosae mulieris artes prospectare
freely now all of-the-criminal woman the-arts to-watch
poteram. Sol ipsum quidem delapsus Oceanum
I-could the-sun itself indeed having-slipped-into Ocean
subterrenas orbis plagas illuminabat, et ecce nequissimae
underground of-the-world regions was-lighting and behold of-the-most-worthless
anus adhaerens lateri temerarius adulter adventat, puer
old-woman clinging to-the-side the-reckless adulterer arrives a-boy
admodum et adhuc lubrico genarum splendore conspicuus,
quite and still with-smooth of-cheeks gleam conspicuous
adhuc adulteros ipse delectans: hunc multis admodum
still adulterers himself delighting him with-many very
saviis exceptum mulier cenam iubet paratam accumbere.
kisses received the-woman to-dinner orders prepared to-recline
23 Sed ut primum occursoriam potionem et inchoatum gustum
but as first the-welcoming drink and the-begun first-course
extremis labiis contingebat adulescens, multo celerius opinione
with-the-tips of-lips was-touching the-youth much more-quickly than-expected

rediens maritus adventat. Tunc uxor egregia diras devotiones
returning the-husband arrives then the-wife excellent dire curses
in eum deprecata et crurum ei fragium abominata,
on him having-called-down and of-legs for-him the-breaking having-wished-off
exsangui formidine trepidantem adulterum alveo ligneo,
with-bloodless fear trembling adulterer under-a-trough wooden
quo frumenta confusa purgari consuerant, temere propter
in-which grains mixed to-be-cleaned were-wont at-random nearby
iacenti suppositum abscondit, ingenitaque astutia dissimulato
lying put-under she-hides and-with-inborn cunning with-concealed
tanto flagitio, intrepidum mentita vultum, percontatur
so-great outrage a-fearless having-feigned face asks
de marito, cur utique contubernalis artissimi deserta
of her-husband why indeed of-his-comrade closest with-deserted
cenula praematurus afforet. At ille dolenti prorsus
little-dinner too-early he-was-there but he with-grieving utterly
animo suspirans assidue, "Nefarium" inquit "Et extremum
mind sighing constantly the-wicked he-says and extreme
facinus perditae feminae tolerare nequiens fuga me proripui.
deed of-a-lost woman to-bear unable in-flight myself I-rushed-out
Hem qualis, dii boni, matrona, quam fida quamque sobria
ah what-a gods good matron how faithful and-how sober
turpissimo se dedecore foedavit! Iuro per istam ego
with-most-shameful herself disgrace has-befouled I-swear by that I
sanctam Cererem, me nunc etiam meis oculis de tali
holy Ceres myself now even to-my eyes about such
muliere minus credere." His instincta verbis mariti
a-woman less to-believe by-these goaded words of-the-husband
audacissima uxor noscendae rei cupiens non cessat
the-most-audacious wife of-learning the-matter desirous not ceases
obtundere totam prorsus a principio fabulam promeret:
to-pound whole utterly from the-beginning the-tale he-should-produce

nec destitit, donec eius voluntati succubuit maritus et sic,
nor ceased until her to-will yielded the-husband and thus
ignarus suorum, domus alienae percenset infortunium:
ignorant of-his-own of-a-house another's recounts the-misfortune
24 "Contubernalis mei fullonis uxor, alioquin servati pudoris,
of-comrade my the-fuller the-wife otherwise of-preserved chastity
ut videbatur, femina, quae semper secundo rumore gloriosa
as it-seemed a-woman who always by-favorable report glorious
Larem mariti pudice gubernabat, occulta libidine
the-hearth of-her-husband chastely governed with-hidden lust
prorumpit in adulterum quempiam: cumque furtivos amplexus
bursts-out into an-adulterer some and-when stolen embraces
obiret assidue, ipso illo denique momento, quo nos
she-attended constantly at-the-very that in-short moment in-which we
lauti cenam petebamus, cum eodem illo iuvene miscebatur
washed dinner sought with the-same that young-man she-was-mingling
in Venerem. Ergo nostra repente turbata praesentia, subitario
into Venus therefore by-our suddenly disturbed presence by-a-hasty
ducta consilio, eundem illum subiectum contegit viminea
led plan the-same that-one put-under covers with-a-wicker
cavea, quae fustium flexu tereti in rectum aggerata
cage which of-rods by-bending smooth into a-straight heaped
cumulum lacinias circumdatas suffusa candido fumo sulphuris
pile the-cloths placed-around soaked with-white smoke of-sulfur
inalbabat, eoque iam, ut sibi videbatur, tutissime celato
was-whitening and-with-him now as to-herself it-seemed most-safely hidden
mensam nobiscum secura participat. Interdum acerrimo
the-table with-us carefree shares meanwhile by-the-sharpest
gravique odore sulphuris iuvenis inescatus atque obnubilatus
and-heavy smell of-sulfur the-youth baited and clouded

intercluso spiritu diffluebat, utque est ingenium vivacis
with-shut-off breath was-dissolving and-as is the-nature of-lively
metalli, crebras ei sternutationes commovebat.
mineral frequent in-him sneezings it-stirred
"Atque ut primum e regione mulieris pone tergum eius 25
and as first from the-direction of-the-woman behind the-back her
maritus acceperat sonum sternutationis — quod enim putaret
the-husband had-caught the-sound of-sneezing which for he-thought
ab ea profectum — solito sermone salutem ei fuerat
from her come with-usual phrase health to-her he-had
imprecatus, et iterato rursum et frequentato saepius,
wished and with-repeated again and multiplied more-often
donec rei nimietate commotus quod res erat tandem
until of-the-thing by-the-excess disturbed what the-matter was at-last
suspicatur et impulsa mensa protenus remotaque cavea
he-suspects and with-pushed table at-once and-with-removed cage
producit hominem crebros anhelitus aegre reflantem;
brings-out the-man frequent pantings with-difficulty breathing-back
inflammatusque indignatione contumeliae gladium flagitans
and-inflamed with-indignation of-the-insult a-sword demanding
iugulare moriturum gestiebat, ni respecto communi
to-cut-the-throat the-man-going-to-die he-was-eager had-not with-regarded common
periculo vix eum ab impetu furioso cohibuissem, asseverans
danger scarcely him from assault furious I-had-restrained asserting
brevi absque noxa nostri suapte inimicum eius violentia
shortly without harm to-us of-itself the-enemy his by-the-violence
sulphuris periturum: nec suadela mea sed ipsius rei
of-sulfur going-to-perish nor by-persuasion my but of-the-very thing
necessitate lenitus, quippe iam semivivum illum in proxumum
by-necessity calmed naturally already half-alive him into the-nearest
deportat angiportum. Tum uxorem eius tacite suasi ac denique
he-carries alley then wife his quietly I-urged and finally

persuasi secederet paululum atque ultra limen tabernae
persuaded she-should-withdraw a-little and beyond the-threshold of-the-shop
ad quampiam tantisper familiarem sibi mulierem migraret,
to some for-a-while friendly to-her woman should-move
quoad spatio fervens mariti sedaretur animus, qui tanto
until with-time boiling of-the-husband should-be-calmed the-spirit who with-such
calore tantaque rabie perculsus non erat dubius aliquid etiam
heat and-such rage struck not was doubtful something even
de se suaque coniuge tristius profecto cogitare. Talium
about himself and-his wife grimmer surely to-plan of-such
contubernalis epularum taedio fugatus Larem reveni meum."
of-my-comrade feasts by-disgust put-to-flight hearth I-returned-to my

LXIII · THE BAKER'S REVENGE

While the baker's wife denounces the fuller's wife, Lucius steps on the hidden lover's fingers and exposes him. The baker takes his revenge on the boy in his own bed, beats him in the morning, and divorces his wife. She has a witch send a ghost to kill him, and he is found hanged. His daughter learns the truth in a dream, and the household is auctioned; a poor gardener buys Lucius.

26 Haec recensente pistore iamdudum procax et temeraria
these-things with-the-baker recounting long-since bold and reckless
mulier verbis execrantibus fullonis illius detestabatur
the-woman with-words cursing of-the-fuller that cursed
uxorem, illam perfidam, illam impudicam, denique universi
wife that faithless that shameless in-short of-the-whole
sexus grande dedecus, quae suo pudore postposito torique
sex a-great disgrace who with-her modesty put-aside and-of-the-bed
genialis calcato foedere Larem mariti lupanari maculasset
marriage with-trampled covenant the-hearth of-her-husband with-brothel had-stained

infamia, iamque perdita nuptae dignitate prostitutae sibi
infamy and-now with-lost of-a-bride dignity of-a-prostitute for-herself
nomen adsciverit: addebat et tales oportere vivas exuri
the-name had-taken she-added also such ought alive to-be-burned
feminas. Et tamen taciti vulneris et suae sordidae
women and still of-the-silent wound and of-her filthy
conscientiae commonita, quo maturius stupratorem suum
conscience reminded that the-sooner seducer her
tegminis cruciatu liberaret, identidem suadebat maritum
of-the-covering from-the-torment she-might-free repeatedly urged husband
temperius quieti decedere. At ille, utpote intercepta cena
earlier to-rest to-retire but he as-being with-interrupted dinner
profugerat prorsus ieiunus, mensam potius comiter postulabat.
he-had-fled utterly fasting the-table rather courteously requested
Apponebat ei propere, quamvis invita mulier, quippini
served him quickly although unwilling the-woman naturally
destinatam alii: sed mihi penita carpebantur praecordia
intended for-another but my inmost were-plucked heart
et praecedens facinus et praesentem deterrimae feminae
both the-preceding deed and the-present of-the-worst woman
constantiam cogitanti mecumque sedulo deliberabam, si quo
composure as-I-pondered and-with-myself carefully I-deliberated if in-any
modo possem, detectis ac revelatis fraudibus, auxilium
way I-could with-uncovered and revealed frauds help
meo perhibere domino, illumque, qui ad instar testudinis
to-my to-render master and-him who in the-likeness of-a-tortoise
alveum succubabat, depulso tegmine cunctis palam facere.
the-trough lay-under with-thrust-off covering to-all plain to-make
Sic herili contumelia me cruciatum tandem caelestis 27
thus by-my-master's insult me tormented at-last heavenly
respexit providentia: nam senex claudus, cui nostra
regarded providence for an-old-man lame to-whom our

tutela permissa fuerat, universa nos iumenta, id hora
care entrusted had-been all us beasts that with-the-hour
iam postulante, ad lacum proxumum bibendi causa
now demanding to the-pool nearest of-drinking for-the-sake
gregatim prominabat. Quae res optatissimam mihi vindictae
in-a-herd drove-forth which thing the-most-longed-for to-me for-vengeance
subministravit occasionem: namque praetergrediens observatos
supplied occasion for passing-by observed
extremus adulteri digitos, qui per angustias cavi
last of-the-adulterer the-fingers which through the-narrows of-the-hollow
tegminis prominebant, obliquata atque infesta ungula compressos
covering stuck-out with-slanted and hostile hoof crushed
usque ad summam minutiem contero, donec intolerabili
right to the-utmost smallness I-grind until by-unbearable
dolore commotus, sublato flebili clamore, repulsoque et
pain moved with-raised tearful shout and-with-thrust-back and
abiecto alveo, conspectui profano redditus scaenam propudiosae
thrown-off trough to-the-sight profane restored the-scene of-the-shameless
mulieris patefecit. Nec tamen pistor damno pudicitiae
woman he-revealed nor still the-baker by-the-loss of-chastity
magnopere commotus exsangui pallore trepidantem puerum
greatly moved with-bloodless pallor trembling the-boy
serena fronte et propitiata facie commulcens incipit: “Nihil
with-serene brow and with-propitious face caressing begins nothing
triste de me tibi, fili, metuas. Non sum barbarus
grim from me for-yourself son fear not I-am a-barbarian
nec agresti morum squalore praeditus, nec ad exemplum
nor with-rustic of-manners roughness endowed nor after the-example
naccinae truculentiae sulphuris te letali fumo necabo, ac
of-fuller's savagery of-sulfur you with-deadly smoke I-shall-kill and
ne iuris quidem severitate lege de adulteriis ad discrimen
not of-law even by-the-severity by-the-law on adulteries to the-hazard

vocabo capitis tam venustum tamque pulchellum puellum, sed
I-shall-call of-life so charming and-so pretty a-little-boy but
plane cum uxore mea partiario tractabo; nec herciscundae
plainly with wife my as-a-share I-shall-treat nor of-the-estate-to-be-divided
familiae sed communi dividundo formula dimicabo, ut
of-the-family but for-the-common to-be-divided by-the-formula I-shall-contend that
sine ulla controversia vel dissensione tribus nobis in uno
without any controversy or dissension for-three us in one
conveniat lectulo. Nam et ipse semper cum mea
it-may-come-together bed for also I-myself always with my
coniuge tam concorditer vixi, ut ex secta prudentium
wife so harmoniously have-lived that after the-school of-the-wise
eadem nobis ambobus placerent. Sed nec aequitas ipsa
the-same-things to-us both pleased but nor equity itself
patitur habere plus auctoritatis uxorem quam maritum."
allows to-have more of-authority the-wife than the-husband
Talis sermonis blanditie cavillatum deducebat ad torum 28
of-such speech by-the-coaxing mocked he-led to the-bed
nolentem puerum, sequentem tamen, et pudicissima illa
unwilling the-boy following still and with-most-chaste that
uxore altrorsus disclusa solus ipse cum puero cubans
wife elsewhere shut-away alone himself with the-boy lying
gratissima corruptarum nuptiarum vindicta perfruebatur.
with-most-pleasing of-corrupted marriage vengeance he-enjoyed
Sed cum primum rota solis lucida diem peperit,
but when first the-wheel of-the-sun bright day brought-forth
vocatis duobus e familia validissimis, quam altissime
with-called two from the-household very-strong as very-high
sublato puero, ferula nates eius obverberans, "Tu autem,"
with-lifted boy with-a-rod buttocks his beating you however
inquit "Tam mollis ac tener et admodum puer, defraudatis
he-says so soft and tender and very-much a-boy with-cheated

amatoribus aetatis tuae flore, mulieres appetis atque eas
lovers of-age your of-the-flower women you-seek and them
liberas et connubia lege sociata corrumpis et intempestivum
free and marriages by-law joined you-corrupt and untimely
tibi nomen adulteri vindicas?" His et pluribus verbis
for-yourself the-name of-adulterer you-claim with-these and more words
compellatum et insuper affatim plagis castigatum forinsecus
addressed and moreover abundantly with-blows chastised out-of-doors
abicit; at ille adulterorum omnium fortissimus insperata
he-throws but he of-adulterers all the-bravest unhoped-for
potitus salute, tamen nates candidas illas noctu diuque
having-gained safety still buttocks white those by-night and-by-day
diruptus, maerens profugit: nec setius pistor ille nuntium
burst grieving fled nor otherwise baker that notice
remisit uxori eamque protinus de sua proturbavit domo.
sent to-his-wife and-her at-once from his drove-out house
29 At illa praeter genuinam nequitiam contumelia etiam, quamvis
but she besides native wickedness by-the-insult also although
iusta, tamen altius commota atque exasperata ad armillum
just still more-deeply moved and exasperated to the-wine-jar
revertitur et ad familiares feminarum artes accenditur,
returns and to the-familiar of-women arts is-kindled
magnaque cura requisitam veteratricem quandam feminam,
and-with-great care sought-out an-old-hand certain woman
quae devotionibus ac maleficiis quidvis efficere posse
who by-curses and spells anything to-effect to-be-able
credebatur, multis exorat precibus multisque suffarcinat
was-believed with-many entreats prayers and-with-many stuffs
muneribus, alterum de duobus postulans, vel rursum mitigato
gifts one of two demanding either again with-softened
conciliari marito, vel si id nequiverit, certe larva vel
to-be-reconciled husband or if that she-could-not at-least with-a-ghost or

aliquo diro numine immisso violenter eius expugnari spiritum.
some dire spirit sent-in violently his to-be-stormed breath
Tunc saga illa et divini potens primis adhuc armis
then witch that and of-the-divine powerful with-the-first still arms
facinorosae disciplinae suae velitatur et vehementer offensum
of-criminal discipline her skirmishes and violently offended
mariti flectere atque in amorem impellere conatur
of-the-husband to-bend and into love to-drive tries
animum. Quae res cum ei sequius ac rata fuerat
the-mind which thing when for-her otherwise than reckoned she-had
proveniret, indignata numinibus, et praeter praemii destinatum
turned-out indignant at-the-powers and besides of-reward the-intended
compendium contemptione etiam stimulata, ipsi iam
profit by-contempt also goaded against-the-very now
miserrimi mariti incipit imminere capiti, umbramque violenter
most-wretched husband begins to-threaten head and-the-shade of-a-violently
peremptae mulieris ad exitium eius instigare.
slain woman to the-ruin his to-incite
Sed forsitan lector scrupulosus reprehendens narratum meum 30
but perhaps reader scrupulous censuring narrative my
sic argumentaberis: “Unde autem tu, astutule asine, intra
thus you-will-argue whence however you clever-little ass within
terminos pistrini contectus quid secreto, ut affirmas, mulieres
the-bounds of-the-mill shut-in what in-secret as you-affirm women
gesserint scire potuisti?” Accipe igitur quemadmodum
did to-know could-you hear therefore how
homo curiosus iumenti faciem sustinens cuncta quae in
a-man curious of-a-beast the-form bearing all-things which for
perniciem pistoris mei gesta sunt cognovi. Diem ferme
the-ruin of-baker my done were I-learned the-day about
circa mediam repente intra pistrinum mulier reatu
around middle suddenly within the-mill a-woman in-mourning-garb

miraque tristitie deformis apparuit flebili centunculo
and-with-wondrous sadness disfigured appeared with-a-pitiful patchwork
semiamicta, nudis et intectis pedibus, lurore buxeo
half-clad with-bare and uncovered feet with-sallowness boxwood-colored
macieque foedata, et discerptae comae semicanae sordentes
and-with-leanness befouled and torn hairs half-gray filthy
inspersu cineris pleramque eius anteventulae contegebant
by-the-sprinkling of-ash most-of her falling-forward covered
faciem. Haec talis manu pistori clementer iniecta, quasi
face she such with-hand on-the-baker gently laid as-if
quippiam secreto collocutura in suum sibi cubiculum
something in-secret going-to-discuss into his own bedroom
deducit eum et adducta fore quam diutissime demoratur.
leads him and with-drawn-to door as very-long lingers
Sed cum esset iam confectum omne frumentum, quod
but when was already finished all the-grain which
inter manus opifices tractaverant, necessarioque peti
among hands the-workmen had-handled and-necessarily to-be-fetched
deberet aliud, servuli cubiculum propter adstantes dominum
ought other the-slaves the-bedroom near standing the-master
vocabant operique supplementum postulabant: atque ut
were-calling and-for-the-work a-supply demanded and as
illis saepicule et intervocaliter clamantibus nullus respondit
to-them often and loudly calling no-one answered
dominus, iam forem pulsare validius et, quod diligentissime
master now the-door they-knock more-strongly and because most-carefully
fuerat oppessulata, maius peiusque aliquid opinantes, nisu
it-had-been bolted greater and-worse something supposing with-effort
valido reducto vel diffracto cardine tandem patefaciunt
strong with-drawn-back or broken hinge at-last they-open
aditum. Nec uspiam reperta illa muliere vident e quodam
the-way nor anywhere found that woman they-see from a-certain

tigillo constrictum iamque exanimem pendere dominum;
little-beam bound and-now lifeless to-hang the-master
eumque nodo cervicis absolutum detractumque summis
and-him from-the-knot of-the-neck freed and-taken-down with-highest
plangoribus summisque lamentationibus atque ultimo
wailings and-highest lamentations and with-the-last
lavacro procurant, peractisque feralibus officiis frequenti
washing they-attend and-with-performed funeral duties with-a-crowded
prosequente comitatu tradunt sepulturae.
following escort they-hand-over to-burial
Die sequenti filia eius accurrit e proxumo castello, 31
on-the-day following daughter his runs-up from the-nearest fort
in quod pridem denupserat, maesta atque crines pendulos
into which long-ago she-had-married-away grieving and hair hanging
quatiens et interdum pugnis obtundens ubera; quae nullo
shaking and at-times with-fists beating breasts who with-no-one
quidem domus infortunium nuntiante cuncta cognorat, sed
indeed of-the-house the-misfortune announcing everything had-learned but
ei per quietem obtulit sese flebilis patris sui facies, adhuc
to-her in sleep presented itself the-tearful of-father her face still
nodo revincta cervice, eique totum novercae scelus
with-the-knot bound neck and-to-her whole of-the-stepmother the-crime
aperuit, de adulterio, de maleficio, et quemadmodum
disclosed about the-adultery about the-witchcraft and how
larvatus ad inferos demeasset. Ea cum se diutino plangore
bewitched to the-dead he-had-gone-down she when herself with-long wailing
cruciasset, concursu familiarium cohibita tandem pausam
had-tortured by-the-gathering of-the-household restrained at-last a-pause
luctui fecit: iamque nono die rite completis apud
to-mourning made and-now on-the-ninth day duly with-completed at
tumulum sollemnibus familiam supellectilemque et omnia
the-tomb rites the-household and-furniture and all

iumenta ad hereditariam deducit auctionem: tunc unum
beasts to an-inheritance she-brings auction then one
Larem varie dispergit venditionis incertae licentiosa fortuna.
hearth variously scatters of-sale uncertain the-wanton fortune
Me denique ipsum pauperculus quidam hortulanus comparat
me in-short myself a-poor-little certain gardener buys
quinquaginta nummis, magno, ut aiebat, sed ut communi
for-fifty coins dear as he-said but that by-common
labore victum sibi quaereret.
labor a-living for-himself he-might-seek

LXIV · THE GARDENER

Lucius serves a poor gardener and shares his meager food and winter cold. A householder, sheltered for a night, promises the gardener grain, oil, and wine; at his farm a hen lays a chick, blood springs from the ground, and the wine boils in the jars.

32 Res ipsa mihi poscere videtur ut huius quoque servitii mei
the-matter itself to-me to-demand seems that of-this also service my
disciplinam exponam. Matutino me multis holeribus onustum
the-routine I-set-out in-the-morning me with-many vegetables laden
proxumam civitatem deducere consuerat dominus atque ibi
to-the-nearest city to-lead was-accustomed the-master and there
venditoribus tradita merce dorsum insidens meum sic
to-sellers with-handed-over goods back sitting-on my so
hortum redire. Ac dum fodiens, dum irrigans ceteroque incurvus
the-garden to-return and while digging while watering and-in-other bent
labore deservit, ego tantisper otiosus placida quiete recreabar.
labor he-serves I meanwhile idle with-placid rest was-refreshed
Sed ecce siderum ordinatis ambagibus per numeros dierum
but behold of-the-stars with-ordered circuits through the-numbers of-days

ac mensuum remeans annus, post mustulentas autumni delicias
and of-months returning the-year after the-must-rich of-autumn delights
ad hibernas Capricorni pruinas deflexerat et assiduis pluviis
to the-wintry of-Capricorn frosts had-turned and by-constant rains
nocturnisque rorationibus sub dio et intecto conclusus
and-nightly dews under the-sky and in-an-uncovered shut-in
stabulo continuo discruciabar frigore, quippe cum meus dominus
stable by-continuous I-was-tortured cold naturally since my master
prae nimia paupertate ne sibi quidem, nedum mihi posset
for excessive poverty not for-himself even much-less for-me could
stramen aliquod vel exiguum tegimen parare, sed frondoso
straw any or slight covering provide but with-leafy
casulae contentus umbraculo degeret. Ad hoc matutino
of-a-hut content shelter he-lived besides this in-the-morning
lutum nimis frigidum gelusque praeacuta frusta nudis invadens
mud too cold and-of-ice very-sharp pieces with-bare treading
pedibus enitebar, ac ne suetis saltem cibariis ventrem
feet I-struggled and not with-accustomed at-least rations belly
meum replere poteram; namque et mihi et ipsi domino
my to-fill I-could for both for-me and for-the-very master
cena par ac similis, oppido tamen tenuis aderat, lactucae
a-dinner equal and alike exceedingly still thin was-present lettuces
veteres et insuaves illae, quae seminis enormi senecta ad
old and unpleasant those which of-seed with-enormous old-age in
instar scoparum in amaram caenosi succus cariem exolescunt.
the-likeness of-brooms into bitter of-muddy juice rottenness wither
Nocte quadam paterfamilias quidam de pago proximo 33
on-a-night certain a-householder certain from the-village nearest
tenebris inluniae caliginis impeditus et imbre nimio
by-the-darkness of-moonless gloom hindered and by-rain excessive
madefactus, atque ob id ab itinere directo cohibitus, ad
soaked and on that from the-road straight held-back to

hortulum nostrum iam fesso equo deverterat receptusque
little-garden our now with-tired horse had-turned-aside and-received
comiter pro tempore, licet non delicato, necessario tamen
kindly for the-occasion though not with-delicate with-necessary still
quietis subsidio, remunerari benignum hospitem cupiens
of-rest help to-repay the-kind host wishing
promittit ei de praediis suis sese daturum et frumenti
promises to-him from estates his himself going-to-give both of-grain
et olivi aliquid et amplius duos vini cados. Nec moratus
and of-oil some and more two of-wine jars nor having-delayed
meus sacculo et utribus vacuis secum apportatis nudae
my-master with-a-sack and skins empty with-him brought on-the-bare
spinae meae residens ad sexagesimum stadium profectionem
spine my sitting to the-sixtieth stade a-journey
comparat. Eo iam confecto viae spatio pervenimus ad
prepares with-that now completed of-road space we-reached to
praedictos agros, ibique statim meum dominum comis
the-aforesaid fields and-there at-once my master the-courteous
hospes opipari prandio participat. Iamque iis poculis
host in-a-sumptuous lunch shares and-now with-them with-cups
mutuis altercantibus mirabile prorsus evenit ostentum. Una de
mutual competing a-wondrous utterly came-about portent one of
cetera cohorte gallina per mediam cursitans aream clangore
the-other flock a-hen through the-middle running-about of-the-yard with-cackle
genuino velut ovum parere gestiens personabat. Eam suus
native as-if an-egg to-lay longing resounded her its
dominus intuens "O bona" inquit "Ancilla et satis fecunda
master watching O good he-says maidservant and quite fertile
quae multo iam tempore cotidianis nos partubus saginasti!
who for-much now time with-daily us births you-have-fattened
Nunc etiam cogitas, ut video, gustulum nobis praeparare."
now also you-think as I-see a-little-appetizer for-us to-prepare

Et “Heus” inquit “Puer, calathum fetui gallinaceo destinatum
and hey he-says boy the-basket for-brood hen's intended
angulo solito collocato.” Ita uti fuerat iussum procurante
in-corner usual place so as it-had-been ordered with-seeing-to-it
puero, gallina consuetae lecticulae spreto cubili ante ipsos
the-boy the-hen of-her-usual little-bed with-spurned couch before the-very
pedes domini praematurum sed magno prorsus futurum
feet of-the-master a-premature but for-great utterly going-to-be
scrupulo prodidit partum: non enim ovum, quod scimus illud,
anxiety produced offspring not for an-egg which we-know that
sed pinnis et unguibus et oculis et voce etiam perfectum
but with-feathers and claws and eyes and voice even complete
edidit pullum, qui matrem suam coepit continuo comitari.
it-brought-forth a-chick which mother its began at-once to-accompany
Nec eo setius longe maius ostentum, et quod omnes 34
nor by-that the-less far greater a-portent and which all
merito perhorrescerent, exoritur: sub ipsa enim mensa,
deservedly might-shudder-at arises under the-very for table
quae reliquias prandii gerebat, terra dehiscens imitus
which the-remains of-lunch bore the-earth gaping from-deep-below
largissimum emicuit sanguinis fontem; hinc resultantes
a-most-abundant shot-up of-blood fountain hence leaping-back
uberrimae guttae mensam cruore perspergunt. Ipsoque
most-copious drops the-table with-gore sprinkle and-at-the-very
illo momento, quo stupore defixi mirantur ac trepidant
that moment in-which with-stupor fixed they-wonder and tremble-at
divina praesagia, concurrit unus e cella vinaria nuntians
divine omens runs-up one from the-cellar wine announcing
omne vinum, quod olim diffusum fuerat, in omnibus doliis
all the-wine which long-ago poured-out had-been in all jars
ferventi calore et prorsus ut igne copioso subdito rebullire.
with-boiling heat and utterly as-if with-fire abundant put-under to-boil-up

Visae interea mustelae etiam mortuum serpentem forinsecus
were-seen meanwhile weasels also a-dead serpent from-outside
mordicus attrahentes, et de ore pastoricii canis virens
with-teeth dragging-in and from the-mouth of-a-shepherd's dog a-green
exsiluit ranula, ipsumque canem qui proximus consistebat
leaped-out little-frog and-the-very dog which nearest was-standing
aries appetitum unico morsu strangulavit. Haec tot
a-ram attacked with-single bite strangled these-things so-many
ac talia ingenti pavore domini illius et familiae totius ad
and such with-huge fear of-master that and of-household whole to
extremum stuporem deiecerant animos, quid prius quidve
extreme stupor had-cast-down the-minds what first or-what
posterius, quid magis quid minus, numinum caelestium
afterward what more what less of-the-powers heavenly
leniendis minis quot et qualibus procuraretur hostiis.
for-appeasing threats with-how-many and what-kind should-be-expiated victims

LXV · THE THREE BROTHERS

A slave brings worse news. The host's three sons, defending a poor neighbor against a rich bully, were killed: one torn by dogs, one speared, and the third, after killing the rich man, took his own life. The father kills himself at the table.

35 Adhuc omnibus expectatione taeterrimae formidinis torpidis
still with-all by-expectation of-most-hideous dread numbed
accurrit quidam servulus magnas et postremas domino illi
runs-up a-certain little-slave great and final to-master that
fundorum clades annuntians. Namque is adultis iam tribus
of-the-estates disasters announcing for he with-grown now three
liberis doctrina instructis et verecundia praeditis vivebat
children in-learning trained and with-modesty endowed lived

gloriosus. His adulescentibus erat cum quodam paupere
glorious to-these young-men there-was with a-certain poor-man
modicae casulae domino vetus familiaritas: at enim casulae
of-a-modest but owner an-old friendship but indeed to-the-hut
parvulae conterminos magnos et beatos agros possidebat
little bordering great and rich fields possessed
vicinus potens et dives et iuvenis, sed prosapiae maiorum
a-neighbor powerful and wealthy and young but of-the-lineage of-his-ancestors
gloria male utens pollensque factionibus et cuncta facile
the-glory badly using and-powerful in-factions and all-things easily
faciens in civitate: hic hostili modo vicini tenuis
doing in the-city he in-hostile way of-the-neighbor slender
incursabat pauperiem pecua trucidando, boves abigendo, fruges
assailed the-poverty cattle by-slaughtering oxen by-driving-off crops
adhuc immaturas obterendo. Iamque tota frugalitate spoliatum
still unripe by-trampling and-now of-all (his)-thrift stripped
ipsis etiam glebulis exterminare gestiebat finiumque
from-the-very also little-clods to-drive-out was-eager and-of-boundaries
inani commota quaestione terram totam sibi vindicabat.
with-empty stirred dispute land all for-himself claimed
Tunc agrestis, verecundus alioquin, avaritia divitis iam
then the-rustic modest otherwise by-the-greed of-the-rich-man now
spoliatus, ut suo saltem sepulchro paternum retineret solum,
stripped that for-his at-least tomb the-paternal he-might-keep soil
amicos plurimos ad demonstrationem finium trepidans
friends very-many for the-showing of-boundaries alarmed
eximie corrogarat: aderant inter alios tres illi fratres
exceedingly had-gathered there-were among others three those brothers
cladibus amici quantulum quantulum ferentes auxilium.
to-the-disasters of-their-friend however-little however-little bringing help

36 Nec tamen ille vesanus tantillum praesentia multorum civium
nor still that madman in-the-least by-the-presence of-many citizens
territus vel etiam confusus, licet non rapinis, saltem verbis
frightened or even confounded though not from-plunder at-least in-words
temperare voluit sed, illis clementer expostulantibus
to-restrain-himself wished but with-them mildly remonstrating
fervidosque eius mores blanditiis permulcentibus, repente
and-hot his temper with-coaxings soothing suddenly
suam suorumque carorum salutem quam sanctissime adiurans
his-own and-of-his dear-ones the-safety as most-solemnly swearing-by
asseverat parvi se pendere tot mediatorum praesentiam;
he-asserts at-little himself to-value of-so-many mediators the-presence
denique vicinum illum auriculis per suos servulos sublatum
in-short neighbor that by-the-ears by his slaves lifted
de casula longissime statimque proiectum iri: quo dicto
from the-hut very-far and-at-once thrown to-be which said
insignis indignatio totos audientium pertemptavit animos.
a-remarkable indignation whole of-the-hearers tried minds
Tunc unus e tribus fratribus incunctanter et paulo liberius
then one of the-three brothers without-hesitation and a-little more-freely
respondit, frustra eum suis opibus confisum tyrannica
answered in-vain him in-his wealth trusting with-tyrannical
superbia comminari, cum alioquin pauperes etiam liberali
pride to-threaten since otherwise the-poor even by-the-generous
legum praesidio de insolentia locupletium consueverint
of-laws protection from the-insolence of-the-rich are-wont
vindicari. Quod oleum flammae, quod sulphur incendio,
to-be-defended what oil to-flame what sulfur to-a-blaze
quod flagellum Furiae, hoc et iste sermo truculentiae
what the-whip to-a-Fury this also that speech to-the-ferocity
hominis nutrimento fuit. Iamque ad extremam insaniam
of-the-man as-nourishment was and-now to utmost insanity

vecors suspendium sese et totis illis et ipsis legibus
mad hanging himself and to-all them and to-the-very laws
mandare proclamans, canes pastoricios villaticos, feros atque
to-consign proclaiming dogs shepherd's farm wild and
immanes, assuetos abiecta per agros essitare cadavera,
monstrous accustomed thrown-away through the-fields to-eat corpses
praeterea etiam transeuntium viatorum passivis morsibus
moreover also of-passing travelers in-random bites
alumnatos, laxari atque in eorum exitium inhortatos immitti
reared to-be-loosed and for their destruction urged-on to-be-set-on
praecipit. Qui simul signo solito pastorum incensi
he-orders which as-soon-as by-the-signal usual of-the-shepherds inflamed
atque inflammati sunt, furiosa rabie conciti et latratibus
and fired were by-furious madness roused and with-barkings
etiam absonis horribiles, eunt in homines eosque variis
also discordant terrible go against the-men and-them with-various
aggressi vulneribus distrahunt ac lacerant, nec fugientibus
having-attacked wounds they-tear-apart and lacerate nor the-fleeing
saltem compescunt sed eo magis irritatiores sequuntur.
at-least spare but by-that more more-irritated they-pursue
Tunc inter confertam trepidae multitudinis stragem e 37
then amid the-crowded of-the-panicking multitude havoc of
tribus iunior offenso lapide atque obtunsis digitis
the-three the-younger with-stumbled-on stone and with-bruised toes
terrae prosternitur, saevisque illis ac ferocissimis canibus
to-the-ground is-thrown and-for-cruel those and most-ferocious dogs
instruit nefariam dapem: protenus enim nancti praedam
provides an-unspeakable feast at-once for having-got the-prey
iacentem miserum illum adulescentem frustatim discerpunt.
lying wretched that young-man piece-by-piece they-tear-apart
Atque ut eius letalem ululatum cognovere ceteri fratres,
and as his deadly howl recognized the-other brothers

accurrunt maesti suppetias, obvolutisque lacinia laevis
run-up grieving to-help and-with-wrapped with-the-cloak left
manibus lapidum crebris iactibus propugnare fratri
hands of-stones with-frequent throws to-defend for-the-brother
atque abigere canes aggrediuntur. Nec tamen eorum ferociam
and to-drive-off the-dogs they-set-about nor still their ferocity
vel conterrere vel expugnare potuere, quippe cum miserrimus
either to-frighten or to-overcome could naturally since the-most-wretched
adulescens ultima voce prolata, vindicarent de pollutissimo
young-man with-last voice uttered they-should-avenge on the-most-polluted
divite mortem fratris iunioris, illico laniatus interisset.
rich-man the-death of-their-brother younger on-the-spot torn had-perished
Tunc reliqui fratres non tam Hercule desperata quam
then the-remaining brothers not so-much by-Hercules with-despaired-of as
ultro neglecta sua salute contendunt ad divitem atque
deliberately neglected their safety hasten to the-rich-man and
ardentibus animis impetuque vesano lapidibus crebris in eum
with-burning spirits and-with-onset mad with-stones frequent at him
velitantur. At ille cruentus et multis ante flagitiis similibus
skirmish but he bloody and in-many earlier outrages similar
exercitatus percussor iniecta lancea duorum alterum per
practiced murderer with-thrown lance of-the-two one through
pectus medium transadegit: nec tamen peremptus ac prorsum
the-breast middle ran-through nor still killed and utterly
exanimatus adulescens ille terrae concidit; nam telum
lifeless young-man that to-the-ground fell for the-weapon
transvectum atque ex maxima parte pone tergum elapsum
carried-through and in the-greatest part behind the-back slipped-out
soloque nisus violentia defixum rigore librato
and-in-the-ground of-the-thrust by-the-violence fixed with-its-stiffness balanced
suspenderat corpus. Sed et quidam de servulis procerus et
had-held-up the-body but also a-certain-one of the-slaves tall and

validus sicario illi ferens auxilium lapide contorto tertii
strong to-assassin that bringing help with-a-stone hurled of-the-third
illius iuvenis dexterum brachium longo iactu petierat,
that young-man the-right arm with-a-long throw had-aimed-at
sed impetu casso per extremos digitos transcurrens lapis
but with-force empty over the-tips of-fingers running-across the-stone
contra omnium opinionem deciderat innoxius.
against of-all expectation had-fallen harmless
Nonnullam tamen sagacissimo iuveni proventus humanior 38
some still to-the-very-shrewd young-man an-outcome kinder
vindictae speculam subministravit ficta namque manus suae
of-vengeance a-hope supplied with-feigned for of-hand his
debilitate sic crudelissimum iuvenem compellat: "Fruere exitio
weakness thus the-most-cruel young-man he-addresses enjoy the-ruin
totius nostrae familiae et sanguine trium fratrum insatiabilem
of-whole our family and with-the-blood of-three brothers insatiable
tuam crudelitatem pasce, et de prostratis tuis civibus gloriose
your cruelty feed and over prostrate your fellow-citizens gloriously
triumpha, dum scias, licet privato suis possessionibus
triumph provided you-know though with-deprived of-his possessions
paupere fines usque et usque proterminaveris, habiturum
the-poor-man boundaries ever and ever you-extend to-be-going-to-have
te tamen vicinum aliquem. Nam haec etiam dextera, quae
you still neighbor some for this also right-hand which
tuum prorsus amputasset caput, iniquitate fati contusa
your utterly would-have-cut-off head by-the-unfairness of-fate crushed
decidit." Quo sermone, alioquin exasperatus, furiosus latro
has-fallen by-which speech anyway exasperated the-raging robber
rapto gladio sua miserrimum iuvenem manu perempturus
with-snatched sword with-his the-most-wretched young-man hand going-to-kill
invadit avidus. Nec tamen sui molliorem provocarat,
attacks eagerly nor still than-himself a-softer he-had-challenged

quippe insperato et longe contra eius opinionem resistens
naturally unexpectedly and far against his expectation resisting
iuvenis complexu fortissimo arripit eius dexteram, magnoque
the-young-man with-grip very-strong seizes his right-hand and-with-great
nisu ferro librato multis et crebris ictibus impuram
effort with-the-iron balanced with-many and frequent blows impure
elidit divitis animam, et ut accurrentium etiam
he-crushes-out of-the-rich-man the-soul and that of-the-running-up also
familiarium manu se liberaret, confestim adhuc inimici
household from-the-hand himself he-might-free at-once still of-the-enemy
sanguine delibuto mucrone gulam sibi prorsus exsecuit. Haec
with-blood smeared with-the-blade the-throat his utterly cut these
erant quae prodigiosa praesagaverant ostenta, haec quae
were-the-things which portentous had-foretold omens these-things which
miserrimo domino fuerant nuntiata. Nec ullum verbum ac
to-the-most-wretched master had-been announced nor any word and
ne tacitum quidem fletum tot malis circumventus senex
not silent even weeping by-so-many evils surrounded the-old-man
quivit emittere, sed arrepto ferro, quo commodum inter
could to-send-forth but with-seized the-iron with-which just-now among
suos epulones caseum atque alias prandii partes diviserat, ipse
his feasters cheese and other of-lunch portions he-had-divided he
quoque ad instar infelicissimi sui filii iugulum sibi multis
also in the-likeness of-unhappiest his son throat his with-many
ictibus contrucidat, quoad super mensam cernulus corruens
blows backs until over the-table headlong falling
portentuosi cruoris maculas novi sanguinis fluvio proluit.
of-portentous gore the-stains of-new blood with-a-river he-washed-away

LXVI · THE SOLDIER

On the way home a soldier demands the ass and beats the gardener, who knocks him down and flees to a friend's house in the city, hiding the ass upstairs. The soldiers find them when Lucius peeps out of the window, and the gardener is jailed; hence the proverb of the ass's peeping.

Ad istum modum puncto brevissimo dilapsae domus 39
in this way in-a-moment very-brief of-the-collapsed house
fortunam hortulanus ille miseratus suosque casus graviter
the-fortune gardener that pitying and-his-own mishaps heavily
ingemescens, deprensis pro prandio lacrimis vacuasque manus
bemoaning with-caught for lunch tears and-empty hands
complodens saepicule, protinus inscenso me retro, quam
clapping often at-once with-mounted me back which
veneramus, viam capessit. Nec innoxius ei saltem regressus
we-had-come the-road takes-up nor harmless to-him at-least the-return
evenit: nam quidam procerus et, ut indicabat habitus atque
turned-out for a-certain tall and as showed dress and
habitudo, miles e legione, factus nobis obvius, superbo atque
bearing soldier of a-legion made to-us meeting with-proud and
arroganti sermone percontatur quorsum vacuum duceret
arrogant speech asks whither empty he-was-leading
asinum: at meus adhuc maerore permixtus et alias Latini
the-ass but my-master still with-grief confused and otherwise of-Latin
sermonis ignarus, tacitus praeteribat. Nec miles ille familiarem
speech ignorant silent was-passing nor soldier that habitual
cohibere quivit insolentiam sed indignatus silentio eius ut
to-restrain could insolence but indignant at-silence his as
convicio, viti quam tenebat obtundens eum dorso
an-insult with-the-vine-staff which he-held beating him from-back

meo proturbat. Tunc, hortulanus supplicue respondit sermonis
my he-knocks then the-gardener humbly answered of-the-speech
ignorantia se quid ille diceret scire non posse: ergo
through-ignorance himself what he said to-know not to-be-able therefore
igitur Graece subiciens miles "Ubi" inquit "Ducis asinum
then in-Greek putting-in the-soldier where he-says are-you-leading ass
istum?" Respondit hortulanus petere se civitatem proxumam.
that answered the-gardener to-seek himself the-city nearest
"Sed mihi" inquit "Operae eius opus est; nam de proxumo
but to-me he-says of-the-work its need there-is for from the-nearest
castello sarcinas praesidis nostri cum ceteris iumentis debet
fort the-baggage of-the-governor our with other beasts it-must
advehere," et iniecta statim manu loro me, quo ducebar,
to-carry and with-thrown at-once hand by-the-thong me by-which I-was-led
arreptum incipit trahere. Sed hortulanus prioris plagae
seized he-begins to-drag but the-gardener of-the-former blow
vulnere prolapsum capite sanguinem detergens rursus
from-the-wound slipped from-head the-blood wiping-off again
deprecatur civilius atque mansuetius versari commilitonem,
entreats more-civilly and more-gently to-deal the-fellow-soldier
idque per spes prosperas eius orabat adiurans. "Nam et
and-this by hopes prosperous his he-begged swearing for both
hic ipse" aiebat "Iners asellus et nihilo minus morbo
this-one himself he-said sluggish little-ass and by-nothing the-less by-disease
detestabili caducus vix etiam paucos holerum manipulos de
detestable epileptic scarcely even few of-vegetables bundles from
proxumo hortulo solet anhelitu languido fatigatus subvehere,
the-nearest little-garden is-wont with-breath faint wearied to-carry-up
nedum ut rebus amplioribus idoneus videatur gerulus."
much-less that for-things larger fit he-may-seem as-porter

Sed ubi nullis precibus mitigari militem magisque in suam 40
but when by-no prayers to-be-softened the-soldier and-more to his
perniciem advertit efferari, iamque inversa vite de
ruin he-notices to-grow-savage and-now with-reversed vine-staff from
vastiore nodulo cerebrum suum diffindere, currit ad extrema
the-huger knob brain his to-split he-runs to the-last
subsidia, simulansque e re ad commovendam
resources and-pretending from the-circumstance for stirring
miserationem genua eius velle contingere, summissus atque
pity the-knees his to-wish to-touch lowered and
incurvatus, arreptis eius utrisque pedibus sublimem elatum
bent with-seized his both feet high raised
terrae graviter applodit, et statim qua pugnis, qua cubitis,
on-the-earth heavily dashes and at-once now with-fists now with-elbows
qua morsibus, etiam de via lapide correpto totam faciem
now with-bites even from the-road with-a-stone snatched whole face
manusque eius et latera converberat. Nec ille ut primum
and-hands his and sides beats nor he as first
humi supinatus est, vel repugnare vel omnino munire
on-the-ground laid-on-his-back was either to-fight-back or at-all to-protect
se potuit sed plane identidem comminabatur, si surrexisset,
himself could but plainly repeatedly threatened if he-had-got-up
sese concisurum eum machaera sua frustatim. Quo sermone
himself going-to-cut-up him with-sword his piece-by-piece by-which speech
eius commonefactus hortulanus eripit ei spatham eaque
his reminded the-gardener snatches from-him the-blade and-with-it
longissime abiecta rursum saevioribus eum plagis aggreditur:
very-far thrown again with-more-savage him blows attacks
nec ille prostratus et praeventus vulneribus ullum repperire
nor he laid-low and forestalled by-wounds any to-find
saluti quiens subsidium, quod solum restabat, simulat sese
for-safety able help what alone remained feigns himself

mortuum. Tunc spatham illam secum asportans hortulanus
dead then blade that with-him carrying-off the-gardener
inscenso me concito gradu recta festinat ad civitatem, nec
with-mounted me with-hurried step straight hastens to the-city nor
hortulum suum saltem curans invisere, ad quempiam sibi
little-garden his at-least caring to-visit to some to-him
devertit familiarem, cunctisque narratis deprecatur periclitanti
turns-aside friend and-with-all recounted he-begs in-danger
sibi ferret auxilium seque cum suo sibi asino tantisper
to-himself he-should-bring help and-himself with his own ass for-a-while
occultaret, quoad celatus spatio bidui triduive capitalem
he-should-hide until concealed for-a-space of-two-days or-three-days capital
causam evaderet. Nec oblitus ille veteris amicitiae prompte
the-charge he-might-escape nor forgetful he of-old friendship readily
suscipit, meque per scalas complicitis pedibus in superius
receives and-me by stairs with-folded feet into the-upper
cenaculum attracto, hortulanus deorsus in ipsa tabernacula
room drawn-up the-gardener below in the-very shop
derepit in quandam cistulam et superingesto delitescit orificio.
creeps-down into a-certain little-chest and with-heaped-over hides opening
41 At miles ille, ut postea didici, tandem velut emersus gravi
but soldier that as later I-learned at-last as-if risen-out from-a-heavy
crapula, nutabundus tamen et tot plagarum dolore
drunkenness staggering still and of-so-many blows with-the-pain
saucius baculoque se vix sustinens civitatem adventat,
wounded and-with-a-stick himself scarcely supporting to-the-city comes
confususque de impotentia deque inertia sua quicquam ad
and-ashamed of weakness and-of cowardice his anything to
quemquam referre popularium, sed tacitus iniuriam devorans,
any to-report of-the-townsfolk but silent the-injury swallowing
quosdam commilitones nanctus, is tantum clades enarrat
certain fellow-soldiers having-found to-them only disasters recounts

suas. Placuit ut ipse quidem contubernio se tantisper
his it-pleased that he indeed in-the-barracks himself for-a-while
absconderet (nam praeter propriam contumeliam militaris
should-hide for besides personal disgrace of-the-military
etiam sacramenti genium ob amissam spatham
also oath the-guardian-spirit on-account-of the-lost blade
verebatur), ipsi autem signis nostris enotatis investigationi
he-feared they however with-marks our noted to-search
vindictaeque sedulam darent operam: nec defuit vicinus
and-vengeance careful should-give effort nor was-lacking a-neighbor
perfidus qui nos illico occultari nuntiaret. Tum commilitones
faithless who us there to-be-hidden should-report then the-fellow-soldiers
accersitis magistratibus mentiuntur sese multi pretii
with-summoned magistrates lie themselves of-much value
vasculum argenteum praesidis in via perdidisse, idque
a-little-vessel silver of-the-governor on the-road to-have-lost and-it
hortulanum quendam repperisse nec velle restituere, sed apud
gardener a-certain to-have-found nor to-wish to-return but at
familiarem quendam sibi delitescere. Tunc magistratus et
friend a-certain to-himself to-be-hiding then the-magistrates both
damno et praesidis nomine cognito veniunt ad deversorii
by-the-loss and of-the-governor by-the-name learned come to of-the-lodging
nostri fores claraque voce denuntiant hospiti nostro nos,
our the-doors and-with-clear voice warn host our us
quos occultaret apud se certo certius, dedere potius
whom he-was-hiding with himself surer than-sure to-hand-over rather
quam discrimen proprii subiret capitis. Nec ille tantillum
than the-hazard of-his-own he-should-undergo life nor he in-the-least
conterritus salutique studens eius quem in suam receperat
terrified and-for-safety caring of-him whom into his had-received
fidem, quicquam de nobis fatetur ac diebus plusculis nec
trust anything about us admits and for-days several not

vidisse quidem illum hortulanum contendit: contra
to-have-seen even that gardener he-maintains on-the-other-hand
commilitones ibi nec uspiam illum delitescere adiurantes
the-fellow-soldiers there and-not elsewhere him to-be-hiding swearing-by
genium principis contendebant. Postremum magistratibus
the-genius of-the-emperor maintained at-last to-the-magistrates
placuit obstinate denegantem scrutinio detegere; immissis
it-seemed-good obstinately denying by-a-search to-expose with-sent-in
itaque lictoribus ceterisque publicis ministeriis angulatim
and-so lictors and-other public officers corner-by-corner
cuncta sedulo perlustrari iubent: nec quisquam mortalium ac
all carefully to-be-searched they-order nor anyone of-mortals and
ne ipse quidem asinus intra limen comparere nuntiatur.
not the-very even ass within the-threshold to-appear is-reported
42 Tunc gliscit violentior utrimquesecus contentio: militum
then grows more-violent on-both-sides the-dispute of-the-soldiers
pro comperto de nobis asseverantium fidemque Caesaris
for certain about us asserting and-the-faith of-Caesar
identidem implorantium, at illius negantis assidueque deum
repeatedly imploring but of-him denying and-constantly of-the-gods
numen obtestantis. Qua contentione et clamoso strepitu
the-power calling-to-witness with-which dispute and noisy din
cognito, curiosus alioquin et inquieti procacitate praeditus
heard curious otherwise and of-restless impudence endowed
asinus, dum obliquata cervice per quandam fenestrulam
an-ass while with-slanted neck through a-certain little-window
quidnam sibi vellet tumultus ille prospicere gestio, unus e
what to-itself meant uproar that to-look-out I-long one of
commilitonibus casu fortuito collimatis oculis ad umbram
the-fellow-soldiers by-chance accidental with-directed eyes to shadow
meam cunctos testatur incoram. Magnus denique continuo
my all calls-to-witness openly a-great in-short at-once

clamor exortus est, et emensis protenus scalis iniecta
shout arisen has and with-climbed at-once stairs with-thrown
manu quidam me velut captivum detrahunt. Iamque omni
hand some me as a-captive drag-down and-now with-all
sublata cunctatione scrupulosius contemplantes singula, cista
removed hesitation more-scrupulously examining each-thing with-chest
etiam illa revelata repertum productumque et oblatum
also that uncovered found and-brought-out and presented
magistratibus miserum hortulanum, poenas scilicet capite
to-the-magistrates wretched gardener penalty of-course with-his-life
pensurum in publicum deducunt carcerem, summoque risu
going-to-pay into the-public they-lead prison and-with-highest laughter
meum prospectum cavillari non desinunt. Unde etiam de
my peeping to-mock not they-cease whence also about
prospectu et umbra asini natum est frequens proverbium.
the-peeping and shadow of-an-ass born has the-frequent proverb

BOOK X

LXVII · THE STEPMOTHER

The soldier takes Lucius to a town where he lodges with a councilor. The councilor's wife falls in love with her stepson, who puts her off. Spurned, she plans to poison him, but her own son drinks the cup by mistake and falls lifeless, and she accuses her stepson of the murder. The grieving father rouses the council and people to stone him, but the magistrates insist on a lawful trial.

Die sequenti meus quidem dominus hortulanus quid 1
on-the-day following my indeed master the-gardener what
egerit nescio, me tamen miles ille, qui propter eximiam
he-did I-know-not me still soldier that who on-account-of exceptional
impotentiam pulcherrime vapularat, ab illo praesepio
violence most-beautifully had-been-thrashed from that manger
nullo equidem contradicente deductum abducit atque a
with-no-one indeed objecting led-down takes-away and from
suo contubernio (hoc enim mihi videbatur) sarcinis propriis
his barracks this for to-me it-seemed with-baggage his-own
onustum et prorsum exornatum armatumque militariter
loaded and utterly adorned and-armed in-military-fashion
producit ad viam. Nam et galeam gerebam nitore
leads-out onto the-road for both a-helmet I-carried with-brightness
praemicantem et scutum longius relucens sed etiam lanceam
glittering and a-shield further gleaming but also a-lance
longissimo hastili conspicuam, quae scilicet non disciplinae
with-a-very-long shaft conspicuous which of-course not of-discipline
tunc quidem causa sed propter terrendos miseros viatores
then indeed for-the-sake but for terrifying wretched travelers
in summo atque edito sarcinarum cumulo ad instar exercitus
on the-top and raised of-the-baggage pile in the-likeness of-an-army

sedulo composuerat. Confecta campestri nec adeo difficili
carefully he-had-arranged with-finished level nor so difficult
via ad quandam civitatulam pervenimus, nec in stabulo sed
road to a-certain little-town we-came nor in an-inn but
in domo cuiusdam decurionis devertimus, statimque me
in the-house of-a-certain councilor we-lodged and-at-once with-me
commendato cuidam servulo ipse ad praepositum suum, qui
entrusted to-a-certain slave himself to the-commander his who
mille armatorum ducatum sustinebat, sollicite proficiscitur.
of-a-thousand armed-men the-command held anxiously sets-out
2 Post dies plusculos ibidem dissignatum scelestum ac nefarium
after days several there perpetrated wicked and unspeakable
facinus memini, sed ut vos etiam legatis, ad librum profero.
a-crime I-remember but that you also may-read to the-book I-bring-forth
Dominus aedium habebat iuvenem filium probe litteratum atque
the-master of-the-house had a-young son well lettered and
ob id consequenter pietate, modestia praecipuum, quem tibi
on that consequently in-devotion in-modesty outstanding whom for-you
quoque provenisse cuperes vel talem. Huius matre
also to-have-come-forth you-would-wish or such of-him with-the-mother
multo ante defuncta, rursum matrimonium sibi reparaverat,
much before dead again marriage for-himself he-had-renewed
ductaque alia filium procreaverat alium, qui adaeque iam
and-with-married another a-son had-begotten another who equally now
duodecimum annum aetatis supercesserat. Sed noverca forma
the-twelfth year of-age had-passed but the-stepmother in-beauty
magis quam moribus in domo mariti praepollens, seu
more than in-character in the-house of-her-husband prevailing whether
naturaliter impudica seu fato ad extremum impulsa flagitium,
by-nature shameless or by-fate to the-utmost driven outrage
oculos ad privignum adiecit: iam ergo, lector optime, scito te
eyes to the-stepson cast now therefore reader best know yourself

tragoediam, non fabulam legere, et a socco ad cothurnum
a-tragedy not a-tale to-read and from the-sock to the-buskin
ascendere. Sed mulier illa quamdiu primis elementis Cupido
to-climb but woman that as-long-as in-first beginnings Cupid
parvulus nutriebatur, imbecillis adhuc eius viribus facile ruborem
little was-nursed with-weak still his strength easily blush
tenuem deprimens silentio resistebat: at ubi, completis igne
slight suppressing by-silence resisted but when with-filled by-fire
vesano totis praecordiis, immodice bacchatus Amor exaestuabat,
mad whole heart immoderately raving Love boiled
saevienti deo iam succubuit, et languore simulato vulnus
to-the-raging god now she-yielded and with-a-languor feigned the-wound
animi mentitur in corporis valetudine. Iam cetera salutis
of-the-mind she-disguises in of-the-body illness now the-other of-health
vultusque detrimenta et aegris et amantibus examussim
and-of-face losses both to-the-sick and to-lovers exactly
convenire nemo qui nesciat: pallor deformis, marcentes oculi,
to-agree no-one who knows-not pallor unsightly drooping eyes
lassa genua, quies turbida et suspiritus cruciatus tarditate
weary knees rest troubled and sighs of-torment by-slowness
vehementior: crederes et illam fluctuare tantum vaporibus
more-violent you-would-believe also her to-toss only with-the-heats
febrium, nisi quod et flebat. Heu medicorum ignarae mentes!
of-fevers except that also she-wept alas of-doctors ignorant minds
Quid venae pulsus, quid caloris intemperantia, quid fatigatus
what of-the-vein beat what of-heat excess what wearied
anhelitus et utrimquesecus iactatae crebriter laterum mutuae
panting and on-both-sides tossed frequently of-the-sides mutual
vicissitudines? Dii boni! Quam facilis licet non artifici
alternations gods good how easy though not to-a-skilled

medico, cuivis tamen docto Veneriae cupidinis comprehensio,
doctor to-anyone still learned of-Venus' desire the-grasping
cum videas aliquem sine corporis calore flagrantem.
when you-see someone without of-body heat burning
3 Ergo igitur impatientia furoris altius agitata diutinum rupit
therefore then by-impatience of-frenzy more-deeply driven long she-broke
silentium et ad se vocari praecipit filium: quod nomen
silence and to herself to-be-called orders the-son which name
in eo, si posset, ne ruboris admoneretur, libenter eraderet.
in him if she-could lest of-blushing she-be-reminded gladly she-would-erase
Nec adulescens aegrae parentis moratus imperium, senili
nor the-young-man of-the-sick parent delaying the-command with-elderly
tristitie striatam gerens frontem cubiculum petit, uxori
gloom furrowed wearing brow the-bedroom seeks to-the-wife
patris matrique fratris utcumque debitum sistens
of-his-father and-to-the-mother of-his-brother anyhow due presenting
obsequium. Sed illa cruciabili silentio diutissime fatigata, et
deference but she by-tormenting silence very-long wearied and
ut in quodam vado dubitationis haerens, omne verbum quod
as on a-certain shoal of-hesitation stuck every word which
praesenti sermoni putabat aptissimum rursum improbans
for-the-present talk she-thought most-fitting again disapproving
nutante etiam nunc pudore, unde potissimum caperet
with-wavering even now shame whence best she-should-take
exordium decunctatur. At iuvenis nihil etiam tunc sequius
a-beginning she-hesitates but the-young-man nothing even then otherwise
suspicatus, summisso vultu rogat ultro praesentes
suspecting with-lowered face asks of-his-own-accord the-present
causas aegritudinis. Tunc illa nancta solitudinis damnosam
causes of-her-illness then she having-got of-solitude the-ruinous
occasionem, prorumpit in audaciam, et ubertim allacrimans
occasion bursts-out into boldness and copiously weeping

laciniaque contegens faciem voce trepida sic eum breviter
and-with-a-fold covering face with-voice trembling thus him briefly
affatur: "Causa omnis et origo praesentis doloris et etiam
addresses the-cause whole and source of-present pain and also
medela ipsa et salus unica mihi tute ipse es: isti enim tui
the-remedy itself and salvation only for-me you yourself are those for your
oculi per meos oculos ad intima delapsi praecordia meis
eyes through my eyes to the-inmost having-slipped heart in-my
medullis acerrimum commovent incendium. Ergo miserere
marrow the-sharpest stir fire therefore pity
tua causa pereuntis nec te religio patris omnino
for-your sake one-perishing nor you scruple for-your-father at-all
deterreat, cui morituram prorsus servabis uxorem: illius
deter for-whom going-to-die utterly you-will-save wife his
enim recognoscens imaginem in tua facie merito te diligo.
for recognizing the-image in your face rightly you I-love
Habes solitudinis plenam fiduciam, habes capax necessarii
you-have of-solitude full confidence you-have able for-a-necessary
facinoris otium: nam quod nemo novit, paene non fit."
deed leisure for what no-one knows almost not is-done
Repentino malo perturbatus adulescens quamquam tale facinus 4
by-the-sudden evil disturbed the-young-man although such a-deed
protinus exhorruisset, non tamen negationis intempestiva
at-once had-shuddered-at not still of-refusal by-untimely
severitate putavit exasperandum, sed cautae promissionis
severity thought to-be-exasperated but by-cautious of-promise
dilatione leniendum. Ergo prolixe pollicetur, et bonum
delay to-be-soothed therefore amply he-promises and good
caperet animum refectionique se ac saluti redderet
she-should-take heart and-to-refreshment herself and to-health should-restore
impendio suadet, donec patris aliqua profectione liberum
greatly he-urges until by-father's some departure a-free

voluptati concederetur spatium, statimque se refert a
to-pleasure should-be-granted space and-at-once himself he-takes from
noxio conspectu novercae, et tam magnam domus cladem
the-harmful sight of-the-stepmother and so great of-the-house a-disaster
ratus indigere consilio pleniore ad quendam compertae gravitatis
thinking to-need counsel fuller to a-certain of-proven gravity
educatorem senem protinus refert: nec quicquam diutina
tutor old at-once he-reports nor anything after-long
deliberatione tam salubre visum quam fuga celeri procellam
deliberation so wholesome seemed as by-flight swift the-storm
fortunae saevientis evadere. Sed impatiens vel exiguae
of-fortune raging to-escape but impatient of-even slight
dilationis mulier ficta qualibet causa confestim marito
delay the-woman with-feigned any reason at-once her-husband
miris persuadet artibus ad longissime dissitas festinare
by-wondrous persuades arts to very-far distant to-hasten
villulas. Quo facto maturatae spei vesania praeceps promissae
little-farms which done of-ripened hope by-the-madness headlong of-promised
libidinis flagitat vadimonium: sed iuvenis modo istud modo
lust she-demands the-appointment but the-young-man now this now
aliud causae faciens execrabilem frustratur eius conspectum,
another of-excuse making the-accursed baffles her sight
quoad illa nuntiorum varietate pollicitationem sibi denegatam
until she by-the-messages' variety the-promise to-her refused
manifesto perspiciens, mobilitate lubrica nefarium amorem
plainly perceiving with-fickleness slippery wicked love
ad longe deterius transtulisset odium, et assumpto statim
to far worse she-had-shifted hatred and with-taken-on at-once
nequissimo et ad omne facinus emancipato quodam dotali
a-most-worthless and to every crime given-over certain of-her-dowry
servulo perfidiae suae consilia communicat: nec quicquam melius
slave of-treachery her the-plans she-shares nor anything better

videtur quam vita miserum privare iuvenem. Ergo missus
seems than of-life wretched to-deprive the-young-man therefore sent
continuo furcifer venenum praesentarium comparat, idque
at-once the-gallows-bird a-poison instant procures and-it
vino diligenter dilutum insontis privigni praeparat exitio.
in-wine carefully diluted of-the-innocent stepson prepares for-the-death
Ac dum de oblationis opportunitate secum noxii
and while about of-the-offering the-opportunity among-themselves the-guilty
deliberant homines, forte fortuna puer ille iunior, proprius
deliberate men by-chance by-luck boy that younger own
pessimae feminae filius, post matutinum laborem studiorum
of-the-worst woman son after morning labor of-studies
domum se recipiens, prandio iam capto sitiens repertum
home himself taking with-lunch now taken thirsty found
vini poculum, in quo venenum latebat inclusum, nescius
of-wine the-cup in which poison lay shut-in unaware
fraudis occultae continua perduxit haustu, atque, ubi fratri
of-the-trick hidden in-one drained draft and when for-brother
suo paratam mortem ebibit, exanimis terrae procumbit.
his prepared death he-drank-up lifeless to-the-earth falls
Illicoque repentina pueri pernicie paedagogus commotus
and-at-once by-the-sudden of-the-boy ruin the-tutor moved
ululabili clamore matrem totamque ciet familiam, iamque
with-bowling cry the-mother and-whole summons household and-now
cognito casu noxiae potionis varie quisque praesentium
with-known mishap of-the-harmful drink variously each of-those-present
auctores insimulabant extremi facinoris. Sed dira illa femina
authors were-accusing of-the-extreme crime but dire that woman
et malitiae novercalis exemplar unicum, non acerba filii
and of-malice stepmotherly the-pattern unique not by-the-bitter of-her-son
morte, non parricidii conscientia, non infortunio domus,
death not of-murder by-the-conscience not by-the-misfortune of-the-house

non luctu mariti vel aerumna funeris commota
not by-the-grief of-her-husband or by-the-misery of-the-funeral moved
cladem familiae in vindictae compendium traxit, missoque
the-disaster of-the-family into of-vengeance profit drew and-with-sent
protinus cursore, qui vianti marito domus expugnationem
at-once a-runner who to-the-traveling husband of-the-house the-storming
nuntiaret, ac mox eodem ocius ab itinere regresso,
should-announce and soon with-him more-quickly from the-journey returned
personata nimia temeritate insimulat privigni veneno filium
masked with-excessive rashness she-charges by-the-stepson's poison son
suum interceptum. Et hoc quidem non adeo mentiebatur,
her destroyed and this indeed not so-much she-lied
quod iam destinatam iuveni mortem praevenisset puer;
because already intended for-the-young-man death had-forestalled the-boy
sed fratrem iuniorem fingebat ideo privigni scelere
but the-brother younger she-pretended for-this-reason by-the-stepson's crime
peremptum, quod eius probrosae libidini, qua se comprimere
killed because to-his shameful lust with-which her to-ravish
temptaverat, noluisset succumbere. Nec tam immanibus
he-had-tried she-had-refused to-yield nor with-such monstrous
contenta mendaciis addebat sibi quoque ob detectum flagitium
content lies she-added to-her also for the-detected outrage
eundem illum gladium comminari. Tunc infelix duplici
the-same that-one the-sword to-threaten then the-unhappy-man by-double
filiorum morte percussus magnis aerumnarum procellis aestuat:
of-sons death struck with-great of-miseries storms boils
nam et iuniorem incoram sui funerari videbat, et
for both the-younger in-the-presence of-himself to-be-buried he-saw and
alterum ob incestum parricidiumque capitis scilicet damnatum
the-other for incest and-murder to-death of-course condemned

iri certo sciebat. Ad hoc uxoris dilectae nimium mentitis
to-be certainly he-knew besides this of-his-wife beloved too-much by-feigned
lamentationibus ad extremum subolis impellebatur odium.
lamentations to the-utmost of-his-offspring he-was-driven hatred
Vixdum pompae funebres et sepultura filii fuerat explicata, 6
scarcely processions funeral and burial of-the-son had-been completed
et statim ab ipso eius rogo senex infelix, ora sua
and at-once from the-very his pyre the-old-man unhappy face his
recentibus adhuc rigans lacrimis trahensque cinere sordentem
with-fresh still wetting tears and-dragging with-ash filthy
canitiem, foro se festinus immittit atque ibi, tum
gray-hair into-the-forum himself hastily launches and there now
fletu, tum precibus, genua etiam decurionum contingens,
with-weeping now with-prayers the-knees even of-the-councilors touching
nescius fraudium pessimae mulieris, in exitium reliqui
unaware of-the-frauds of-the-worst woman for the-ruin of-his-remaining
filii plenis operabatur affectibus: illum incestum paterno
son with-full worked feelings him incestuous in-his-father's
thalamo, illum parricidam fraterno exitio et in comminata
bed him a-murderer in-his-brother's death and in threatened
novercae caede sicarium. Tanta denique miseratione
of-the-stepmother slaughter an-assassin with-such in-short pity
tantaque indignatione curiam sed et plebem maerens
and-such indignation the-council but also the-people grieving
inflammaverat, ut remoto iudicandi taedio et accusationis
he-had-inflamed that with-removed of-judging tedium and of-the-accusation
manifestis probationibus et responsionis meditatis ambagibus
with-plain proofs and of-the-reply with-studied evasions
cuncti conclamarint lapidibus obrutum publicum malum
all cried-out with-stones buried a-public evil
publice vindicari. Magistratus interim metu periculi proprii,
publicly to-be-punished the-magistrates meanwhile from-fear of-danger their-own

ne de parvis indignationis elementis ad exitium disciplinae
lest from small of-indignation beginnings to the-ruin of-order
civitatisque seditio procederet, partim decuriones deprecari,
and-of-the-state sedition should-advance partly the-councilors entreated
partim populares compescere, ut rite et more maiorum
partly the-people restrained that duly and by-the-custom of-ancestors
iudicio reddito et utrimquesecus allegationibus examinatis,
with-trial given and on-both-sides with-pleas examined
civiliter sententia promeretur, nec ad instar barbaricae feritatis
civilly the-sentence be-brought-forth nor in the-likeness of-barbaric savagery
vel tyrannicae impotentiae damnaretur aliquis inauditus, et
or of-tyrannical violence be-condemned anyone unheard and
in pace placida tam dirum saeculo proderetur exemplum.
in peace calm so dire to-the-age be-handed-down an-example

LXVIII · THE DOCTOR'S SLEEPING DRAFT

At the trial the slave testifies against the young man, and he is about to be condemned when an old doctor reveals that he sold the slave not poison but a sleeping draft. The boy is found alive in his tomb, the stepmother exiled, and the slave crucified.

7 Placuit salubre consilium et illico iussus praeco pronuntiat
pleased the-wholesome counsel and at-once ordered the-crier proclaims
patres in curiam convenirent. Quibus protenus dignitatis
the-fathers into the-senate-house should-assemble with-whom at-once of-rank
iure consueta loca residentibus rursum praeconis vocatu
by-right accustomed places sitting-in again by-the-crier's summons
primus accusator incedit. Tunc demum clamatus inducitur
first the-accuser comes-forward then at-last called is-brought-in
etiam reus et exemplo legis Atticae Martiique
also the-defendant and after-the-example of-the-law Attic and-of-the-Martian

iudicii causae patronis denuntiat praeco neque principia
court to-the-case's advocates announces the-crier neither preambles
dicere neque miserationem commovere. Haec ad istum
to-speak nor pity to-stir these-things in this
modum gesta compluribus mutuo sermocinantibus
way done from-many among-themselves chatting
cognovi: quibus autem verbis accusator urserit, quibus rebus
I-learned with-what however words the-accuser pressed by-what arguments
diluerit reus, ac prorsus orationes altercationesque neque
refuted the-defendant and in-short speeches and-exchanges neither
ipse absens apud praesepium scire neque ad vos quae
myself absent at the-manger to-know nor to you what
ignoravi possum enuntiare, sed quae plane comperi ad istas
I-did-not-know I-can to-tell but what plainly I-learned to these
litteras proferam. Simul enim finita est dicentium contentio,
writings I-shall-bring as-soon-as for finished was of-the-speakers the-contest
veritatem criminum fidemque probationibus certis instrui
the-truth of-the-charges and-the-proof by-proofs sure to-be-established
nec suspicionibus tantam coniecturam permitti placuit, atque
nor to-suspicions so-great a-conjecture to-be-allowed it-was-agreed and
illum potissimum servum, qui solus haec ita gesta esse
that-one especially slave who alone these-things so done to-have-been
scire diceretur, sisti modis omnibus oportere. Nec
to-know was-said to-be-produced by-means all ought nor
tantillum cruciarius ille vel fortuna tam magni iudicii vel
in-the-least gallows-bird that either by-the-fortune so great of-a-court or
confertae conspectu curiae vel certe noxia conscientia
by-the-crowded sight of-the-senate-house or at-least by-guilty conscience
sua deterritus, quae ipse finxerat quasi vera asseverare
his deterred what himself he-had-invented as-if true to-affirm
atque asserere incipit: quod se vocasset indignatus fastidio
and to-assert begins that him had-summoned indignant at-the-disdain

novercae iuvenis, quod ulciscens iniuriam filii eius
of-the-stepmother the-young-man that avenging the-wrong of-son her
mandaverit necem, quod promisisset grande silentii praemium,
had-ordered the-death that he-had-promised great of-silence a-reward
quod recusanti mortem sit comminatus, quod venenum
that on-the-refusing death he-had threatened that the-poison
sua manu temperatum dandum fratri reddiderit,
with-his-own hand mixed to-be-given to-his-brother he-had-handed-over
quod ad criminis probationem reservatum poculum neglexisse
that for of-the-charge the-proof kept the-cup to-have-neglected
suspicatus sua postremum manu porrexerit puero.
suspecting with-his-own at-last hand he-had-offered to-the-boy
Haec eximie mentita ad veritatis imaginem verberone illo
these-things excellently lied to of-truth the-image by-the-rascal that
simulata cum trepidatione perferente finitum est iudicium.
feigned with trembling reporting finished was the-trial
8 Nec quisquam decurionum tam aequus remanserat iuveni,
nor any of-the-councilors so fair had-remained to-the-young-man
quin eum evidenter noxae compertum insui culleo
that-not him evidently of-guilt convicted to-be-sewn-in a-sack
pronuntiaret. Cum iam sententiae pares, cunctorum stilis
declared when already the-votes equal of-all with-styluses
ad unum sermonem congruentibus, ex more perpetuo in urnam
to one statement agreeing by custom perpetual into an-urn
aeream deberent conici, quo semel conditis calculis, iam cum
bronze ought to-be-cast with-which once deposited pebbles now with
rei fortuna transacto, nihil postea commutari licebat,
of-the-defendant the-fortune settled nothing afterward to-be-changed was-allowed
sed mancipabatur potestas capitis in manum carnificis, unus
but was-handed-over the-power over-life into the-hand of-the-executioner one
e curia senior, prae ceteris compertae fidei atque auctoritatis
of the-senate older beyond the-others of-proven faith and of-authority

praecipuae medicus, orificium urnae manu contegens ne
outstanding a-doctor the-mouth of-the-urn with-hand covering lest
quis mitteret calculum temere, haec ad ordinem pertulit:
anyone should-put pebble rashly this to the-order delivered
"Quod aetatis sum, vobis approbatum me vixisse gaudeo,
as-to of-my-age I-am to-you approved me to-have-lived I-rejoice
nec patiar falsis criminibus petito reo manifestum
nor I-shall-allow by-false charges with-attacked defendant a-manifest
homicidium perpetrari, nec vos, qui iureiurando astricti
homicide to-be-perpetrated nor you who by-oath bound
iudicatis, inductos servuli mendacio peierare. Ipse non
judge led-on by-a-slave's lie to-forswear-yourselves I-myself not
possum calcata numinum religione conscientiam meam fallens
can with-trampled of-the-gods religion conscience my deceiving
perperam pronuntiare: ergo ut res est, de me cognoscite.
wrongly to-pronounce therefore as the-thing is from me learn
"Furcifer iste, venenum praesentarium comparare sollicitus 9
gallows-bird that a-poison instant to-procure anxious
centumque aureos solidos offerens pretium, me non olim
and-a-hundred gold-pieces solid offering as-price me not long-ago
convenerat, quod aegroto cuidam dicebat necessarium, qui
had-approached because for-a-sick certain-man he-said necessary who
morbi inextricabilis veterno vehementer implicatus vitae
of-a-disease inextricable by-the-lethargy violently entangled of-life
se cruciatui subtrahere gestiret. At ego perspiciens malum
himself from-the-torment to-withdraw longed but I seeing-through wicked
istum verberonem blaterantem atque inconcinne causificantem,
that rascal babbling and awkwardly making-excuses
certusque aliquod moliri flagitium, dedi quidem potionem,
and-sure something to-contrive an-outrage I-gave indeed a-drink
dedi; sed futurae quaestioni praecavens non statim
I-gave but against-the-future inquiry taking-precaution not at-once

pretium quod offerebatur accepi, sed 'Ne forte aliquis' inquam
the-price which was-offered I-took but lest perchance any I-say
'Istorum quos offers aureorum nequam vel adulter repperiatur,
of-those which you-offer gold-pieces worthless or counterfeit be-found
in hoc ipso sacculo conditos eos annulo tuo praenota, donec
in this very little-bag stored them with-ring your mark until
altera die nummulario praesente comprobentur.' Sic inductus
on-the-next day with-a-banker present they-are-tested thus led-on
signavit pecuniam, quam exinde ut iste repraesentatus
he-sealed the-money which thereupon as that-one produced
est iudicio, iussi de meis aliquem curriculo taberna
was to-the-court I-ordered of my-people someone at-a-run from-the-shop
promptam afferre, et en ecce perlatam coram exhibeo. Videat
taken-out to-bring and look behold brought-here openly I-show let-him-see
et suum sigillum recognoscat: nam quemadmodum eius
and his seal recognize for how of-that
veneni frater insimulari potest quod iste comparaverit?"
poison the-brother to-be-charged can which that-one procured
10 Ingens exinde verberonem corripit trepidatio et in vicem
huge thereupon the-rascal seizes trembling and in place
humani coloris succedit pallor infernus, perque universa
of-human color comes pallor infernal and-through all
membra frigidus sudor emanabat: tunc pedes incertis
limbs cold sweat flowed then the-feet with-uncertain
alternationibus commovere, modo hanc modo illam capitis
alternations he-moved now this now that of-the-head
partem scalpere, et ore semiclauso balbutiens nescioquas
part he-scratched and with-mouth half-closed stammering some-sort-of
afannas effutire, ut eum nemo prorsus a culpa vacuum
nonsense he-babbled so-that him no-one at-all from guilt free
merito crederet. Sed revalescente rursus astutia constantissime
deservedly could-believe but with-reviving again cunning most-steadfastly

negare et accersere mendacii non desinit medicum. Qui
to-deny and to-accuse of-lying not he-ceases the-doctor who
praeter iudicii religionem cum fidem suam coram lacerari
besides of-the-court the-religion when faith his openly to-be-torn
videret, multiplicato studio verberonem illum contendit
he-saw with-multiplied zeal the-rascal that strives
redarguere, donec iussu magistratuum ministeria publica
to-refute until by-order of-the-magistrates the-officers public
contrectatis nequissimi servi manibus annulum ferreum
with-handled of-the-most-worthless slave hands the-ring iron
deprehensum cum signo sacculi conferunt, quae comparatio
found with the-seal of-the-bag compare which comparison
praecedentem roboravit suspicionem. Nec rota vel equuleus
the-preceding strengthened suspicion nor the-wheel or the-rack
more Graecorum tormentis eius apparata iam deerant,
after-the-manner of-the-Greeks tortures for-him prepared now were-lacking
sed offirmatus mira praesumptione nullis verberibus ac
but steeled by-wondrous presumption to-no blows and
ne ipso quidem succumbit igni.
not to-the-very even yields fire
Tum medicus: “Non patiar” inquit “Hercule, non patiar 11
then the-doctor not I-shall-allow he-says by-Hercules not I-shall-allow
vel contra fas de innocente isto iuvene supplicium vos
either against right on innocent this young-man punishment you
sumere, vel hunc ludificato nostro iudicio poenam noxii
to-take or him with-mocked our court the-penalty of-the-guilty
facinoris evadere. Dabo enim rei praesentis evidens
deed to-escape I-shall-give for of-the-matter present clear
argumentum: nam cum venenum peremptorium comparare
proof for when a-poison deadly to-procure
pessimus iste gestiret, nec meae sectae crederem convenire
the-worst that-one longed nor to-my calling I-believed to-befit

causas ulli praebere mortis, nec exitio sed saluti
causes to-anyone to-furnish of-death nor for-ruin but for-the-safety
hominum medicinam quaesitam esse didicissem, verens ne
of-men medicine sought to-have-been I-had-learned fearing lest
si daturum me negassem, intempestiva repulsa viam sceleri
if going-to-give me I-had-refused by-untimely refusal a-way to-crime
subministrarem et ab alio quopiam exitiabilem mercatus
I-should-supply and from another someone deadly having-bought
hic potionem vel postremum gladio vel quovis telo
he a-drink or at-last with-a-sword or with-any weapon
nefas inchoatum perficeret, dedi venenum, sed somniferum;
the-crime begun should-complete I-gave a-poison but sleep-bringing
mandragoram illum gravedinis compertae famosum et morti
mandragora that of-heaviness proven famous and to-death
simillimi soporis efficacem. Nec mirum desperatissimum istum
most-like sleep effective nor a-wonder most-desperate that
latronem, certum extremae poenae, quae more maiorum in
robber sure of-the-utmost penalty which by-custom of-ancestors on
eum competit, cruciatus istos ut leviores facile tolerare. Sed si
him falls tortures these as lighter easily to-endure but if
vere puer meis temperatam manibus sumpsit potionem, vivit
truly the-boy by-my mixed hands took the-drink he-lives
et quiescit et dormit et protinus marcido sopore discusso
and rests and sleeps and at-once with-languid sleep shaken-off
remeabit ad diem lucidam: quod si vere peremptus est, si
will-return to the-day bright but if truly killed he-is if
morte praeventus est, quaeratis licet causas mortis eius alias."
by-death forestalled is seek you-may causes of-death his other
12 Ad istum modum seniore adorante placuit, et itur
in this way with-the-old-man pleading it-pleased and they-go
confestim magna cum festinatione ad illud sepulchrum,
at-once great with haste to that tomb

quo corpus pueri depositum iacebat: nemo de curia,
in-which the-body of-the-boy placed lay none of the-senate
de optimatibus nemo ac ne de ipso quidem populo
of the-nobles none and not of the-very even people
quisquam, qui non illuc curiose confluxerit. Ecce pater,
anyone who not there curiously flocked behold the-father
suis ipse manibus cooperculo capuli remoto, commodum
with-his own hands with-the-lid of-the-coffin removed just-now
discusso mortifero sopore surgentem postliminio mortis
with-shaken-off deadly sleep rising by-return from-death
deprehendit filium, eumque complexus artissime, verbis impar
finds his-son and-him embracing most-tightly in-words unequal
praesenti gaudio, producit ad populum atque, ut erat adhuc
to-the-present joy he-brings to the-people and as he-was still
feralibus amiculis instrictus atque obditus, deportatur ad
in-funeral wrappings bound and covered is-carried to
iudicium puer. Iamque liquido servi nequissimi atque
the-court the-boy and-now clearly of-the-slave most-worthless and
mulieris nequioris patefactis sceleribus procedit in medium
of-the-woman more-worthless with-revealed crimes comes-forth into the-midst
nuda veritas; et novercae quidem perpetuum indicitur
naked truth and on-the-stepmother indeed perpetual is-imposed
exilium, servus vero patibulo suffigitur et omnium consensu
exile the-slave indeed on-a-gibbet is-fixed and by-all consent
bono medico sinuntur aurei, opportuni somni pretium.
to-the-good doctor are-allowed the-gold-pieces of-the-timely sleep the-price
Et illius quidem senis famosa atque fabulosa fortuna
and of-that indeed old-man the-famous and fabled fortune
providentiae divinae condignum excipit exitum, qui momento
of-providence divine worthy receives an-end who in-a-moment

modico, immo puncto exiguo, post orbitatis periculum,
short nay in-an-instant tiny after of-childlessness the-peril
adolescentium duorum pater repente factus est.
of-young-men two the-father suddenly made was

LXIX · THE TWO BROTHERS

Lucius is sold to two brothers, a pastry cook and a chef in the service of a rich man. He steals their leftovers and grows fat; they suspect each other, then spy on him. Their master, delighted, feeds him at his own table, buys him, and gives him to a freedman who teaches him tricks that make him famous.

13 At ego tunc temporis talibus fatorum fluctibus volutabar:
but I then at-that-time by-such of-the-fates waves was-tossed
miles ille, qui me nullo vendente comparaverat et
soldier that who me with-no-one selling had-acquired and
sine pretio suum fecerat, tribuni sui praecepto debitum
without price his had-made of-tribune his by-the-order due
sustinens obsequium, litteras ad magnum scriptas principem
maintaining obedience a-letter to the-great written emperor
Romam versus perlaturus, vicinis me quibusdam duobus
to-Rome toward going-to-carry to-neighbors me certain two
servis fratribus undecim denariis vendidit. His erat dives
slaves brothers for-eleven denarii sold to-these there-was rich
admodum dominus: at illorum alter pistor dulciarius, qui panes
very a-master but of-them one a-baker pastry who breads
et mellita concinnabat edulia, alter cocus, qui sapidissimis
and honeyed prepared foods the-other a-cook who with-most-savory
intrimentis succuum pulmenta condita vapore mollibat. Unico
seasonings of-juices dishes seasoned with-steam softened in-one
illi contubernio communem vitam sustinebant meque ad
they lodging common life maintained and-me for

vasa illa compluria gestanda praedestinarant, quae domini
vessels those many to-be-carried had-destined which of-the-master
regiones plusculas pererrantis variis usibus erant necessaria.
regions several roaming for-various uses were necessary
Adsciscor itaque inter duos illos fratres tertius contubernalis,
I-am-enrolled and-so among two those brothers as-third messmate
haud ullo tempore tam benivolam fortunam expertus:
not at-any time so kindly fortune having-experienced
nam vespera, post opiparas cenas earumque splendidissimos
for at-evening after sumptuous dinners and-their most-splendid
apparatus, multas numero partes in cellulam suam mei
preparations many in-number portions into little-room their my
solebant reportare domini: ille porcorum, pullorum, piscium
were-wont to-bring-back masters that-one of-pork of-chickens of-fish
et cuiuscemodi pulmentorum largissimas reliquias, hic
and of-every-kind of-dishes most-abundant leftovers this-one
panes, crustula, lucunculos, hamos, lacertulos et plura
breads pastries fritters hooks lizard-cakes and more
scitamenta mellita. Qui cum se refecturi clausa cellula
dainties honeyed who when themselves going-to-refresh with-closed little-room
balneas petissent, oblatis ego divinitus dapibus affatim
the-baths had-sought with-offered I divinely feasts abundantly
saginabar: nec enim tam stultus eram tamque vere asinus, ut
was-fattened nor for so stupid I-was and-so truly an-ass that
dulcissimis illis relictis cibis cenarem asperrimum faenum.
with-sweetest those left foods I-should-dine-on roughest hay
Et diu quidem pulcherrime mihi furatrinae procedebat 14
and long indeed most-beautifully for-me of-theft was-proceeding
artificium, quippe adhuc timide et satis parce surripienti
the-craft naturally still timidly and quite sparingly to-me-stealing
de tam multis pauciora, nec illis fraudes, ullas in asino
of so many fewer nor with-them frauds any in an-ass

suspicantibus. At ubi fiducia latendi pleniore capta partes
suspecting but when with-confidence of-hiding fuller taken portions
opimas quasque devorabam et iucundiora eligens abligurribam
rich each I-devoured and the-pleasanter choosing I-licked-up
dulcia, suspicio non exilis fratrum pupugit animos et
sweets a-suspicion not slight of-the-brothers pricked minds and
quamquam de me nihil etiam tum tale crederent, tamen
although of me nothing even then such they-believed still
cotidiani damni studiose vestigabant reum. Illi vero postremo
of-the-daily loss eagerly they-tracked the-culprit they indeed at-last
etiam mutuo sese rapinae turpissimae criminabantur,
even mutually each-other of-plunder most-shameful accused
iamque curam diligentiorem et acriorem custodelam et
and-now care more-diligent and sharper guarding and
dinumerationem adhibebant partium. Tandem denique rupta
counting applied of-the-portions at-last in-short with-broken
verecundia sic alter alterum compellat: "At istud iam neque
shame thus one the-other addresses but that now neither
aequum ac ne humanum quidem, cotidie ac partes electiores
fair and not humane even daily and portions choicer
surripere atque iis divenditis peculium latenter augere,
to-steal and with-them sold-off savings secretly to-increase
de reliquis aequam vindicare divisionem. Si tibi denique
from the-remainder equal to-claim division if to-you in-short
societas ista displicet, possumus omnia quidem cetera fratres
partnership this displeases we-can in-all indeed other-things brothers
manere, ab isto tamen nexu communionis discedere: nam
to-remain from this still bond of-sharing to-depart for
video in immensum damni procedentem querelam nutrire
I-see into immensity of-loss advancing complaint to-nourish
nobis immanem discordiam." Subicit alius: "Laudo istam
for-us monstrous discord replies the-other I-praise that

tuam mehercules et ipse constantiam, quod cotidie furatis
your by-Hercules also myself steadiness that daily with-stolen
clanculo partibus praevenisti querimoniam, quam diutissime
secretly portions you-have-forestalled a-complaint which very-long
sustinens tacitus ingemescebam, ne viderer rapinae sordidae
bearing silent I-groaned lest I-seem of-plunder sordid
meum fratrem arguere. Sed bene, quod utrimquesecus
my brother to-accuse but well that on-both-sides
sermone prolato iacturae remedium quaeritur, ne silentio
with-talk brought-forward for-the-loss a-remedy is-sought lest in-silence
procedens simultas Eteocleas nobis contentiones pariat."
advancing a-feud Eteoclean for-us strifes should-bear
His et similibus altercati conviciis deierantur utrique 15
with-these and similar having-wrangled insults swear both
nullam se prorsus fraudem, nullam denique surreptionem
no themselves at-all fraud no in-short theft
factitasse, sed plane debere cunctis artibus communis
to-have-practiced but plainly ought by-all arts of-the-common
dispendii latronem inquiri: nam neque asinum, qui solus
loss the-thief to-be-sought for neither the-ass who alone
interesset, talibus cibis affici posse, et tamen cotidie
was-present by-such foods to-be-affected to-be-able and still daily
partes electiles comparere nusquam, nec utique cellulam suam
portions choice to-appear nowhere nor surely little-room their
tam immanes involare muscas ut olim Harpyiae fuere, quae
so monstrous to-fly-into flies as once Harpies were which
diripiebant Phineias dapes. Interea liberalibus cenis inescatus
plundered Phineus' feasts meanwhile by-generous dinners baited
et humanis affatim cibis saginatus, corpus obesa pinguitie
and with-human abundantly foods fattened body with-plump fatness
compleveram, corium arvina succulenta molliveram, pilum
I-had-filled-out hide with-lard juicy I-had-softened coat

liberali nitore nutriveram. Sed iste corporis mei decor
with-generous gloss I-had-nourished but this of-body my comeliness
pudori peperit grande dedecus: insolita namque tergoris
to-my-modesty bore great disgrace with-unwonted for of-the-back
vastitate commoti, faenum prorsus intactum cotidie remanere
by-the-bulk struck the-hay utterly untouched daily to-remain
cernentes, iam totos ad me dirigunt animos; et hora
seeing now wholly to me they-direct minds and at-the-hour
consueta velut balneas petituri, clausis ex more foribus, per
usual as-if the-baths going-to-seek with-shut by custom doors through
quandam modicam cavernam rimantur me passim expositis
a-certain small hole they-pry-at me everywhere set-out
epulis inhaerentem. Nec ulla cura iam damni sui habita,
to-feasts clinging nor with-any care now for-loss their had
mirati monstruosas asini delicias risu maximo
wondering-at monstrous of-the-ass delicacies with-laughter very-great
dirumpuntur, vocatoque uno et altero ac dein pluribus
they-burst and-with-called one and another and then more
conservis, demonstrant infandam memoratu hebetis iumenti
fellow-slaves they-show unspeakable to-relate of-the-dull beast
gulam. Tantus denique ac tam liberalis cachinnus cunctos
the-gluttony such in-short and so generous a-guffaw all
invaserat, ut ad aures quoque praetereuntis perveniret domini:
had-seized that to the-ears also of-the-passing it-reached master
16 sciscitatus denique, quid bonum rideret familia, cognito
having-asked in-short what good laughed the-household with-learned
quod res erat, ipse quoque per idem prospiciens
what the-matter was himself also through the-same looking
foramen delectatur eximie. Ac dehinc risu ipse quoque
hole is-delighted exceedingly and then with-laughter himself also
latissimo ad usque intestinorum dolorem redactus, iam
very-broad to right of-the-bowels pain reduced now

patefacto cubiculo proxime consistens coram arbitratur. Nam
with-opened room very-near standing openly watches for
et ego tandem ex aliqua parte mollius mihi renidentis fortunae
also I at-last in some part more-softly on-me smiling of-fortune
contemplatus faciem, gaudio praesentium fiduciam mihi
having-contemplated the-face with-the-joy of-those-present confidence to-me
subministrante, nec tantillum commotus, securus esitabam,
supplying nor in-the-least disturbed carefree I-kept-eating
quoad novitate spectaculi laetus dominus aedium duci me
until by-the-novelty of-the-spectacle glad the-master of-the-house to-be-led me
iussit, immo vero suis etiam ipse manibus ad triclinium
ordered nay indeed with-his even own hands to the-dining-room
perduxit mensaque posita omne genus edulium solidorum
he-brought and-with-a-table placed every kind of-foods solid
et illibata fercula iussit apponi. At ego, quamquam iam
and untasted courses he-ordered to-be-served but I although already
bellule suffarcinatus, gratiosum commendatioremque me tamen
prettily stuffed agreeable and-more-commended myself still
ei facere cupiens esurienter exhibitas escas appetebam: nam
to-him to-make wishing hungrily the-offered foods I-attacked for
et quid potissimum abhorreret asino excogitantes scrupulose,
also what most was-repugnant to-an-ass devising scrupulously
ad explorandam mansuetudinem id offerebant mihi, carnes
for testing gentleness that they-offered me meats
lasere infectas, altilia pipere inspersa, pisces exotico iure
with-silphium dressed fowls with-pepper sprinkled fish in-exotic sauce
perfusos. Interim convivium summo risu personabat: quidam
steeped meanwhile the-banquet with-highest laughter resounded a-certain
denique praesens scurrula “Date” inquit “Sodali huic quippiam
in-short present little-buffoon give he-says to-comrade this something
meri.” Quod dictum dominus secutus “Non adeo” respondit
of-neat-wine which saying the-master following not so he-answered

"Absurde locutus es, furcifer: valde enim fieri potest
absurdly spoken you-have rascal very-well for to-happen it-can
ut contubernalis noster poculum quoque mulsi libenter
that messmate our a-cup also of-honeyed-wine gladly
appetat." Et "Heus," ait "Puer, lautum diligenter ecce illum
may-seek and hey he-says boy washed carefully look that
aureum cantharum mulso contempera et offer parasito
golden tankard with-honeyed-wine mix and offer to-parasite
meo; simul quod ei praebiberim commoneto." Ingens
my at-the-same-time that to-him I-have-drunk-first remind huge
exin oborta est epulonum expectatio: nec ulla tamen
thereupon arisen was of-the-diners expectation nor in-any still
ego ratione conterritus otiose ac satis genialiter contorta
I way terrified at-ease and quite merrily with-twisted
in modum linguae postrema labia grandissimum illum
into the-shape of-a-tongue bindmost lips very-great that
calicem uno haustu perduxi: clamor exsurgit consona
cup in-one draft I-drained a-shout rises with-harmonious
voce cunctorum salute me prosequentium.
voice of-all with-health me attending

17 Magno denique delibutus gaudio dominus vocatis servis suis,
with-great in-short anointed joy the-master with-called slaves his
emptoribus meis, iubet quadruplum restitui pretium meque
buyers my orders fourfold to-be-repaid the-price and-me
cuidam acceptissimo liberto suo et satis peculiato, magnam
to-a-certain most-favored freedman his and quite moneyed great
praefatus diligentiam, tradidit; qui me satis humane satisque
having-enjoined diligence handed-over who me quite humanely and-quite
comiter nutriebat et, quo se patrono commendatiorem
kindly fed and that himself to-his-patron more-commended
faceret, studiosissime voluptates eius per meas argutias
he-might-make most-eagerly pleasures his through my tricks

instruebat. Et primum me quidem mensam accumbere
he-furnished and first me indeed at-table to-recline
suffixo cubito, dein alluctari et etiam saltare sublatis
with-propped elbow then to-wrestle and even to-dance with-raised
primoribus pedibus perdocuit, quodque esset apprime
front feet he-taught-thoroughly and-what was exceedingly
mirabile, verbis nutum commodare, ut quod nollem
wondrous to-words a-nod to-supply so-that what I-did-not-want
relato, quod vellem deiecto capite monstrarem,
with-thrown-back what I-wanted with-lowered head I-should-show
sitiensque pocillatore respecto, ciliis alterna connivens,
and-thirsting with-the-cupbearer looked-at with-eyelids alternately blinking
bibere flagitarem. Atque haec omnia perfacile oboediebam,
to-drink I-should-demand and these all very-easily I-performed
quae nullo etiam monstrante scilicet facerem: sed
which with-no-one even showing of-course I-would-have-done but
verebar ne si forte sine magistro humano ritu ederem
I-feared lest if perchance without a-master in-human fashion I-did
pleraque, rati scaevum praesagium portendere, velut
most-things thinking a-sinister omen to-portend as
monstrum ostentumque me obtruncatum vulturiis opimum
a-monster and-portent me slaughtered to-vultures rich
pabulum redderent. Iamque rumor publice crebruerat,
food they-should-make and-now rumor publicly had-spread
quo conspectum atque famigerabilem meis miris artibus
by-which conspicuous and famous by-my wondrous arts
effeceram dominum: hic est qui sodalem convivamque
I-had-made master this he-is who as-comrade and-table-companion
possidet asinum luctantem, asinum saltantem, asinum voces
owns an-ass wrestling an-ass dancing an-ass voices
humanas intellegentem, sensum nutibus exprimentem.
human understanding meaning by-nods expressing

The master, Thiasus of Corinth, is preparing a gladiatorial show and rides home on his clever ass. At Corinth the keeper charges the crowds to see Lucius, and a rich matron pays him to spend a night with Lucius, and finds him a willing lover.

18 Sed prius est ut vobis, quod initio facere debueram,
but first it-is that to-you what at-the-start to-do I-ought-to-have
vel nunc saltem referam, quis iste vel unde fuerit.
even now at-least I-relate who this-man or whence was
Thiasus (hoc enim nomine meus nuncupabatur dominus)
Thiasus by-this for name my was-called master
oriundus patria Corintho, quod caput est totius Achaiae
sprung in-homeland from-Corinth which head is of-the-whole of-Achaea
provinciae, ut eius prosapia atque dignitas postulabat,
province as his lineage and rank demanded
gradatim permensis honoribus quinquennali magistratu fuerat
step-by-step with-traversed offices to-the-quinquennial magistracy had-been
destinatus, et ut splendori capessendorum responderet
designated and that to-the-splendor of-the-to-be-assumed he-might-answer
fascium, munus gladiatorium triduani spectaculi pollicitus
fasces a-show gladiatorial of-a-three-day spectacle having-promised
latius munificentiam suam porrigebat. Denique gloriae
more-widely munificence his he-extended in-short of-glory
publicae studio tunc Thessaliam etiam accesserat, nobilissimas
public from-zeal then Thessaly even he-had-gone-to the-noblest
feras et famosos inde gladiatores comparaturus, iamque ex
beasts and famous thence gladiators going-to-procure and-now at
arbitrio dispositis coemptisque omnibus domuitionem parabat.
will with-arranged and-bought-up all-things the-homecoming he-prepared
Spretis luculentis illis suis vehiculis ac posthabitis decoris
with-spurned splendid those his vehicles and with-set-aside handsome

raedarum carpentis, quae partim contecta, partim revelata,
of-coaches carriages which partly covered partly open
frustra novissimis trahebantur consequiis, equis etiam
to-no-purpose at-the-last were-drawn following horses also
Thessalicis et aliis iumentis Gallicanis quibus generosa suboles
Thessalian and other beasts Gallic to-which a-noble breed
perhibet pretiosam dignitatem, me phaleris aureis et fucatis
lends precious worth me with-trappings golden and with-dyed
ephippiis et purpureis tapetis et frenis argenteis et pictilibus
saddle-cloths and purple coverlets and bridles silver and embroidered
balteis et tintinnabulis perargutis exornatum ipse residens
girths and bells very-shrill adorned himself sitting-on
amantissime nonnunquam comissimis affatur sermonibus,
most-lovingly sometimes with-most-kindly addresses words
atque inter alia pleraque summe se delectari profitebatur
and among other very-many-things highly himself to-be-delighted professed
quod haberet in me simul et convivam et vectorem.
that he-had in me at-once both a-table-companion and a-carrier
At ubi partim terrestri, partim maritimo itinere confecto 19
but when partly by-land partly by-sea with-the-journey completed
Corinthum accessimus, magnae civium turbae confluebant, ut
Corinth we-reached great of-citizens crowds flowed-together as
mihi videbatur, non tantum Thiasi dantes honori quam mei
to-me it-seemed not so-much of-Thiasus giving to-the-honor as of-me
conspectus cupientes: nam tanta etiam ibidem de me fama
the-sight desiring for so-great even there about me fame
pervaserat, ut non mediocri quaestui praeposito illi meo
had-spread that not to-a-moderate profit keeper that my
fuerim. Qui cum multos videret nimio favore lusus meos
I-was who when many he-saw with-excessive favor games my
spectare gestientes, obserata fore atque singulis eorum seorsus
to-watch eager with-bolted door and singly of-them separately

admissis, stipes acceptans non parvas summulas diurnas
admitted fees accepting not small little-sums daily
corradere consuerat. Fuit in illo conventiculo matrona
to-scrape-together was-wont there-was in that little-gathering a-matron
quaedam pollens et opulens, quae more ceterorum visum
certain powerful and wealthy who in-the-manner of-the-others the-viewing
meum mercata ac dehinc multiformibus ludicris delectata
of-me having-bought and then by-manifold sports delighted
per admirationem assiduam paulatim in admirabilem mei
through admiration constant gradually into wondrous for-me
cupidinem incidit, nec ullam vesanae libidini medelam capiens
desire fell nor any for-mad lust remedy taking
ad instar asinariae Pasiphaae complexus meos ardenter
in the-likeness of-an-ass's Pasiphae embraces my ardently
expectabat. Grandi denique praemio cum altore meo depecta
awaited with-a-great in-short fee with keeper my bargained
est noctis unius concubitum: at ille nequam, qua posset
has of-a-night one the-lying-together but he worthless in-whatever-way could
de me suave provenire, lucro suo tantum contentus, annuit.
from me sweet to-come for-gain his only content agreed
20 Iam denique cenati e triclinio domini decesseramus,
now in-short having-dined from the-dining-room of-the-master we-had-withdrawn
et iamdudum praestolantem cubiculo meo matronam
and long-since waiting in-room my the-matron
offendimus. Dii boni, qualis ille quamque praeclarus
we-found gods good what-a that and-how splendid
apparatus! Quattuor eunuchi confestim pulvillis compluribus
preparation four eunuchs at-once with-cushions many
ventose tumentibus pluma delicata terrestrem nobis cubitum
airily swelling with-down delicate on-the-ground for-us a-bed
praestruunt, sed et stragula veste auro ac murice Tyrio
build but also with-spread cloth with-gold and purple Tyrian

depicta probe consternunt, ac desuper brevibus admodum
embroidered properly cover and above-it with-short very
sed satis copiosis pulvillis aliis nimis mollibus, quis
but quite plentiful cushions other very soft with-which
maxillas et cervices delicatae mulieres suffulcire consuerunt,
jaws and necks dainty women to-prop are-accustomed
superstruunt. Nec dominae voluptates diutina sua praesentia
they-build-on-top nor of-their-mistress the-pleasures with-long their presence
morati clausis cubiculi foribus facessunt: at intus cerei
delaying with-shut of-the-room doors they-depart but inside wax-candles
praeclara micantes luce nocturnas nobis tenebras inalbabant.
with-brilliant gleaming light nightly for-us darkness whitened
Tunc ipsa cuncto prorsus spoliata tegmine, taenia quoque 21
then she of-every utterly stripped covering of-the-band also
qua decoras devinxerat papillas, lumen propter assistens de
with-which lovely she-had-bound breasts the-light near standing from
stagneo vasculo multo sese perungit oleo balsameo, meque
a-tin little-vessel with-much herself anoints oil of-balsam and-me
indidem largissime perfricat, sed multo tanto impensius
from-the-same most-lavishly rubs but much so-much more-lavishly
curans etiam nares perfundit meas. Tunc exosculata pressule,
taking-care even nostrils she-drenches my then having-kissed closely
non qualia in lupanari solent basiola iactari vel meretricum
not such-as in a-brothel are-wont little-kisses to-be-tossed or of-harlots
poscinummia vel adventorum negantinummia, sed pura atque
coin-demanding or of-customers coin-refusing but pure and
sincera, instruit, et blandissimos affatus: “Amo,” et “Cupio,”
sincere she-sets-forth and most-coaxing addresses I-love and I-desire
et “Te solum diligo,” et “Sine te iam vivere nequeo,” et
and you alone I-cherish and without you now to-live I-cannot and
cetera quis mulieres et alios inducunt et suas testantur
the-rest with-which women both others lead-on and their attest

affectationes; capistroque me prehensum more quo
affections and-by-the-halter me seized in-the-manner which
didiceram reclinat facile, quippe cum nil novi nihilque
I-had-learned she-lays-down easily naturally since nothing new and-nothing
difficile facturus mihi viderer, praesertim post tantum temporis
difficult going-to-do to-me I-seemed especially after so-much of-time
tam formosae mulieris cupientis amplexus obiturus: nam et
of-so beautiful a-woman desiring the-embraces going-to-meet for both
vino pulcherrimo atque copioso memet madefeceram et
with-wine finest and plentiful myself I-had-soaked and
unguento fragrantissimo prolubium libidinis suscitaram.
with-ointment most-fragrant the-craving of-lust I-had-roused
22 Sed angebar plane non exili metu, reputans quemadmodum
but I-was-distressed plainly with-not slight fear reflecting how
tantis tamque magnis cruribus possem delicatam matronam
with-such and-so great legs I-could the-delicate matron
inscendere, vel tam lucida tamque tenera et lacte ac melle
to-mount or so bright and-so tender and from-milk and honey
confecta membra duris ungulis complecti, labiasque modicas
made limbs with-hard hooves to-embrace and-lips modest
ambrosio rore purpurantes tam amplo ore tamque
with-ambrosial dew reddening with-so ample a-mouth and-so
enormi et saxeis dentibus deformi saviari, novissime quo
enormous and with-stony teeth misshapen to-kiss lastly in-what
pacto, quamquam ex unguiculis perpruriscens, mulier tam
way although from her-fingertips itching the-woman so
vastum genitale susciperet: heu me qui dirupta nobili femina
vast a-member could-receive alas me who with-burst noble woman
bestiis obiectus munus instructurus sim mei domini!
to-the-beasts thrown the-show going-to-furnish am-to of-my master
Molles interdum voculas et assidua savia et dulces gannitus
soft meanwhile little-words and constant kisses and sweet whimpers

commorsicantibus oculis iterabat illa, et in summa "Teneo te,"
with-nibbling eyes repeated she and in sum I-hold you
inquit "Teneo meum palumbulum, meum passerem," et cum
she-says I-hold my little-dove my sparrow and with
dicto vanas fuisse cogitationes meas ineptumque monstrat
the-word vain to-have-been thoughts my and-foolish she-shows
metum: artissime namque complexa totum me prorsus, sed
fear most-tightly for embracing whole me utterly but
totum recepit. Illa vero, quotiens ei parcens nates recellebam,
whole she-received she indeed as-often-as her sparing buttocks I-drew-back
accedens totiens nisu rabido et spinam prehendens meam
approaching so-often with-thrust rabid and spine seizing my
appliciore nexu inhaerebat, ut Hercule etiam deesse mihi
with-closer bond clung that by-Hercules even to-be-lacking to-me
aliquid ad supplendam eius libidinem crederem, nec Minotauri
something for satisfying her lust I-believed nor of-the-Minotaur
matrem frustra delectatam putarem adultero mugiente. Iamque
the-mother in-vain delighted I-thought by-adulterer bellowing and-now
operosa et pervigili nocte transacta, vitata lucis
with-laborious and sleepless night spent with-avoided of-daylight
conscientia facessit mulier, condicto pari noctis futurae pretio.
the-witness departs the-woman with-agreed equal of-night future price

The woman chosen is a poisoner. Taking her husband's secret sister for his mistress, she killed the girl with a red-hot brand, then bought poison from a doctor to murder her husband, made the doctor drink it too, and with more from the doctor's wife killed that wife and her own daughter, until she was condemned to the beasts.

23 Nec gravate magister meus voluptates ex eius arbitrio
nor reluctantly keeper my pleasures at her will
largiebatur, partim mercedes amplissimas acceptando, partim
granted partly fees very-ample by-accepting partly
novum spectaculum domino praeparando: incunctanter ei
a-new spectacle for-the-master by-preparing without-hesitation to-him
denique libidinis nostrae totam detegit scaenam. At ille
in-short of-lust our the-whole he-discloses scene but he
liberto magnifice munerato destinat me spectaculo publico:
with-the-freedman magnificently rewarded appoints me for-a-spectacle public
et quoniam neque egregia illa uxor mea propter dignitatem
and since neither excellent that wife my on-account-of rank
neque prorsus ulla alia inveniri potuerat grandi praemio, vilis
nor at-all any other to-be-found had-been-able at-a-great price a-cheap
anquiritur aliqua sententia praesidis bestiis addicta, quae
is-sought some-woman by-the-sentence of-the-governor to-the-beasts condemned who
mecum incoram publicam populi caveam frequentaret. Eius
with-me before public of-the-people the-theater should-throng of-her
poenae talem cognoveram fabulam: Maritum habuit, cuius
punishment such I-had-learned the-story a-husband she-had whose
pater peregre proficiscens mandavit uxori suae, matri eiusdem
father abroad setting-out instructed wife his the-mother of-the-same
iuvenis (quod enim sarcina praegnationis oneratam eam
young-man because for by-the-burden of-pregnancy laden her

relinquebat) ut si sexus sequioris edidisset fetum, protinus
he-was-leaving that if of-the-sex inferior she-bore offspring at-once
quod esset editum necaretur. At illa, per absentiam mariti
what was born should-be-killed but she during the-absence of-her-husband
nata puella, insita matribus pietate praeventa, descivit
with-born a-girl by-implanted in-mothers devotion overcome departed
ab obsequio mariti, eamque prodidit vicinis alumnandam,
from obedience of-her-husband and-her gave-over to-neighbors to-be-reared
regressoque iam marito natam necatamque nuntiavit. Sed
and-with-returned now husband born and-killed announced but
ubi flos aetatis nuptialem virgini diem flagitabat, nec
when the-flower of-age wedding for-the-maiden day demanded nor
ignaro marito dotare filiam pro natalibus quibat,
with-unknowing husband to-dower the-daughter according-to birth she-could
quod solum potuit, filio suo tacitum secretum aperuit:
what alone she-could to-son her the-silent secret she-revealed
nam et oppido verebatur ne quo casu caloris iuvenalis
for also greatly she-feared lest by-some chance of-heat youthful
impetu lapsus nescius nesciam sororem incurreret.
by-the-impulse slipping unknowing an-unknowing sister he-might-fall-upon
Sed pietatis spectatae iuvenis et matris obsequium et
but of-devotion proven the-young-man both to-mother obedience and
sororis officium religiose dispensat et, arcanis domus
to-sister duty scrupulously dispenses and with-the-secrets of-the-house
venerabilis silentii custodiae traditis, plebeiam facie
of-venerable silence to-the-keeping handed-over common in-appearance
tenus praetendens humanitatem, sic necessarium sanguinis sui
only displaying kindness so the-necessary of-blood his
munus aggreditur, ut desolatam vicinam puellam parentumque
duty he-undertakes that the-forsaken neighbor girl and-of-parents
praesidio viduatam domus suae tutela receptaret, ac
protection bereft of-house his in-the-protection he-received and

mox artissimo multumque sibi dilecto contubernali,
soon to-a-most-intimate and-much to-him beloved comrade
largitus de proprio dotem liberalissime traderet.
having-granted from his-own a-dowry most-generously he-gave-her
24 Sed haec bene atque optime plenaque cum sanctimonia
but these-things well and excellently and-full with sanctity
disposita feralem Fortunae nutum latere non potuerunt, cuius
arranged the-deadly of-Fortune nod to-escape not could whose
instinctu domum iuvenis protinus se direxit saeva
at-instigation to-the-house of-the-young-man at-once itself directed cruel
rivalitas, et illico haec eadem uxor eius, quae nunc bestiis
rivalry and at-once this same wife his who now to-the-beasts
propter haec ipsa fuerat addicta, coepit puellam velut
for these very-things had-been condemned began the-girl as
aemulam tori succubamque primo suspicari, dehinc detestari,
a-rival of-the-bed and-concubine first to-suspect then to-detest
dehinc crudelissimis laqueis mortis insidiari: tale denique
then with-most-cruel snares of-death to-plot-against such in-short
comminiscitur facinus. Annulo mariti surrepto rus
she-devises a-crime with-the-ring of-her-husband stolen to-the-country
profecta mittit quendam servulum, sibi quidem fidelem sed de
having-gone she-sends a-certain slave to-her indeed faithful but of
ipsa fide pessime merentem, qui puellae nuntiaret quod eam
the-very faith worst deserving who to-the-girl should-announce that her
iuvenis profectus ad villulam vocaret ad sese, addito ut
the-young-man having-gone to the-little-farm was-calling to himself with-added that
sola et sine ullo comite quam maturissime perveniret: et ne
alone and without any companion as soonest she-should-come and lest
qua forte nasceretur veniendi cunctatio, tradit annulum
any perchance should-arise of-coming hesitation she-hands-over the-ring
marito subtractum, qui monstratus fidem verbis
from-the-husband filched which shown faith to-the-words

adstipularetur. At illa mandatu fratris obsequens (hoc enim
should-lend but she to-the-order of-her-brother complying this for
nomen sola sciebat) respecto etiam signo eius quod offerebatur,
name alone she-knew with-regarded also the-seal his which was-offered
naviter, ut praeceptum fuerat, incomitata festinat. Sed ubi
briskly as instructed it-had-been unaccompanied hastens but when
fraudis extremae lapsa decipulo laqueos insidiarum
of-the-fraud utmost having-slipped into-the-trap the-snares of-the-ambush
accessit tunc illa uxor egregia sororem mariti libidinosae
she-approached then that wife excellent the-sister of-her-husband of-lustful
furiae stimulis efferata primum quidem nudam flagris ultimo
fury by-the-goads maddened first indeed naked with-whips utmost
verberat, dehinc, quod res erat, clamantem, quodque frustra
beats then what the-matter was crying and-that in-vain
paelicatus indignatione bulliret, fratrisque nomen saepius
of-rivalry with-indignation she-was-boiling and-of-brother the-name often
iterantem, velut mentitam atque cuncta fingentem titione
repeating as lying and all-things inventing with-a-brand
candenti inter media femina detruso crudelissime necavit.
glowing between the-mid thighs thrust most-cruelly she-killed
Tunc acerbae mortis exciti nuntiis frater et maritus 25
then of-the-bitter death roused by-the-news the-brother and the-husband
accurrunt, variisque lamentationibus defletam puellam
run-up and-with-various lamentations mourned the-girl
tradunt sepulturae. Nec iuvenis sororis suae mortem tam
hand-over to-burial nor the-young-man of-sister his the-death so
miseram et a qua minime par erat illatam aequo tolerare
wretched and by whom least right it-was inflicted with-calm to-bear
quivit animo. sed medullitus dolore commotus acerrimaeque
could mind but to-the-marrow with-grief moved and-of-sharpest
bilis noxio furore perfusus exin flagrantissimis febribus
bile with-harmful frenzy flooded thereupon with-most-burning fevers

ardebat, ut ipsi quoque iam medela videretur necessaria.
burned so-that for-him also now a-remedy seemed necessary
Sed uxor, quae iampridem nomen uxoris cum fide perdiderat,
but the-wife who long-since the-name of-wife with faith had-lost
medicum convenit quendam notae perfidiae, qui iam
a-doctor meets a-certain of-known treachery who already
multarum palmarum spectatus proeliis magna dexterae suae
of-many palms tested in-battles great of-right-hand his
tropaea numerabat, eique protinus quinquaginta promittit
trophies counted and-to-him at-once fifty promises
sestertia, ut ille quidem momentarium venenum venderet,
thousand-sesterces that he indeed instant poison should-sell
ipsa autem emeret mortem mariti sui. Quo confecto simulatur
she however should-buy the-death of-husband her which done is-pretended
necessaria praecordiis leniendis bilique subtrahendae illa
necessary for-the-chest to-be-soothed and-for-the-bile to-be-drawn-off that
praenobilis potio, quam sacram doctiores nominant, sed
very-famous drink which sacred the-more-learned name but
in eius vice subditur alia Proserpinae sacra Saluti. Iamque
in its place is-substituted another of-Proserpina sacred to-Safety and-now
praesente familia et nonnullis amicis et affinibus aegroto
with-present household and some friends and kin to-the-sick-man
medicus poculum probe temperatum manu sua porrigebat.
the-doctor the-cup properly mixed with-hand his was-offering
26 Sed audax illa mulier, ut simul et conscium sceleris
but bold that woman that at-once both the-accomplice of-the-crime
amoliretur et quam desponderat pecuniam lucraretur, coram
she-might-remove and which she-had-promised money might-gain openly
detento calice, “Non prius,” inquit “Medicorum optime, non
with-held-back cup not sooner she-says of-doctors best not
prius carissimo mihi marito trades istam potionem, quam
sooner to-dearest to-me husband you-will-hand that drink than

de ea bonam partem hauseris ipse. Unde enim scio
of it a-good part you-have-drunk yourself whence for do-I-know
an noxium in ea lateat venenum? Quae res utique te,
whether harmful in it lurks poison which thing surely you
tam prudentem tamque doctum virum, nequaquam offendet,
so prudent and-so learned a-man by-no-means will-offend
si religiosa uxor circa salutem mariti sollicita necessariam
if a-scrupulous wife about the-safety of-her-husband anxious necessary
affero pietatem." Qua mira desperatione truculentae feminae
I-bring devotion by-which wondrous desperation of-the-savage woman
repente perturbatus medicus, excussusque toto consilio et
suddenly disturbed the-doctor and-shaken-out-of all counsel and
ob angustiam temporis spatio cogitandi privatus,
on-account-of the-shortness of-time of-space for-thinking deprived
antequam trepidatione aliqua vel cunctatione ipsa daret
before by-trembling some or by-hesitation itself he-should-give
malae conscientiae suspicionem, indidem de potione gustavit
of-bad conscience suspicion from-the-same of the-drink tasted
ampliter: quam fidem secutus adolescens etiam, sumpto
amply which assurance following the-young-man also with-taken
calice, quod offerebatur hausit. Ad istum modum praesenti
cup what was-offered drank in this way with-present
transacto negotio medicus quam celerrime domum remeabat
finished business the-doctor as quickest home was-returning
salutifera potione pestem praecedentis veneni festinans
with-a-health-giving drink the-plague of-the-preceding poison hastening
extinguere: nec eum obstinatione sacrilega, qua semel
to-extinguish nor him with-obstinacy sacrilegious with-which once
coeperat, truculenta mulier ungue latius a se discedere
she-had-begun the-savage woman a-nail more-widely from herself to-depart
passa est, "Priusquam" inquit "Digesta potione medicinae
allowed has before she-says with-digested drink of-the-medicine

proventus appareat," sed aegre precibus et obtestationibus
the-result appears but with-difficulty by-prayers and entreaties
eius multum ac diu fatigata tandem abire concessit.
his much and long wearied at-last to-go-away allowed
Interdum perniciem caecam totis visceribus furentem medullae
meanwhile destruction blind in-all entrails raging the-marrows
penitus attraxerant: multum denique saucius et gravedine
deep had-drawn-in much in-short wounded and with-heaviness
somnulenta iam demersus domum pervadit aegerrime,
sleepy already sunk home he-reaches with-very-great-difficulty
vixque enarratis cunctis ad uxorem, mandato saltem
and-scarcely with-recounted all-things to his-wife with-a-charge at-least
promissam mercedem mortis geminatae deposceret, sic
the-promised fee of-the-death doubled she-should-demand thus
elisus violenter spectatissimus medicus effundit spiritum.
crushed violently the-most-esteemed doctor pours-out breath
27 Nec ille tamen iuvenis diutius vitam tenuerat, sed inter
nor that still young-man longer life had-kept but amid
fictas mentitasque lacrimas uxoris pari casu mortis fuerat
feigned and-false tears of-his-wife by-equal mishap of-death had-been
extinctus. Iamque eo sepulto, paucis interiectis diebus,
extinguished and-now with-him buried with-few intervening days
quis feralia mortuis litantur obsequia, uxor medici pretium
in-which funeral to-the-dead are-offered rites the-wife of-the-doctor the-price
geminae mortis petens aderat. Sed mulier usquequaque
of-the-double death seeking there-was but the-woman everywhere
sui similis, fidei supprimens faciem, praetendens imaginem,
of-herself like of-faith suppressing the-face holding-out the-image
blandicule respondit et omnia prolixe accumulateque
coaxingly answered and all-things amply and-abundantly
pollicetur et statutum praemium sine mora se reddituram
promises and the-appointed reward without delay herself would-pay

constituit, modo pauxillum de ea potione largiri sibi
she-settled provided a-little of that drink to-bestow on-her
vellet ob incepti negotii persecutionem. Quid
she-would-wish on-account-of of-the-begun business the-pursuit why
pluribus? Laqueis fraudium pessimarum uxor inducta
with-more-words by-the-snares of-frauds worst the-wife led-on
medici facile consensit, et quo se gratiorem locupleti
of-the-doctor easily agreed and that herself more-welcome to-the-rich
feminae faceret, properiter domo petitam totam prorsus
woman she-might-make quickly from-home fetched whole entire
veneni pyxidem mulieri tradidit: quae grandem scelerum
of-poison the-box to-the-woman handed-over who great of-crimes
nancta materiam longe lateque cruentas suas manus porrigit.
having-got material far and-wide bloody her hands stretches
Habebat filiam parvulam de marito quem nuper necaverat: 28
she-had a-daughter little by the-husband whom lately she-had-killed
huic infantulae quod leges necessariam patris successionem
to-this little-child that the-laws the-necessary of-the-father inheritance
deferrent, sustinebat aegerrime, inhiansque toto
assigned she-bore with-very-great-difficulty and-gaping at-the-whole
filiae patrimonio imminebat et capiti. Ergo certa
of-the-daughter patrimony threatened also her-life therefore sure
defunctorum liberorum matres sceleratas hereditates excipere,
of-dead children mothers wicked inheritances to-receive
talem parentem praebuit qualem exhibuerat uxorem,
such-a parent she-showed-herself as she-had-shown a-wife
prandioque commento pro tempore et uxorem medici simul
and-at-a-lunch contrived for the-occasion both the-wife of-the-doctor at-once
et suam filiam veneno eodem percutit. Sed parvulae quidem
and her daughter with-poison the-same strikes but of-the-little-one indeed
tenuem spiritum et delicata ac tenera praecordia conficit
the-slight breath and delicate and tender heart finishes

protinus virus infestum; at uxor medici, dum noxiis
at-once the-poison hostile but the-wife of-the-doctor while with-harmful
ambagibus pulmones eius pererrat tempestas detestabilis
windings the-lungs her roams the-storm of-detestable
potionis, primum suspicata quod res erat, mox urgente
drink first having-suspected what the-matter was soon with-pressing
spiritu iam certo certior contendit ad ipsam praesidis domum,
breath now surer than-sure hastens to the-very of-the-governor house
magnoque fidem eius protestata clamore et populi concitato
and-with-great protection his having-invoked shouting and of-the-people with-roused
tumultu, utpote tam immania detectura flagitia, efficit
uproar as-being so monstrous going-to-expose outrages she-causes
statim sibi simul et domus et aures praesidis patefierent.
at-once to-her at-once both the-house and ears of-the-governor to-be-opened
Iamque ab ipso exordio crudelissimae mulieris cunctis
and-now from the-very beginning of-the-most-cruel woman with-all
atrocitatibus diligenter expositis, repente mentis nubilo turbine
atrocities carefully set-out suddenly of-mind by-cloudy whirlwind
correpta semihiantes adhuc compressit labias, et attritu
seized half-gaping still she-closed lips and with-grinding
dentium longo stridore reddito, ante ipsos praesidis
of-teeth long with-a-gnashing given before the-very of-the-governor
pedes exanimis corruit. Nec ille, vir alioquin exercitus, tam
feet lifeless collapsed nor he a-man otherwise experienced so
multiforme facinus excetrae venenatae dilatione languida passus
many-shaped crime of-the-viper venomous by-delay languid allowing
marcescere, confestim cubiculariis mulieris attractis
to-wither at-once with-the-chamber-servants of-the-woman dragged-in
vi tormentorum veritatem eruit, atque illam, minus quidem
by-force of-tortures the-truth digs-out and her less indeed

quam merebatur, sed quod dignus cruciatus alius excogitari
than she-deserved but because a-fitting torture other to-be-devised
non poterat, certe bestiis obiciendam pronuntiavit.
not could certainly to-the-beasts to-be-thrown declared

LXXII · THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS

At the games, before Lucius is to appear with the woman, a Pyrrhic dance is followed by a pantomime of the Judgment of Paris on a wooden Mount Ida. Mercury brings the apple, Juno and Minerva enter with their attendants and offer the shepherd their gifts, and Venus comes on last.

Talis mulieris publicitus matrimonium confarreaturus 29
of-such a-woman publicly the-marriage going-to-solemnize
ingentique angore oppido suspensus expectabam diem
and-with-huge anguish exceedingly in-suspense I-awaited the-day
muneris, saepius quidem mortem mihimet volens consciscere,
of-the-show more-often indeed death for-myself wishing to-inflict
priusquam scelerosae mulieris contagio maculare vel
before of-the-wicked woman by-contact I-should-be-stained or
infamia publici spectaculi depudescerem: sed privatus
by-the-infamy of-the-public spectacle be-shamed but deprived
humana manu, privatus digitis, ungula rotunda atque mutila
of-human hand deprived of-fingers with-hoof round and stumpy
gladium stringere nequaquam poteram. Plane tenui
a-sword to-draw by-no-means I-could plainly with-a-slender
specula solabar clades ultimas, quod ver in ipso ortu
hope I-consoled disasters final that spring in its-very rising
iam gemmulis floridis cuncta depingeret et iam purpureo
now with-buds flowering all-things was-painting and now with-purple
nitore prata vestiret, et commodum dirupto spineo tegmine
sheen meadows was-clothing and just-now with-burst thorny covering

spirantes cinnameos odores promicarent rosae, quae me priori
breathing cinnamon scents were-shining-forth roses which me to-former
meo Lucio redderent. Dies ecce muneri destinatus aderat; ad
my Lucius might-restore the-day behold for-the-show appointed was-here to
consaeptum caveae prosequente populo pompatico favore
the-enclosure of-the-theater with-following people with-processional favor
deducor: ac dum ludicris scaenicorum choreis primitiae
I-am-led and while with-the-playful of-the-actors dances the-first-fruits
spectaculi dedicantur, tantisper ante portam constitutus
of-the-spectacle are-dedicated meanwhile before the-gate placed
pabulum laetissimi graminis, quod in ipso germinabat
the-fodder of-most-luxuriant grass which at the-very was-sprouting
aditu, libens affectabam, subinde curiosos oculos patente
entrance gladly I-was-cropping now-and-then curious eyes with-open
porta spectaculi prospectu gratissimo reficiens. Nam puelli
gate of-the-spectacle with-a-view most-pleasing refreshing for boys
puellaeque virenti florentes aetatula, forma conspicui, veste
and-girls with-green blooming youth in-beauty conspicuous in-dress
nitidi, incessu gestuosi, Graecanicam saltaturi Pyrrhicam
elegant in-gait expressive the-Greek going-to-dance Pyrrhic
dispositis ordinationibus decoros ambitus inerrabant, nunc
with-arranged orders graceful circuits wandered-through now
in orbem rotatum flexuosi, nunc in obliquam seriem
into a-circle wheeled winding now into a-slanting line
connexi et in quadratum patorem cuneati et in catervae
linked and into a-square opening wedged and into of-a-troop
discidium separati. At ubi discursus reciproci multinodas
the-division separated but when of-the-running back-and-forth many-knotted
ambages tubae terminalis cantus explicuit, aulaeo
windings of-the-trumpet final the-song unwound with-the-curtain
subducto et complicitis siparis scaena disponitur.
drawn-down and with-folded screens the-scene is-set

Erat mons ligneus ad instar incliti montis illius quem 30
there-was a-mountain wooden in the-likeness of-famous mountain that which
vates Homerus Idaeum cecinit, sublimi instructus fabrica,
the-bard Homer Idaean sang with-lofty built construction
consitus virectis et vivis arboribus, summo cacumine
planted with-thickets and living trees from-the-highest summit
de manibus fabri fonte manante, fluviales aquas
from the-hands of-the-craftsman with-a-spring flowing river waters
eliquans. Capellae pauculae tondebant herbulas, et in modum
pouring-out she-goats a-few cropped little-grasses and in the-manner
Paridis Phrygii pastoris barbaricis amiculis humeris
of-Paris the-Phrygian shepherd with-barbaric cloaks from-the-shoulders
defluentibus pulchre indusiatus adolescens, aurea tiara
flowing beautifully dressed a-youth with-golden tiara
contecto capite, pecuarium simulabat magisterium. Adest
covered head of-flocks feigned the-mastership is-present
luculentus puer nudus, nisi quod ephebica chlamida sinistrum
a-splendid boy naked except that with-a-youth's cloak the-left
tegebat humerum, flavis crinibus usquequaque conspicuus,
he-covered shoulder with-golden hair everywhere conspicuous
et inter comas eius aureae pinnulae cognatione simili
and among hair his golden little-wings by-kinship like
sociatae prominebant, quem caduceum et virgula Mercurium
joined stood-out whom the-caduceus and wand as-Mercury
indicabant. Is saltatorie procurrens malumque bracteis
showed he dancingly running-forward and-an-apple with-gold-leaf
inauratum dextra gerens, ei qui Paris videbatur porrigit,
gilded in-right-hand bearing to-him who Paris seemed offers
quid mandaret Iuppiter nutu significans, et protinus gradum
what ordered Jupiter by-nod signifying and at-once step
scitule referens e conspectu facessit. Insequitur puella
neatly drawing-back from view departs follows a-girl

vultu honesta in deae Iunonis speciem similis; nam et
in-face handsome to of-the-goddess Juno the-likeness like for both
caput stringebat diadema candida, ferebat et sceptrum Irrupit
head bound a-diadem white she-bore also a-scepter burst-in
alia quam putares Minervam, caput contecta fulgenti
another whom you-would-think Minerva in-head covered with-gleaming
galea (et oleaginea corona tegebatur ipsa galea) clypeum
helmet and with-olive crown was-covered the-very helmet a-shield
attollens et hastam quatiens et qualis illa cum pugnat.
raising and a-spear shaking and such-as she when she-fights
31 Super has introcessit alio visendo decore praepollens,
after these came-in with-another to-be-seen beauty surpassing
gratia coloris ambrosei designans Venerem, qualis fuit
with-the-grace of-color ambrosial representing Venus such-as was
Venus cum fuit virgo, nudo et intecto corpore perfectam
Venus when she-was a-maiden with-naked and uncovered body perfect
formositatem professa, nisi quod tenui pallio bombycino
beauty displaying except that with-a-thin mantle silken
inumbrabat spectabilem pubem: quam quidem laciniam
she-shaded remarkable groin which indeed scarf
curiosulus ventus satis amanter nunc lasciviens reflabat, ut
the-curious-little wind quite lovingly now frolicking blew-back that
dimota pateret flos aetatulae, nunc luxurians aspirabat, ut
moved-aside lay-open the-flower of-youth now wantoning breathed-on that
adhaerens pressule membrorum voluptatem graphice deliniaret.
clinging closely of-the-limbs the-delight vividly it-might-outline
Ipse autem color deae diversus in speciem, corpus
the-very however color of-the-goddess different in appearance the-body
candidum quod caelo demeat, amictus caerulus quod
white because from-heaven she-comes-down the-mantle blue because
mari remeat. Iam singulas virgines, quae deae putabantur,
to-the-sea she-goes-back now each maidens who goddesses were-thought

sui sequebantur comites, Iunonem quidem Castor et
their-own followed companions Juno indeed Castor and
Pollux, quorum capita cassides ovatae stellarum apicibus
Pollux whose heads helmets egg-shaped of-stars with-tips
insignes contegebant, sed et isti Castores erant scaenici
marked covered but also those Castors were stage
pueri: haec puella varios modulos Iastia concinente tibia
boys this girl various measures with-Ionian sounding pipe
procedens quieta et inaffectata gesticulatione nutibus honestis
advancing with-quiet and unaffected gesturing with-nods modest
pastori pollicetur, si sibi praemium decoris addixisset,
to-the-shepherd promises if to-her the-prize of-beauty he-awarded
et sese regnum totius Asiae tributuram. At illam quam
both herself the-kingdom of-the-whole of-Asia would-grant but her whom
cultus armorum Minervam fecerat duo pueri muniebant,
the-dress of-arms Minerva had-made two boys guarded
proeliaris deae comites armigeri, Terror et Metus, nudis
of-the-warlike goddess companions armor-bearers Terror and Fear with-naked
insultantes gladiis: at pone tergum tibicen Dorium canebat
leaping swords but behind the-back a-piper Dorian played
bellicosum et permiscens bombis gravibus tinnitus acutos in
warlike and mixing with-booms deep ringings sharp in
modum tubae saltationis agilis vigorem suscitabat: haec
the-manner of-a-trumpet of-the-dance nimble the-vigor stirred this-one
inquieto capite et oculis in aspectum minacibus, citato
with-restless head and with-eyes in look threatening with-quick
et intorto genere gesticulationis alacer demonstrabat Paridi,
and twisted kind of-gesturing eager showed to-Paris
si sibi formae victoriam tradidisset, fortem tropaeisque
if to-her of-beauty the-victory he-handed brave and-with-trophies
bellorum inclitum suis adminiculis futurum.
of-wars famous by-her aids he-would-be

Venus wins the apple. Lucius digresses on corrupt judges and Socrates' unjust condemnation. When the condemned woman is fetched and the bed is laid, he fears the beasts will kill him with her, so he slips away from the theater, gallops to Cenchreae, and falls asleep on the shore by the sea.

32 Venus ecce cum magno favore caveae in ipso meditullio
Venus behold with great favor of-the-theater in the-very middle
scaenae, circumfuso populo laetissimorum parvulorum, dulce
of-the-stage with-poured-around crowd of-most-joyful little-children sweetly
surridens constitit amoene: illos teretes et lacteos puellos
smiling stood charmingly those smooth and milky little-boys
diceres tu Cupidines veros de caelo vel mari commodum
you-would-say you Cupids true from heaven or sea just-now
involasse; nam et pinnulis et sagittulis et habitu
to-have-flown-in for both in-little-wings and little-arrows and in-dress
cetero formae praeclare congruebant, et velut nuptiales
other to-the-form splendidly they-matched and as-if the-wedding
epulas obiturae dominae coruscis praelucebant facibus.
feast going-to-attend for-their-mistress with-flashing they-lit-the-way torches
Et influunt innuptarum puellarum decorae suboles: hinc
and flow-in of-unmarried girls lovely offspring on-this-side
Gratiae gratissimae, inde Horae pulcherrimae, quae iaculis
the-Graces most-gracious on-that the-Hours most-beautiful who with-throwings
floris serti et soluti deam suam propitiantes scitissimum
of-flower garlanded and loose the-goddess their propitiating a-most-skillful
construxerant chorum, dominae voluptatum veris coma
had-built dance to-the-mistress of-pleasures of-spring with-the-foliage
blandientes. Iam tibiae multiforabiles cantus Lydios dulciter
coaxing now pipes many-holed songs Lydian sweetly

consonant: quibus spectatorum pectora suave mulcentibus,
sound-together by-which of-the-spectators the-hearts sweetly soothing
longe suavior Venus placide commoveri cunctantique lente
far sweeter Venus calmly to-be-stirred and-with-lingering slow
vestigio et leniter fluctuante spinula et sensim annutante
step and gently swaying little-spine and gradually nodding
capite coepit incedere, mollique tibiarum sono delicatis
head began to-advance and-to-the-soft of-the-pipes sound with-delicate
respondere gestibus et nunc mite conniventibus, nunc acre
to-answer gestures and now gently half-closing now sharply
comminantibus gestire pupulis et nonnunquam saltare solis
threatening to-flutter with-eyes and sometimes to-dance with-the-eyes
oculis. Haec ut primum ante iudicis conspectum facta est,
alone she as first before of-the-judge the-sight placed was
nisu brachiorum polliceri videbatur, si fuisset deabus
by-movement of-arms to-promise she-seemed if she-had-been to-goddesses
ceteris antelata, daturam se nuptam Paridi forma praecipuam
other preferred would-give herself as-bride to-Paris in-beauty outstanding
suique similem: tunc animo volenti Phrygius iuvenis malum
and-to-herself like then with-mind willing the-Phrygian youth apple
quod tenebat aureum, velut victoriae calculum, puellae tradidit.
which he-held golden as of-victory the-pebble to-the-girl handed
Quid ergo miramini si vilissima capita, immo forensia 33
why therefore do-you-wonder if most-worthless heads nay of-the-forum
pecora, immo vero togati vulturii, si toti nunc iudices
cattle nay indeed togaed vultures if all now judges
sententias suas pretio nundinantur, cum rerum exordio
verdicts their for-a-price traffic when of-things at-the-beginning
inter deos et homines agitatum iudicium corruperit gratia,
between gods and men conducted a-trial corrupted favor
et originalem sententiam magni Iovis consiliis electus
and the-original verdict of-great Jupiter by-the-counsels chosen

iudex rusticanus et opilio lucro libidinis vendiderit cum
judge rustic and a-shepherd for-the-gain of-lust sold with
totius etiam suae stirpis exitio? Sic Hercule et aliud
of-the-whole even his race the-ruin thus by-Hercules also another
sequens iudicium inter inclitos Achivorum duces celebratum,
following trial among the-famous of-the-Achaeans leaders held
vel cum falsis insimulationibus eruditione doctrinaque
either when by-false accusations in-erudition and-learning
praepollens Palamedes proditionis damnatur, vel cum virtute
surpassing Palamedes of-treason is-condemned or when in-valor
Martia praepotenti praefertur Ulixes modicus Aiaci maximo.
martial to-the-very-mighty is-preferred Ulysses modest to-Ajax greatest
Quale autem et illud iudicium apud legiferos Athenienses
what-kind however also that trial among the-law-giving Athenians
catos illos et omnis scientiae magistros? Nonne divinae
shrewd those and of-every knowledge masters was-not of-divine
prudentiae senex, quem sapientia praetulit cunctis mortalibus
prudence the-old-man whom in-wisdom preferred to-all mortals
deus Delphicus, fraude et invidia nequissimae factionis
the-god Delphic by-fraud and envy of-a-most-worthless faction
circumventus velut corruptor adulescentiae, quam frenis
beset as a-corrupter of-youth which with-reins
cohercebat, herbae pestilentis succo noxio peremptus est,
he-restrained of-a-plant pestilent by-the-juice harmful killed was
relinquens civibus ignominiae perpetuae maculam, cum
leaving to-the-citizens of-disgrace perpetual a-stain since
nunc etiam egregii philosophi sectam eius sanctissimam
now even eminent philosophers school his most-holy
praeoptent et summo beatitudinis studio iurent in ipsius
prefer and with-highest of-blessedness zeal swear by his
nomen? Sed ne quis indignationis meae reprehendat impetum,
name but lest anyone of-indignation my should-censure the-outburst

secum sic reputans: “Ecce nunc patiemur philosophantem
with-himself thus reckoning behold now we-shall-endure philosophizing
nobis asinum,” rursus unde decessi revertar ad fabulam.
to-us an-ass again whence I-departed I-shall-return to the-tale
Postquam finitum est illud Paridis iudicium, Iuno quidem 34
after finished was that of-Paris judgment Juno indeed
cum Minerva tristes et iratis similes e scaena redeunt,
with Minerva sad and to-angry-ones like from the-stage go-back
indignationem repulsae gestibus professae; Venus vero gaudens
the-indignation of-rejection by-gestures professing Venus indeed rejoicing
et hilaris laetitiam suam saltando toto cum choro professa
and cheerful joy her by-dancing whole with chorus professed
est. Tunc de summo montis cacumine per quandam
has then from the-highest of-the-mountain summit through a-certain
latentem fistulam in excelsum prorumpit vino crocus diluta,
hidden pipe into the-height bursts-forth with-wine saffron diluted
sparsimque defluens pascentes circa capellas odoro perpluit
and-scattered flowing-down the-grazing around she-goats with-fragrant rains-on
imbre, donec in meliorem maculatae speciem canitiem propriam
shower until into a-better stained appearance whiteness their-own
luteo colore mutarent: iamque tota suave fragrante cavea
for-yellow color they-changed and-now with-whole sweetly fragrant theater
montem illum ligneum terrae vorago decepit. Ecce quidam
mountain that wooden of-the-earth a-chasm swallowed behold a-certain
miles per mediam plateam dirigit cursum petiturus, iam
soldier through the-middle street directs course going-to-fetch now
populo postulante, illam de publico carcere mulierem,
with-the-people demanding that from the-public prison woman
quam dixi propter multiforme scelus bestiis esse
whom I-said for (her)-many-shaped crime to-the-beasts to-have-been
damnatam meisque praeclaris nuptiis destinatam, et iam torus
condemned and-to-my splendid nuptials appointed and now a-couch

genialis scilicet noster futurus accuratissime disternebatur,
nuptial of-course our going-to-be most-carefully was-being-spread
lectus Indica testudine pellucidus, plumea congerie tumidus,
a-bed with-Indian tortoiseshell shining with-feathery heap swelling
veste serica floridus. At ego praeter pudorem obeundi
with-coverlet silken flowery but I besides the-shame of-undergoing
publice concubitus, praeter contagium scelestae pollutaeque
publicly union besides the-contact of-the-wicked and-polluted
feminae, metu etiam mortis maxime cruciabar, sic ipse mecum
woman by-fear also of-death most was-tormented thus myself with-myself
reputans, quod in amplexu venerio scilicet nobis cohaerentibus
reckoning that in embrace venereal of-course with-us clinging
quaecumque ad exitium mulieris bestia fuisset immissa, non
whatever for the-death of-the-woman beast had-been let-in not
adeo vel prudentia sollers vel artificio docta vel abstinentia
so either in-prudence clever or in-skill trained or in-restraint
frugi posset provenire, ut adiacentem lateri meo laceraret
thrifty could to-turn-out that the-adjacent at-side my it-should-tear
mulierem, mihi vero quasi indemnato et innoxio parceret.
woman me indeed as-if uncondemned and innocent it-should-spare
35 Ergo igitur non de pudore iam sed de salute ipsa
therefore then not about shame now but about safety itself
sollicitus, dum magister meus lectulo probe coaptando
anxious while keeper my the-bed properly in-fitting
districtus inseruit et tota familia partim ministerio
busied attended and the-whole household partly in-the-service
venationis occupata, partim voluptario spectaculo attonita
of-the-hunt occupied partly by-the-pleasurable spectacle spellbound
meis cogitationibus liberum tribuebatur arbitrium, nec
to-my thoughts free was-granted choice nor
magnopere quisquam custodiendum tam mansuetum putabat
greatly anyone to-be-guarded so tame thought

asinum, paulatim furtivum pedem proferens portam, quae
an-ass little-by-little stealthy foot advancing the-gate which
proxuma est, potitus, iam cursu me celerrimo proripio,
nearest is having-gained now at-a-run myself most-swift I-hurl
sexque totis passuum milibus perniciter confectis Cenchreas
and-with-six whole of-paces thousands swiftly completed Cenchreae
pervado, quod oppidum audit quidem nobilissimae coloniae
I-reach which town is-called indeed of-the-most-noble colony
Corinthiensium, alluitur autem Aegaeo et Saronico mari:
of-the-Corinthians is-washed however by-the-Aegean and Saronic sea
inibi portus etiam tutissimum navium receptaculum magno
there a-harbor also a-most-safe of-ships refuge by-great
frequentatur populo. Vitatis ergo turbulis et electo
is-thronged people with-avoided therefore crowds and with-chosen
secreto litore prope ipsas fluctuum aspergines in quodam
secluded shore near the-very of-the-waves sprays in a-certain
mollissimo harenae gremio lassum corpus porrectus refoveo:
very-soft of-sand lap weary body stretched-out I-refresh
nam et ultimam diei metam curriculum solis deflexerat,
for also the-last of-the-day goal the-course of-the-sun had-turned
et vespernae me quieti traditum dulcis somnus oppresserat.
and to-evening me rest handed-over sweet sleep had-overwhelmed

BOOK XI

LXXIV · THE PRAYER TO THE MOON

Waking at night, Lucius sees the full moon rising from the sea. He purifies himself in the waves and prays to the queen of heaven, whatever her name, to restore him to human form.

Circa primam ferme noctis vigiliam, experrectus pavore 1
about the-first almost of-night watch awakened by-fear
subito, video praemicantis lunae candore nimio completum
sudden I-see of-the-gleaming moon with-brightness excessive full
orbem commodum marinis emergentem fluctibus, nanctusque
the-orb just-now from-sea rising waves and-having-got
opacae noctis silentiosa secreta, certus etiam summatem
of-dark night the-silent secrecies sure also the-supreme
deam praecipua maiestate pollere resque prorsus humanas
goddess with-special majesty to-be-powerful and-affairs utterly human
ipsius regi providentia, nec tantum pecuina et ferina,
by-her to-be-ruled providence nor only cattle and wild-beasts
verum inanima etiam divino eius luminis numinisque
but lifeless-things even by-the-divine of-her light and-power
nutu vegetari, ipsa etiam corpora terra caelo marique
nod to-be-quickened the-very also bodies on-land in-heaven and-at-sea
nunc incrementis consequenter augeri, nunc detrimentis
now with-waxings accordingly to-be-increased now with-wanings
obsequenter imminui, fato scilicet iam meis tot tantisque
obediently to-be-diminished with-fate no-doubt now by-my so-many and-so-great
cladibus satiato et spem salutis, licet tardam, subministrante,
disasters sated and hope of-salvation though late supplying
augustum specimen deae praesentis statui deprecari,
the-august image of-the-goddess present I-resolved to-entreat

confestimque discussa pigra quiete alacer exsurgo meque
and-at-once with-shaken-off sluggish rest eager I-rise and-myself
protinus purificandi studio marino lavacro trado, septiesque
at-once of-purifying from-zeal to-the-sea bath commit and-seven-times
submerso fluctibus capite, quod eum numerum praecipue
with-plunged in-the-waves head because that number especially
religionibus aptissimum divinus ille Pythagoras prodidit, laetus
to-rites most-fitting divine that Pythagoras declared glad
et alacer deam praepotentem lacrimoso vultu sic apprecabar:
and eager the-goddess most-powerful with-tearful face thus I-prayed-to
2 "Regina caeli, sive tu Ceres alma frugum parens
queen of-heaven whether you(-are) Ceres nourishing of-crops parent
originalis, quae, repertu laetata filiae, vetustae glandis
original who at-the-finding glad of-your-daughter of-the-ancient acorn
ferino remoto pabulo, miti commonstrato cibo, nunc
beastly with-removed fodder with-gentle shown food now
Eleusiniam glebam percolis; seu tu caelestis Venus, quae primis
the-Eleusinian soil you-tend or you heavenly Venus who at-the-first
rerum exordiis sexuum diversitatem generato amore sociasti
of-things beginnings of-the-sexes the-difference with-begotten love joined
et aeterna subole humano genere propagato nunc circumfluo
and with-eternal offspring with-human race propagated now in-the-sea-girt
Paphi sacrario coleris; seu Phoebi soror, quae partu
of-Paphos shrine are-worshiped or of-Phoebus sister who with-the-birth
fetarum medelis lenientibus recreato populos tantos educasti
of-the-pregnant with-remedies soothing relieved peoples so-great have-reared
praeclarisque nunc veneraris delubris Ephesi; seu nocturnis
and-in-splendid now are-revered shrines of-Ephesus or with-nocturnal
ululatibus horrenda Proserpina triformi facie larvales impetus
howls dreadful Proserpina with-three-formed face ghostly assaults
comprimens terraeque claustra cohibens, lucos diversos
checking and-of-the-earth the-bars holding groves various

inerrans vario cultu propitiaris: ista luce feminea collustrans
wandering with-varied worship are-propitiated with-this light womanly illuminating
cuncta moenia et udis ignibus nutriens laeta semina
all walls and with-moist fires nourishing glad seeds
et solis ambagibus dispensans incerta lumina — quoquo
and of-the-sun by-the-windings dispensing uncertain lights by-whatever
nomine, quoquo ritu, quaqua facie te fas est invocare: tu meis
name by-whatever rite in-whatever face you right it-is to-invoke you to-my
iam nunc extremis aerumnis subsiste, tu fortunam collapsam
now now extreme miseries give-aid you fortune collapsed
affirma, tu saevis exanclatis casibus pausam pacemque tribue;
strengthen you with-cruel endured mishaps a-pause and-peace grant
sit satis laborum, sit satis periculorum. Depelle
let-there-be enough of-labors let-there-be enough of-perils drive-off
quadripedis diram faciem, redde me conspectui meorum, redde
of-the-four-footed the-dire form restore me to-the-sight of-my-own restore
me meo Lucio: ac si quod offensum numen inexorabili me
me to-my Lucius and if some offended divinity with-inexorable me
saevitia premit, mori saltem liceat, si non licet vivere."
savagery presses to-die at-least may-it-be-allowed if not it-is-allowed to-live

Isis rises from the sea and names herself the mother of all things. If Lucius eats the roses her priest will carry in tomorrow's procession, he will be restored, but he must serve her for life.

3 Ad istum modum fusis precibus et adstructis miseris
in this way with-poured prayers and with-added wretched
lamentationibus, rursus mihi marcentem animum in eodem illo
lamentations again my drooping spirit in the-same that
cubili sopor circumfusus oppressit. Necdum satis conniveram,
couch sleep poured-around overwhelmed nor-yet quite I-had-closed-my-eyes
et ecce pelago medio venerandos diis etiam vultus attollens
and behold from-the-sea middle venerable to-gods even a-face raising
emergit divina facies: ac dehinc paulatim toto corpore
emerges a-divine countenance and then gradually with-whole body
pellucidum simulacrum excusso pelago ante me constitisse
a-shining image with-shaken-off sea before me to-have-stood
visum est. Eius mirandam speciem ad vos etiam referre
seemed has her wondrous appearance to you also to-report
conitar, si tamen mihi disserendi tribuerit facultatem
I-shall-try if still to-me of-describing shall-have-granted the-faculty
paupertas oris humani, vel ipsum numen eius dapsilem
the-poverty of-speech human or the-very divinity her a-lavish
copiam elocutilis facundiae subministraverit. Iam primum
abundance of-expressive eloquence shall-have-supplied now first
crines uberrimi prolixique et sensim intorti per divina
hair very-abundant and-long and gently curled over the-divine
colla passive dispersi molliter defluebant. Corona multiformis
neck loosely scattered softly flowed-down a-crown many-formed
variis floribus sublimem destrinxerat verticem, cuius
with-various flowers lofty had-bound the-crown-of-her-head of-which

media quidem super frontem plana rotunditas in modum
the-middle indeed above the-brow a-flat roundness in the-manner
speculi vel immo argumentum lunae candidum lumen
of-a-mirror or rather as-token of-the-moon white light
emicabat, dextra laevaque sulcis insurgentium viperarum
flashed-out on-the-right and-left by-the-coils of-rising vipers
cohibita, spicis etiam Cerialibus desuper porrectis. Vestis
held with-ears also of-Ceres above stretched-out a-robe
multicolor bysso tenui pertexta, nunc albo candore lucida,
many-colored of-linen fine woven now with-white brightness shining
nunc croceo flore lutea, nunc roseo rubore flammida,
now with-saffron bloom yellow now with-rosy red flaming
et, quae longe longeque etiam meum confutabat obtutum,
and what far and-far even my confounded gaze
palla nigerrima splendescens atro nitore, quae circumcirca
a-mantle very-black gleaming with-dark sheen which round-about
remeans et sub dexterum latus ad humerum laevum
returning and under the-right side to the-shoulder left
recurrens umbonis vicem deiecta parte laciniae multiplici
running-back of-a-boss in-the-manner with-let-down part of-the-fold in-manifold
contabulatione dependula ad ultimas oras nodulis fimbriarum
pleating hanging to the-last edges with-knots of-fringes
decoriter confluctuabat.
gracefully rippled
Per intextam extremitatem et in ipsa eius planitie stellae 4
along the-woven-in border and on the-very its surface stars
dispersae coruscabant, earumque media semenstris luna
scattered glittered and-of-them in-the-middle a-half-month moon
flammeos spirabat ignes: quaqua tamen insignis illius pallae
flaming breathed fires wherever still of-remarkable that mantle
perfluebat ambitus, individuo nexu corona totis floribus
flowed the-sweep with-undivided bond a-garland of-all flowers

totisque constructa pomis adhaerebat. Iam gestamina longe
and-of-all built fruits clung now (her)-emblems far
diversa: nam dextra quidem ferebat aereum crepitaculum,
various for in-the-right indeed she-carried a-bronze rattle
cuius per angustam laminam in modum baltei recurvatam
whose through the-narrow plate in the-manner of-a-belt curved-back
traiectae mediae paucae virgulae, crispante brachio trigeminos
passed-through middle a-few little-rods with-shaking arm at-triple
iactus, reddebant argutum sonorem; laevae vero cymbium
shakings gave-out a-shrill sound from-the-left indeed a-boat-cup
dependebat aureum, cuius ansulae, qua parte conspicua
hung golden whose of-little-handle where the-part conspicuous
est, insurgebat aspis caput extollens arduum, cervicibus
is rose an-asp head raising high with-neck
late tumescentibus. Pedes ambroseos tegebant soleae palmae
widely swelling feet ambrosial covered sandals of-palm
victricis foliis intextae. Talis ac tanta, spirans Arabiae
victorious with-leaves woven such and so-great breathing of-Arabia
felicia germina, divina me voce dignata est:
the-blessed spices with-divine me voice deigned has
5 “En adsum tuis commota, Luci, precibus, rerum naturae
look I-am-here by-your moved Lucius prayers of-things of-nature
parens, elementorum omnium domina, saeculorum progenies
the-parent of-the-elements all mistress of-the-ages offspring
initialis, summa numinum, regina manium, prima caelitum,
first highest of-divinities queen of-the-shades first of-the-heavenly-ones
deorum dearumque facies uniformis, quae caeli luminosa
of-gods and-goddesses form single who of-heaven the-luminous
culmina, maris salubria flamina, inferum deplorata silentia
heights of-the-sea the-wholesome breezes of-the-dead the-lamented silences
nutibus meis dispenso: cuius numen unicum multiformi
by-nods my I-govern whose divinity single in-manifold

specie, ritu vario, nomine multiiugo totus veneratur orbis.
form by-rite varied by-name many-sided the-whole worships world
Inde primigenii Phryges Pessinuntiam deum Matrem,
thence the-first-born Phrygians the-Pessinuntian of-the-gods Mother
hinc autochthones Attici Cecropeiam Minervam, illinc
hence the-earth-born Athenians Cecropian Minerva thence
fluctuantes Cyprii Paphiam Venerem, Cretes sagittiferi
the-sea-tossed Cyprians Paphian Venus the-Cretans arrow-bearing
Dictynnam Dianam, Siculi trilingues Stygiam Proserpinam,
Dictynnan Diana the-Sicilians three-tongued Stygian Proserpina
Eleusini vetustam deam Cererem, Iunonem alii, Bellonam
the-Eleusinians ancient goddess Ceres Juno some Bellona
alii, Hecatam isti, Rhamnusiam illi, et qui nascentis dei
others Hecate these Rhamnusia those and who of-the-rising god
solis inchoantibus illustrantur radiis Aethiopes utrique
of-the-sun by-the-beginning are-lit rays the-Ethiopians both
priscaque doctrina pollentes Aegyptii, caerimoniis me propriis
and-in-ancient learning powerful the-Egyptians with-rites me proper
percolentes, appellant vero nomine reginam Isidem. Adsum
worshiping call by-true name queen Isis I-am-here
tuos miserata casus, adsum favens et propitia. Mitte
your having-pitied misfortunes I-am-here favoring and gracious let-go
iam fletus et lamentationes omitte, depelle maerorem: iam
now weepings and lamentations leave drive-off grief now
tibi providentia mea illucescit dies salutaris. Ergo igitur
for-you by-providence my dawns a-day saving therefore then
imperiis istis meis animum intende sollicitum. Diem, qui
to-commands these my mind turn anxious the-day which
dies ex ista nocte nascetur, aeterna mihi nuncupavit religio,
day from this night will-be-born everlasting to-me has-named religion
quo, sedatis hibernis tempestatibus et lenitis maris
on-which with-calmed winter storms and with-soothed of-the-sea

procellosis fluctibus, navigabili iam pelago rudem dedicantes
stormy waves on-the-navigable now sea a-new dedicating
carinam primitias commeatus libant mei sacerdotes: id
keel first-fruits of-voyaging offer my priests that
sacrum nec sollicita nec profana mente debebis opperiri.
rite neither with-anxious nor profane mind you-must to-await
6 "Nam meo monitu sacerdos in ipso procinctu pompae
for by-my warning the-priest in the-very readiness of-the-procession
roseam manu dextera sistro cohaerentem gestabit coronam.
a-rose in-hand right to-the-sistrum attached will-carry garland
Incunctanter ergo dimotis turbulis alacer continuare pompam,
without-hesitation therefore with-parted crowds eager join the-procession
mea volentia fretus, et de proxumo clementer velut manum
on-my goodwill relying and from nearby gently as-if the-hand
sacerdotis osculabundus rosis decerptis pessimae mihique
of-the-priest about-to-kiss with-roses plucked from-the-worst and-to-me
destabilis iamdudum beluae istius corio te protinus exue.
detestable long-since beast that the-hide yourself at-once strip
Nec quicquam rerum mearum reformides ut arduum: nam
nor anything of-affairs my dread as hard for
hoc eodem momento quo tibi venio, simul et ibi
at-this same moment in-which to-you I-come at-once also there
praesens quae sunt sequentia sacerdoti meo per quietem
present what are following to-priest my in sleep
facienda praecipio. Meo iussu tibi constricti comitatus
to-be-done I-instruct by-my order for-you the-packed of-the-throng
decedent populi; nec inter hilares caerimonias et festiva
will-give-way peoples nor amid cheerful rites and festive
spectacula quisquam deformem istam quam geris faciem
spectacles anyone the-ugly that which you-bear form
perhorrescet, vel figuram tuam repente mutatam sequius
will-shudder-at or shape your suddenly changed otherwise

interpretatus aliquis maligne criminabitur. Plane memineris et
interpreting anyone spitefully will-accuse plainly remember and
penita mente conditum semper tenebis mihi reliqua vitae
in-inmost mind stored always you-will-keep to-me the-remaining of-life
tuae curricula ad usque terminos ultimi spiritus vadata: nec
your courses to right the-limits of-last breath pledged nor
iniurium, cuius beneficio redieris ad homines, ei totum
unjust whose by-kindness you-have-returned to men to-her all
debere quod vives. Vives autem beatus, vives in mea
to-owe which you-live you-will-live however blessed you-will-live in my
tutela gloriosus; et cum spatium saeculi tui permensus ad
protection glorious and when the-span of-life your having-measured to
inferos demearis, ibi quoque in ipso subterraneo semirotundo
the-dead you-go-down there also in the-very underground hemisphere
me, quam vides Acherontis tenebris interlucentem Stygiisque
me whom you-see of-Acheron in-the-darkness shining-amid and-in-Stygian
penetralibus regnantem, campos Elysios incolens ipse, tibi
depths reigning the-fields Elysian inhabiting yourself to-you
propitiam frequens adorabis. Quod si sedulis obsequiis
gracious frequent you-will-worship but if with-diligent obediences
et religiosis ministeriis et tenacibus castimoniis numen
and religious services and steadfast chastities divinity
nostrum promerueris, scies ultra statuta fato tuo
our you-shall-have-deserved you-will-know beyond set by-fate your
spatia vitam quoque tibi prorogare mihi tantum licere."
the-spans life also for-you to-prolong to-me alone to-be-allowed

At dawn the procession of Isis passes, with masqueraders, women with mirrors, musicians, initiates, and priests carrying the sacred emblems. The high priest, warned in a dream, offers Lucius the garland of roses. He eats it and becomes a man again.

7 Sic oraculi venerabilis fine prolato numen invictum in
thus of-the-oracle venerable with-the-end uttered the-divinity unconquered into
se recessit. Nec mora, cum somno protinus absolutus pavore
itself withdrew nor delay when from-sleep at-once released with-fear
et gaudio ac dein sudore nimio permixtus exsurgo, summeque
and joy and then with-sweat excessive mingled I-rise and-greatly
miratus deae potentis tam claram praesentiam, marino
wondering-at of-the-goddess mighty so clear presence with-sea
rore respersus magnisque imperiis eius intentus monitionis
dew sprinkled and-on-great commands her intent of-the-warning
ordinem recolebam. Nec mora, cum noctis atrae fugato nubilo
the-order I-went-over nor delay when of-night black with-routed cloud
sol exsurgit aureus, et ecce discursu religioso ac
the-sun rises golden and behold with-a-running-about devout and
prorsus triumphali turbulae complent totas plateas tantaque
utterly triumphal crowds fill whole streets and-with-such
hilaritudine praeter peculiarem meam gestire mihi cuncta
cheerfulness besides private my to-exult to-me all-things
videbantur, ut pecua etiam cuiuscemodi et totas domos et
seemed that cattle even of-every-kind and whole houses and
ipsum diem serena facie gaudere sentirem. Nam et pruinam
the-very day with-serene face to-rejoice I-felt for also the-frost
pridianam dies apricus ac placidus repente fuerat insecutus,
of-yesterday a-day sunny and calm suddenly had followed

ut canorae etiam aviculae prolectatae verno vapore concentus
so-that tuneful even little-birds enticed by-spring warmth harmonies
suaves assonarent matrem siderum, parentem temporum
sweet sang-in-answer the-mother of-the-stars parent of-seasons
orbisque totius dominam blando mulcentes affamine. Quid
and-of-the-world whole mistress with-coaxing soothing address what
quod arbores etiam, quae pomifera subole fecundae quaeque
that trees also which with-fruit-bearing offspring fertile and-which
earum tantum umbra contentae steriles, austrinis laxatae
of-them only with-shade content barren by-southern loosened
flatibus, germine foliorum renidentes, clementi motu
breezes with-the-sprouting of-leaves gleaming with-gentle motion
brachiorum dulces strepitus obsibilabant, magnoque procellarum
of-arms sweet rustlings whispered and-with-great of-storms
sedato fragore ac turbido fluctuum tumore posito mare
calmed crash and the-turbid of-waves swelling laid-down the-sea
quietas alluvies temperabat, caelum autem nubilosa caligine
quiet floods tempered the-sky however with-cloudy gloom
disiecta nudo sudoque luminis proprii splendore candebat.
scattered with-bare and-clear of-light its-own splendor shone-white
Ecce pompae magnae paulatim praecedunt anteludia votivis 8
behold of-the-procession great gradually go-before the-preludes with-votive
cuiusque studiis exornata pulcherrume. Hic incinctus balteo
of-each tastes adorned most-beautifully this-one girt with-a-belt
militem gerebat, illum succinctum chlamyde crepides et
a-soldier played that-one girded with-a-cloak sandals and
venabula venatorem fecerant, alius soccis obauratis inductus
hunting-spears a-hunter had-made another in-slippers gilded shod
serica veste mundoque pretioso et attextis capiti crinibus
in-silken dress and-finery costly and with-woven-on to-the-head hair
incessu perfluo feminam mentiebatur. Porro alium ocreis,
with-gait flowing a-woman feigned further another with-greaves

scuto, galea ferroque insignem e ludo putares gladiatorio
shield helmet and-sword marked from school you-would-think gladiatorial
procedere. Nec ille deerat qui magistratum fascibus
to-come-forth nor he was-lacking who a-magistrate with-fasces
purpuraque luderet, nec qui pallio baculoque et baxeis
and-purple played nor who with-cloak and-staff and sandals
et hircino barbitio philosophum fingeret, nec qui diversis
and goat's beard a-philosopher feigned nor who with-different
harundinibus alter aucupem cum visco, alter piscatorem cum
reeds one a-fowler with lime the-other a-fisherman with
hamis induceret. Vidi et ursam mansuem cultu matronali,
hooks represented I-saw also a-she-bear tame in-dress matronly
quae sella vehebatur, et simiam pileo textili crocotisque
which in-a-chair was-carried and an-ape with-a-cap woven and-saffron-robes
Phrygiis Catamiti pastoris specie aureum gestantem
Phrygian of-Catamitus the-shepherd in-the-likeness a-golden carrying
poculum, et asinum pinnis agglutinatis adambulantem
cup and an-ass with-wings glued-on walking-beside
cuidam seni debili, ut illum quidem Bellerophontem, hunc
a-certain old-man feeble that that-one indeed Bellerophon this-one
autem diceres Pegasum, tamen rideres utrumque.
however you-would-call Pegasus still you-would-laugh-at both
9 Inter has oblectationes ludicras popularium, quae passim
amid these amusements playful of-the-townsfolk which everywhere
vagabantur iam sospitatricis deae peculiaris pompa
wandered now of-the-saving goddess own procession
moliebatur. Mulieres candido splendentes amicimine,
was-getting-under-way women with-white gleaming garment
vario laetantes gestamine, verno florentes coronamine,
with-various rejoicing emblems with-spring blooming garland
quae de gremio per viam, qua sacer incedebat comitatus,
who from the-lap along the-road by-which the-sacred was-advancing retinue

solum sternebant flosculis; aliae quae nitentibus speculis
the-ground strewed with-little-flowers others who with-shining mirrors
pone tergum reversis venienti deae obvium commonstrarent
behind the-back turned to-the-coming goddess facing might-show
obsequium, et quae pectines eburnos ferentes gestu
homage and who combs ivory carrying with-gesture
brachiorum flexuque digitorum ornatum atque oppexum
of-arms and-bending of-fingers the-dressing and combing
crinium regalium fingerent; illae etiam, quae ceteris
of-the-hair royal feigned those also who with-other
unguentis et geniali balsamo guttatim excusso conspargebant
ointments and with-festive balsam drop-by-drop shaken-out sprinkled
plateas: magnus praeterea sexus utriusque numerus lucernis,
the-streets a-great besides of-sex both number with-lamps
taedis, cereis et alio genere facium, lumine siderum
torches tapers and with-other kind of-torches light of-the-stars
caelestium stirpem propitiantes. Symphoniae dehinc suaves,
heavenly the-source propitiating harmonies then sweet
fistulae tibiaeque modulis dulcissimis personabant. Eas
pipes and-flutes with-measures most-sweet resounded them
amoenus lectissimae iuventutis, veste nivea et cataclista
a-lovely of-most-choice youth in-garment snowy and festal
praenitens, sequebatur chorus, carmen venustum iterantes,
shining followed a-chorus a-song charming repeating
quod Camenarum favore sollers poeta modulatus edixerat,
which of-the-Camenae by-favor a-skilled poet having-set-to-music had-published
quod argumentum referebat interim maiorum antecantamenta
which theme recalled meanwhile of-greater the-preludes
votorum. Ibant et dicati magno Sarapi tibicines, qui per
vows went also dedicated to-great Sarapis pipers who through
obliquum calamum, ad aurem porrectum dexteram, familiarem
a-slanting reed to the-ear stretched right familiar

templi deique modulum frequentabant, et plerique qui
of-the-temple and-of-the-god measure repeated and many who
facilem sacris viam dari praedicarent.
easy for-the-rites way to-be-made proclaimed
Tunc influunt turbae sacris divinis initiatae, viri feminaeque
then flow-in crowds into-rites divine initiated men and-women
omnis dignitatis et omnis aetatis linteae vestis candore puro
of-every rank and of-every age with-linen garment's whiteness pure
luminosi, illae limpido tegmine crines madidos obvolutae,
luminous they with-clear covering hair moist wrapped
hi capillum derasi funditus verticem praenitentes, magnae
these in-hair shaven to-the-roots in-crown gleaming of-the-great
religionis terrena sidera, aereis et argenteis, immo vero
religion earthly stars with-bronze and silver nay indeed
aureis etiam sistris argutum tinnitum constrepentes. Sed
golden also sistrums a-shrill jingling making-noise but
antistites sacrorum proceres illi, qui candido linteamine
the-overseers of-the-rites chiefs those who with-white linen
cinctum pectoralem adusque vestigia strictim iniecti
a-girding at-the-breast right-to the-feet tightly clad
potentissimorum deum proferebant insignes exuvias: quorum
of-the-most-mighty gods brought-forth remarkable emblems of-whom
primus lucernam claro praemicantem porrigebat lumine,
the-first a-lamp with-bright gleaming held-out light
non adeo nostris illis consimilem quae vespertinas illuminant
not so to-our those like which evening light-up
epulas, sed aureum cymbium medio sui patore flammulam
feasts but a-golden boat-lamp in-the-middle of-its opening a-little-flame
suscitans largiorem: secundus vestitu quidem similis, sed
raising larger the-second in-dress indeed like but
manibus ambabus gerebat auxillas, quibus nomen dedit
in-hands both carried little-pots to-which the-name gave

proprium deae summatis auxiliaris providentia: ibat
own of-the-goddess supreme helping providence went
tertius attollens palmam auro subtiliter foliatam necnon
the-third raising a-palm with-gold finely leaved and-also
Mercuriale etiam caduceum: quartus aequitatis ostendebat
of-Mercury also a-caduceus the-fourth of-equity showed
indicium, deformatam manum sinistram porrecta palmula,
the-token a-shaped hand left with-outstretched palm
quae genuina pigritia, nulla calliditate, nulla sollertia praedita,
which by-native sluggishness with-no cunning with-no cleverness endowed
videbatur aequitati magis aptior quam dextera; idem gerebat
seemed for-equity more fitter than the-right the-same carried
et aureum vasculum in modum papillae rotundatum de
also a-golden little-vessel in the-manner of-a-breast rounded from
quo lacte libabat: quintus auream vannum aureis
which with-milk be-poured-libations the-fifth a-golden winnowing-fan with-golden
congestam ramulis, et alius ferebat amphoram.
heaped twigs and another carried a-jar
Nec mora, cum dei dignati pedibus humanis incedere 11
nor delay when the-gods deigning on-feet human to-walk
prodeunt: hic horrendus ille superum commeator et
come-forth this dreadful that of-the-upper-gods messenger and
inferum, nunc atra nunc aurea facie sublimis, attollens
of-the-lower now with-black now golden face lofty raising
canis cervices arduas Anubis, laeva caduceum gerens, dextera
of-a-dog neck steep Anubis in-left the-caduceus bearing in-right
palmam virentem quatiens; huius vestigium continuum
a-palm green shaking of-him the-track close
sequebatur bos in erectum levata statum, bos, omniparentis
followed a-cow in upright raised posture a-cow of-the-all-mother
deae fecundum simulacrum, quod residens humeris suis
goddess fertile image which sitting on-shoulders his

proferebat unus e ministerio beato gressu gestuosus.
carried-forth one of the-service with-blessed step gesturing
Ferebatur ab alio cista secretorum capax penitus celans
was-carried by another a-chest of-secrets holding deeply hiding
operta magnificae religionis. Gerebat alius felici suo
the-hidden-things of-magnificent religion bore another in-happy his
gremio summi numinis venerandam effigiem, non pecoris,
lap of-the-highest divinity a-venerable likeness not of-cattle
non avis, non ferae, ac ne hominis quidem ipsius consimilem,
not of-bird not of-beast and not of-man even itself like
sed sollerti repertu etiam ipsa novitate reverendam altioris
but by-clever invention even by-the-very novelty revered of-a-higher
utcumque et magno silentio tegendae religionis argumentum
somehow and in-great silence to-be-concealed religion a-token
ineffabile, sed ad istum plane modum fulgente auro
unspeakable but in this plainly manner with-gleaming gold
figuratam: urnula faberrime cavata, fundo quam rotundo,
shaped a-little-urn most-skillfully hollowed with-bottom very round
miris extrinsecus simulacris Aegyptiorum effigiata; eius
with-wondrous on-the-outside figures of-the-Egyptians figured its
orificium non altiuscule levatum in canalem porrectum longo
mouth not very-high raised into a-spout extended with-long
rivulo prominebat; ex alia vero parte multum recedens
little-stream projected on the-other indeed side much receding
spatiosa dilatione adhaerebat ansa, quam contorto nodulo
with-spacious breadth clung a-handle which with-twisted little-knot
supersedebat aspis squameae cervicis striato tumore sublimis.
sat-upon an-asp of-scaly neck with-ridged swelling raised
12 Et ecce praesentissimi numinis promissa nobis accedunt
and behold of-the-most-present divinity promised to-us approach
beneficia, et fata salutemque ipsam meam gerens sacerdos
benefits and fates and-salvation itself my bearing the-priest

appropinquat, ad ipsum praescriptum divinae promissionis
draws-near according-to the-very prescription of-the-divine promise
ornatum dextera proferens sistrum deae, mihi coronam
adorned in-right-hand holding-out the-sistrum of-the-goddess for-me a-garland
et Hercule coronam consequenter, quod tot ac tantis
and by-Hercules a-garland fittingly because with-so-many and so-great
exanclatis laboribus, tot emensis periculis deae
endured labors with-so-many passed-through perils of-the-goddess
maximae providentia alluctantem mihi saevissime Fortunam
greatest by-the-providence wrestling with-me most-savagely Fortune
superarem. Nec tamen gaudio subitario commotus inclementi
I-was-overcoming nor still by-joy sudden moved with-ungentle
me cursu proripui, verens scilicet ne repentino quadripedis
myself run I-hurled fearing of-course lest by-the-sudden of-a-four-footed
impetu religionis quietus turbaretur ordo, sed placido
rush of-the-religion the-quiet should-be-disturbed order but with-placid
ac prorsus humano gradu cunctabundus, paulatim obliquato
and utterly human step hesitating gradually with-slanted
corpore, sane divinitus decedente populo, sensim irrepo.
body truly divinely with-making-way people gradually I-creep-in
At sacerdos ut reapse cognoscere potui, nocturni 13
but the-priest as in-fact to-learn I-could by-the-night
commonefactus oraculi miratusque congruentiam mandati
reminded oracle and-wondering-at the-agreement of-the-commanded
muneris, confestim restitit, et ultro porrecta dextera
duty at-once stopped and of-his-own-accord with-outstretched right-hand
ob os ipsum meum coronam exhibuit. Tunc ego trepidans,
to mouth itself my the-garland held-out then I trembling
assiduo pulsu micanti corde, coronam, quae rosis amoenis
with-constant beat throbbing heart the-garland which with-roses lovely
intexta fulgurabat, avido ore susceptam cupidus promissi
woven flashed with-greedy mouth received eager for-the-promise

devoravi. Nec me fefellit caeleste promissum: protinus
devoured nor me did-deceive the-heavenly promise at-once
mihi delabitur deformis et ferina facies. Ac primo quidem
from-me slips-away the-ugly and beastly form and first indeed
squalens pilus defluit, ac dehinc cutis crassa tenuatur, venter
the-filthy hair falls-off and then the-skin thick is-thinned the-belly
obesus residet, pedum plantae per ungulas in digitos
fat subsides of-the-feet the-soles through the-hooves into toes
exeunt, manus non iam pedes sunt sed in erecta porriguntur
come-out the-hands not now feet are but into upright are-stretched
officia, cervix procera cohibetur, os et caput rotundatur,
duties the-neck long is-shortened the-face and head is-rounded
aures enormes repetunt pristinam parvitatem, dentes saxei
the-ears enormous regain former smallness the-teeth stony
redeunt ad humanam minutiem, et, quae me potissimum
return to human smallness and what me most
cruciabat ante, cauda nusquam. Populi mirantur, religiosi
tormented before the-tail nowhere(-is) the-people wonder the-devout
venerantur tam evidentem maximi numinis potentiam et
revere so evident of-the-greatest divinity the-power and
consimilem nocturnis imaginibus magnificentiam et facilitatem
like to-the-night visions the-magnificence and the-ease
reformationis, claraque et consona voce, caelo manus
of-the-transformation and-with-clear and harmonious voice to-heaven hands
attendentes, testantur tam illustre deae beneficium.
stretching bear-witness-to so illustrious of-the-goddess a-kindness

The priest tells Lucius that the blind Fortune which tormented him has been overcome by the seeing Fortune of Isis, and urges him to join her service. The ship of Isis is launched to open the sailing season. Lucius' friends and family come rejoicing.

At ego stupore nimio defixus tacitus haerebam, animo meo 14
but I with-stupor excessive fixed silent stuck with-mind my
tam repentinum tamque magnum non capiente gaudium, quid
so sudden and-so great not containing joy what
potissimum praefarer primarium, unde novae vocis exordium
most I-should-say-first first whence of-new voice the-beginning
caperem, quo sermone nunc renata lingua felicius auspicarer,
I-should-take with-what speech now reborn tongue more-happily I-should-begin
quibus quantisque verbis tantae deae gratias agerem.
with-what and-how-great words to-so-great a-goddess thanks I-should-give
Sed sacerdos, utcumque divino monitu cognitis ab origine
but the-priest somehow by-divine warning with-known from the-origin
cunctis cladibus meis, quamquam et ipse insigni permotus
all disasters my although also himself by-remarkable moved
miraculo, nutu significato prius praecipit tegendo mihi
miracle with-a-nod given first orders for-covering to-me
linteam dari laciniam: nam me cum primum nefasto
a-linen to-be-given cloth for me when first from-the-impious
tegmine despoliaverat asinus, compressis in artum feminibus et
covering had-stripped the-ass with-pressed into tightness thighs and
superstrictis accurate manibus, quantum nudo licebat,
with-placed-over carefully hands as-far-as to-a-naked-man it-was-allowed
velamento me naturali probe muniveram. Tunc e cohorte
with-covering me natural properly I-had-protected then from the-company

religionis unus impigre superiorem exutus tunicam
of-the-religion one briskly his-upper having-taken-off tunic
supertexit me celerrime: quo facto, sacerdos vultu geniali et
put-over me most-quickly which done the-priest with-face kindly and
Hercule perhumano in aspectum meum attonitus sic effatur:
by-Hercules most-humane into look my astonished thus speaks
15 "Multis et variis exanclatis laboribus magnisque Fortunae
with-many and various endured labors and-by-great of-Fortune
tempestatibus et maximis actus procellis ad portum quietis
tempests and by-greatest driven gales to the-harbor of-rest
et aram misericordiae tandem, Luci, venisti: nec tibi
and the-altar of-mercy at-last Lucius you-have-come nor to-you
natales ac ne dignitas quidem, vel ipsa qua flores usquam
birth and not rank even or itself in-which you-flourish anywhere
doctrina profuit, sed lubrico virentis aetatulae ad
learning has-profited but on-the-slippery-slope of-green youth to
serviles delapsus voluptates, curiositatis improsperae sinistrum
servile having-slipped pleasures of-curiosity unprosperous the-sinister
praemium reportasti. Sed utcumque Fortunae caecitas, dum
reward you-have-carried-off but somehow of-Fortune the-blindness while
te pessimis periculis discruciat, ad religiosam istam beatitudinem
you with-worst perils torments to religious this blessedness
improvida produxit malitia. Eat nunc et summo furore
unforeseeing has-led malice let-her-go now and with-highest fury
saeviat, et crudelitati suae materiem quaerat aliam: nam in
let-her-rage and for-cruelty her material let-her-seek other for against
eos quorum sibi vitas in servitium deae nostrae maiestas
those whose for-itself lives into the-service of-goddess our the-majesty
vindicavit, non habet locum casus infestus. Quid latrones,
has-claimed not has place mischance hostile what robbers
quid ferae, quid servitium, quid asperrimorum itinerum
what beasts what slavery what of-the-harshest roads

ambages reciprocae, quid metus mortis cotidianae nefariae
windings back-and-forth what fear of-death daily to-wicked
Fortunae profuit? In tutelam iam receptus es Fortunae,
Fortune has-profited into the-protection now received you-are of-a-Fortune
sed videntis, quae suae lucis splendore ceteros etiam deos
but seeing who by-her-own light's splendor the-other even gods
illuminat. Sume iam vultum laetiorem candido isto habitu
illuminates put-on now a-face happier with-white that dress
tuo congruentem, comitare pompam deae sospitatricis
your agreeing attend the-procession of-the-goddess saving
inovanti gradu. Videant irreligiosi, videant et errorem
with-triumphing step let-them-see the-irreligious let-them-see and error
suum recognoscant: 'En ecce pristinis aerumnis absolutus Isidis
their recognize look behold from-former miseries freed of-Isis
magnae providentia gaudens Lucius de sua Fortuna triumphat.'
great by-the-providence rejoicing Lucius over his Fortune triumphs
Quo tamen tutior sis atque munitior, da nomen sanctae
that still safer you-may-be and better-defended give your-name to-holy
huic militiae, cuius non olim sacramento etiam rogabaris,
this service whose not long-ago by-oath also you-were-asked
teque iam nunc obsequio religionis nostrae dedica et
and-yourself now now to-the-obedience of-religion our dedicate and
ministerii iugum subi voluntarium: nam cum coeperis
of-the-ministry the-yoke undergo voluntary for when you-begin
deae servire, tunc magis senties fructum tuae libertatis."
the-goddess to-serve then more you-will-feel the-fruit of-your liberty
Ad istum modum vaticinatus sacerdos egregius fatigatos 16
in this way having-prophesied the-priest excellent wearied
anhelitus trahens conticuit. Exin permixtus agmini
breaths drawing fell-silent thereupon mingled with-the-column
religioso procedens comitabar sacrarium totae civitati notus
devout advancing I-accompanied the-shrine to-the-whole city known

ac conspicuus, digitis hominum nutibusque notabilis. Omnes
and conspicuous by-the-fingers of-men and-nods marked all
in me populi fabulabantur: "Hunc omnipotentis hodie deae
about me the-people were-talking this-man of-the-all-powerful today goddess
numen augustum reformavit ad homines: felix Hercule et
the-divinity august has-restored to men happy by-Hercules and
ter beatus qui vitae scilicet praecedentis innocentia fideque
thrice blessed who of-life of-course previous by-innocence and-faith
meruerit tam praeclarum de caelo patrocinium, ut renatus
has-deserved so splendid from heaven patronage that reborn
quodam modo statim sacrorum obsequio desponderetur." Inter
in-a-certain way at-once to-the-rites' service he-was-betrothed amid
haec et festorum votorum tumultum paulatim progressi
these-things and of-festive vows the-uproar gradually advancing
iam ripam maris proximamus atque ad ipsum illum locum,
now the-shore of-the-sea we-near and to the-very that place
quo pridie meus stabulaverat asinus, pervenimus. Ibidem
where yesterday my had-stabled ass we-came there
simulacris rite dispositis navem faberrime factam, picturis
with-images duly arranged a-ship most-skillfully made with-paintings
miris Aegyptiorum circumsecus variegatam, summus sacerdos
wondrous of-the-Egyptians all-round variegated the-high priest
taeda lucida et ovo et sulphure sollemnissimas
with-a-torch bright and with-an-egg and sulfur most-solemn
preces de casto praefatus ore, quam purissime purificatam
prayers from chaste having-spoken mouth as most-purely purified
deae nuncupavit dedicavitque. Huius felicis alvei nitens
to-the-goddess named and-dedicated of-this happy hull the-shining
carbasus litteras voti intextas progerebat: eae litterae votum
sail letters of-a-vow woven-in bore-forth those letters the-vow
instaurabant de novi commeatus prospera navigatione. Iam
renewed for of-the-new voyaging the-prosperous navigation now

malus insurgit, pinus rotunda splendore sublimis, insigni
the-mast rises a-pine round with-splendor lofty with-remarkable
carchesio conspicua, et puppis intorta chenisco, bracteis
masthead conspicuous and the-stern curved with-a-goose-neck with-plates
aureis vestita fulgebat, omnisque prorsus carina citro limpido
golden clad gleamed and-whole utterly the-hull with-citron clear
perpolita florebat. Tunc cuncti populi, tam religiosi quam
polished bloomed then all peoples both devout and
profani, vannos onustas aromatis et huiuscemodi suppliciis
profane winnowing-fans laden with-spices and of-this-kind offerings
certatim congerunt et insuper fluctus libant intritum lacte
vying heap-up and moreover on-the-waves pour crumbled with-milk
confectum, donec muneribus largis et devotionibus faustis
mixed until with-gifts generous and devotions auspicious
completa navis, absoluta strophiis ancoralibus, peculiari
filled the-ship released from-the-cables anchor with-its-own
serenoque flatu pelago redderetur: quae postquam cursu
and-calm breeze to-the-sea was-given which after by-its-course
spatio prospectum sui nobis incertat, sacrorum geruli,
in-distance the-view of-itself to-us made-uncertain of-the-rites the-bearers
sumptis rursum quae quisque detulerant, alacres ad fanum
with-taken again what each had-brought eager to the-shrine
reditum capessunt simili structu pompae decori.
the-return take-up with-like arrangement of-the-procession adorned
At cum ad ipsum iam templum pervenimus, sacerdos maximus, 17
but when to the-very now temple we-came the-priest greatest
quique divinas effigies progerebant, et qui venerandis
and-those-who the-divine images bore and who to-the-venerable
penetralibus pridem fuerant initiati, intra cubiculum deae
inner-shrines long-since had-been initiated within the-chamber of-the-goddess
recepti disponunt rite simulacra spirantia. Tunc ex his
received set-up duly the-images breathing then of these

unus, quem cuncti grammatea dicebant, pro foribus assistens
one whom all a-scribe called before the-doors standing
coetu pastophorum (quod sacrosancti collegii nomen
with-the-assembly of-the-pastophori which of-the-sacrosanct college the-name
est) velut in contionem vocato, indidem de sublimi suggestu
is as-if into a-meeting called from-there from a-lofty platform
de libro, de litteris fausta vota praefatus principi magno
from a-book from letters auspicious vows having-recited to-the-emperor great
senatuique et equiti totoque Romano populo, nauticis
and-to-the-senate and to-the-knights and-to-the-whole Roman people to-sailors
navibusque, quae sub imperio mundi nostratis reguntur,
and-ships which under the-rule of-the-world of-ours are-governed
renuntiat sermone rituque Graeciensi ita: "ΠΛΟΙΑΦΕΣΙΑ";
proclaims in-speech and-rite Greek thus Ship-Launching
quam vocem feliciter cunctis evenire signavit populi clamor
which word happily for-all to-turn-out marked of-the-people the-shout
insecutus. Exin gaudio delibuti populares thallos, verbenas,
following thereupon with-joy anointed the-townsfolk olive-shoots verbenas
corollas ferentes, exosculatis vestigiis deae quae gradibus
garlands carrying with-kissed the-feet of-the-goddess who on-the-steps
haerebat argento formata, ad suos discedunt Lares. Nec tamen
stood in-silver shaped to their depart homes nor still
me sinebat animus ungue latius indidem digredi, sed intentus
me allowed my-mind by-a-nail more-widely from-there to-depart but intent
in deae specimen pristinos casus meos recordabar.
on of-the-goddess the-image former misfortunes my I-recalled
18 Nec tamen fama volucris pigra pinnarum tarditate cessaverat,
nor still rumor winged sluggish of-wings by-the-slowness had-been-idle
sed protinus in patria deae providentis adorabile
but at-once in my-homeland of-the-goddess provident the-adorable
beneficium meamque ipsius fortunam memorabilem narraverat
kindness and-my own fortune memorable had-told

passim. Confestim denique familiares ac vernulae, quique
everywhere at-once in-short friends and household-slaves and-those-who
mihi proxumo nexu sanguinis cohaerebant, luctu deposito
to-me by-the-nearest bond of-blood were-joined with-grief laid-aside
quem de meae mortis falso nuntio susceperant, repentino
which on-account-of my death by-false news they-had-taken-up with-sudden
laetati gaudio varie quisque munerabundi ad meum festinant
gladdened joy variously each bearing-gifts to my hasten
illico diurnum reducemque ab inferis conspectum. Quorum
at-once daylight and-returned from the-dead sight whose
desperata ipse etiam facie recreatus oblationes honestas aequi
despaired-of I-myself also by-the-face refreshed the-offerings honorable as-fair
bonique facio, quippe cum mihi familiares quod ad cultum
and-good I-take naturally since to-me my-people what for upkeep
sumptumque largiter succederet deferre prospicue curassent.
and-expense abundantly might-be-sufficient to-bring with-foresight had-taken-care

LXXVIII · THE CALL TO INITIATION

Lucius lodges in the temple, and though Isis urges him nightly he hesitates in awe. A dream of a slave named Candidus comes true when his servants arrive from Hypata with his white horse. Now longing for initiation, he is told by the priest to wait for the goddess's sign, and at last Isis calls him and names the priest Mithras.

Affatis itaque ex officio singulis, narratisque meis probe 19
with-addressed and-so by duty each and-with-told my properly
et pristinis aerumnis et praesentibus gaudiis, me rursum
both former miseries and present joys myself again
ad deae gratissimum mihi refero conspectum, aedibusque
to of-the-goddess the-most-welcome to-me I-take sight and-with-a-house
conductis intra consaeptum templi Larem temporarium
rented within the-precinct of-the-temple a-hearth temporary

mihi constituo, deae ministeriis adhuc privatis appositus
for-myself I-establish of-the-goddess to-the-services still private attached
contuberniisque sacerdotum individuus et numinis magni
and-from-the-companionship of-the-priests inseparable and of-the-divinity great
cultor inseparabilis. Nec fuit nox una vel quies aliqua
a-worshiper inseparable nor was-there night one or rest any
visu deae monituque ieiuna, sed crebris imperiis sacris
from-vision of-the-goddess and-warning empty but with-frequent commands to-rites
suis me iamdudum destinatum nunc saltem censebat initiari.
her me long-since destined now at-least she-decreed to-be-initiated
At ego, quamquam cupienti voluntate praeditus, tamen
but I although with-desiring will endowed still
religiosa formidine retardabar, quod enim sedulo percontaveram
by-religious dread was-held-back because for carefully I-had-inquired
difficile religionis obsequium et castimoniorum abstinentiam
difficult of-the-religion the-observance and of-chastities the-abstinence
satis arduam cautoque circumspectu vitam, quae multis
quite hard and-with-cautious circumspection life which to-many
casibus subiacet, esse muniendam. Haec identidem mecum
mishaps lies-open to-be fortified these-things repeatedly with-myself
reputans nescioquo modo, quamquam festinans, differebam.
reckoning in-some way although hastening I-kept-putting-off
20 Nocte quadam plenum gremium suum visus est mihi
on-a-night certain full lap his seemed has to-me
summus sacerdos offerre, ac requirenti, quid utique istud,
the-high priest to-offer and to-me-asking what indeed that-was
respondisse partes illas de Thessalia mihi missas, servum
to-have-answered parts those from Thessaly to-me sent a-slave
etiam meum indidem supervenisse nomine Candidum. Hanc
also my from-there to-have-arrived by-name Candidus this
experrectus imaginem diu diuque apud cogitationes meas
awakened vision long and-long among thoughts my

revolvebam quid rei portenderet, praesertim cum nullum
I-turned-over what of-a-thing it-portended especially since no
unquam habuisse me servum isto nomine nuncupatum certus
ever to-have-had me slave by-that name called sure
essem; utut tamen sese praesagium somni porrigeret,
I-was however-much still itself the-presage of-sleep held-out
lucrum certum modis omnibus significari partium oblatione
gain certain by-means all to-be-signified by-the-parts' offering
credebam. Sic anxius et in proventum prosperiorem attonitus
I-believed thus anxious and at an-outcome more-prosperous astonished
templi matutinas apertiones opperiebar: ac dum, velis
of-the-temple the-morning openings I-awaited and while with-curtains
candentibus reductis in diversum, deae venerabilem
white drawn into different-directions of-the-goddess venerable
conspectum apprecamur, et per dispositas aras circumiens
sight we-pray-to and among the-arranged altars going-round
sacerdos, rem divinam procurans supplicamentis sollemnibus,
the-priest the-service divine performing with-supplications solemn
de penetrali fontem petitum spondeo libat, rebus
from the-inner-shrine water fetched from-a-libation-bowl pours with-things
iam rite consummatis inchoatae lucis salutationibus religiosi
now duly completed of-the-begun light with-salutations the-devout
primam nuntiantes horam perstrepunt. Et ecce superveniunt
the-first announcing hour resound and behold arrive
Hypata quos ibi reliqueram famulos, cum me Fotis malis
from-Hypata whom there I-had-left servants when me Fotis with-evil
incapistrasset erroribus, cognitis scilicet fabulis meis, necnon
had-haltered errors with-learned of-course tales my and-also
et equum quoque illum meum reducentes, quem diverse
even horse also that my bringing-back which variously
distractum notae dorsualis agnitione recuperaverant. Quare
sold-off of-a-mark on-the-back by-recognition they-had-recovered wherefore

sollertiam somni tum mirabar vel maxime, quod praeter
the-cleverness of-the-dream then I-wondered-at even most because besides
congruentiam lucrosae pollicitationis argumento servi
the-agreement of-the-profitable promise by-the-token of-the-slave
Candidi equum mihi reddidisset colore candidum.
Candidus the-horse to-me it-had-restored in-color white
21 Quo facto idem sollicitius sedulum colendi frequentabam
which done the-same more-anxiously the-diligent of-worship I-attended
ministerium spe futura beneficiis praesentibus pignerata;
service with-hope future by-benefits present pledged
nec minus in dies mihi magis magisque accipiendorum
nor less from day-to-day in-me more and-more of-receiving
sacrorum cupido gliscebat, summisque precibus primarium
the-rites desire grew and-with-highest prayers the-chief
sacerdotem saepissime conveneram, petens ut me noctis
priest very-often I-had-approached begging that me of-the-night
sacratae tandem arcanis initiaret. At ille, vir alioquin
consecrated at-last into-the-secrets he-would-initiate but he a-man otherwise
gravis et sobriae religionis observatione famosus, clementer ac
grave and of-sober religion for-observance famous gently and
comiter et ut solent parentes immaturis liberorum desideriis
courteously and as are-wont parents to-the-premature of-children desires
modificari, meam differens instantiam, spei melioris solaciis
to-moderate my putting-off urgency of-hope better with-consolations
alioquin anxium mihi permulcebat animum. Nam et diem
otherwise anxious my soothed mind for both the-day
quo quisque possit initiari deae nutu demonstrari,
on-which each can to-be-initiated by-the-goddess's nod to-be-shown
et sacerdotem qui sacra debeat ministrare eiusdem providentia
and the-priest who the-rites ought to-administer by-her-same providence
deligi, sumptus etiam caerimoniis necessarios simili praecepto
to-be-chosen the-expenses also for-the-ceremonies necessary by-like command

destinari: quae cuncta nos quoque observabili patientia sustinere
to-be-assigned which all-things us also with-observant patience to-endure
censebat, quippe cum aviditati contumaciaeque summe cavere,
he-thought naturally since against-greed and-against-stubbornness highly to-beware
et utramque culpam vitare, ac neque vocatus morari nec non
and both faults to-avoid and neither called to-delay nor not
iussus festinare deberem. Nec tamen esse quemquam de suo
ordered to-hasten I-ought nor still to-be anyone of their
numero tam perditae mentis vel immo destinatae mortis, qui
number of-so lost a-mind or rather destined for-death who
non sibi quoque seorsum iubente domina, temerarium
not for-himself also separately with-ordering the-mistress a-reckless
atque sacrilegum audeat ministerium subire noxamque
and sacrilegious would-dare ministry to-undertake and-guilt
letalem contrahere. Nam et inferum claustra et salutis
deadly to-contract for both of-the-dead the-bars and of-salvation
tutelam in deae manu posita, ipsamque traditionem ad
the-protection in of-the-goddess the-hand placed and-the-very handing-over in
instar voluntariae mortis et precariae salutis celebrari,
the-likeness of-voluntary death and of-on-sufferance salvation to-be-celebrated
quippe cum transactis vitae temporibus iam in ipso finitae
naturally since with-completed of-life the-times now on the-very of-ended
lucis limine constitutos, quis tamen tuto possint magna
light threshold standing to-whom still safely can the-great
religionis committi silentia, numen deae soleat elicere
of-religion to-be-entrusted silences the-divinity of-the-goddess is-wont to-draw-out
et sua providentia quodam modo renatos ad novae reponere
and by-her providence in-a-certain way reborn to of-new to-put-back
rursus salutis curricula Ergo igitur me quoque oportere
again salvation the-courses therefore then me also to-be-right
caeleste sustinere praeceptum, quamquam praecipua evidentique
the-heavenly to-await command although by-special and-evident

magni numinis dignatione iamdudum felici ministerio
of-the-great divinity favor long-since to-a-happy ministry
nuncupatum destinatumque, nec secus quam cultores ceteri
named and-destined nor otherwise than worshipers other
cibis profanis ac nefariis iam nunc temperare, quo rectius
from-foods profane and unlawful now now to-abstain that more-rightly
ad arcana purissimae religionis secreta pervaderem.
to the-hidden of-most-pure religion secrets I-might-pass
22 Dixerat sacerdos, nec impatientia corrumpebatur obsequium
had-spoken the-priest nor by-impatience was-spoiled obedience
meum, sed intentus miti quiete et probabili taciturnitate
my but intent with-gentle quiet and with-approvable silence
sedulum quot dies obibam culturae sacrorum ministerium.
the-diligent every days I-performed of-the-cult of-the-rites service
Nec me fefellit vel longi temporis prolatione cruciavit
nor me deceived or of-long time by-postponement tortured
deae potentis benignitas salutaris, sed noctis obscurae
of-the-goddess mighty the-kindness saving but of-night dark
non obscuris imperiis evidenter monuit advenisse diem mihi
with-not dark commands clearly she-warned to-have-come the-day for-me
semper optabilem, quo me maximi voti compertiret,
always desirable on-which me of-the-greatest vow she-would-make-partaker
quantoque sumptu deberem procurare supplicamentis;
and-with-how-great expense I-ought to-provide for-the-supplications
ipsumque Mithram illum suum sacerdotem praecipuum, divino
and-the-very Mithras that her priest chief by-divine
quodam stellarum consortio, ut aiebat, mihi coniunctum,
some of-the-stars fellowship as she-said with-me joined
sacrorum ministrum decernit. Quis et ceteris benivolis
of-the-rites the-minister she-appoints by-which and other kindly
praeceptis summatis deae recreatus animi, necdum satis luce
precepts of-the-supreme goddess refreshed in-mind nor-yet quite with-light

lucida, discussa quiete, protinus ad receptaculum sacerdotis
bright with-shaken-off rest at-once to the-lodging of-the-priest
contendo, atque eum cubiculo suo commodum prodeuntem
I-hasten and him from-the-bedroom his just-now coming-out
continuatus saluto. Solito constantius destinaveram iam velut
straightaway I-greet than-usual more-firmly I-had-resolved now as-if
debitum sacris obsequium flagitare: at ille statim, ut me
due to-the-rites the-obedience to-demand but he at-once as me
conspexit prior, "O" inquit "Luci, te felicem, te beatum,
he-saw first O he-says Lucius you happy you blessed
quem propitia voluntate numen augustum tantopere dignatur:
whom with-gracious will the-divinity august so-greatly deems-worthy
et quid" inquit "Iam nunc stas otiosus teque ipsum
and why he-says now now do-you-stand idle and-you yourself
demoraris? Adest tibi dies votis assiduis exoptatus,
delay is-at-hand for-you the-day with-prayers constant longed-for
quo deae multinominis divinis imperiis per istas meas
on-which of-the-goddess many-named by-divine commands through these my
manus piissimis sacrorum arcanis insinueris": et iniecta
hands into-the-most-holy of-the-rites secrets you-will-be-admitted and with-laid-on
dextera senex comissimus ducit me protinus ad ipsas fores
right-hand the-old-man most-kindly leads me at-once to the-very doors
aedis amplissimae, rituque sollemni apertionis celebrato
of-the-house very-spacious and-with-rite solemn of-the-opening with-celebrated
ministerio ac matutino peracto sacrificio, de opertis
service and with-the-morning performed sacrifice from the-hidden-recesses
adyti profert quosdam libros litteris ignorabilibus
of-the-sanctuary he-brings-out certain books with-letters unknowable
praenotatos, partim figuris cuiuscemodi animalium concepti
marked partly with-figures of-every-kind of-animals of-conceived
sermonis compendiosa verba suggerentes, partim nodosis et in
speech abbreviated words suggesting partly with-knotted and in

modum rotae tortuosis capreolatimque condensis apicibus a
the-manner of-a-wheel twisted and-like-tendrils crowded strokes from
curiosa profanorum lectione munita: indidem mihi praedicat
the-curious of-the-profane reading protected from-them to-me he-proclaims
quae forent ad usum teletae necessario praeparanda.
what would-be for the-use of-the-initiation necessarily to-be-prepared

LXXIX · THE INITIATION

After ten days without meat or wine, Lucius is initiated. He may say only that he approached the boundary of death and saw the sun at midnight. He is displayed robed as the sun before the people and gives thanks to Isis.

23 Ea protinus naviter et aliquanto liberalius partim ipse,
those-things at-once briskly and somewhat more-generously partly myself
partim per meos socios coemenda procuro. Iamque tempore,
partly through my comrades to-be-bought I-see-to and-now with-the-time
ut aiebat sacerdos, id postulante, stipatum me religiosa
as said the-priest that demanding thronged me with-a-devout
cohorte deducit ad proxumas balneas, et prius sueto
company he-leads to the-nearest baths and first to-the-customary
lavacro traditum, praefatus deum veniam, purissime
bath handed-over having-asked of-the-gods pardon most-purely
circumrorans abluit, rursumque ad templum reductum, iam
sprinkling-round he-washed and-again to the-temple led-back now
duabus diei partibus transactis, ante ipsa deae vestigia
with-two of-the-day parts passed before the-very of-the-goddess feet
constituit, secretoque mandatis quibusdam quae voce
he-set and-in-secret with-commanded certain-things which than-utterance
meliora sunt, illud plane cunctis arbitris praecipit, decem
better are this plainly to-all witnesses he-enjoins for-ten

continuis illis diebus cibariam voluptatem cohercerem neque
continuous those days of-food the-pleasure I-should-restrain nor
ullum animal essem et invinius essem. Quis venerabili
any animal I-should-eat and wineless I-should-be with-which with-venerable
continentia rite servatis, iam dies aderat divino destinatus
restraint duly kept now the-day was-present for-the-divine appointed
vadimonio, et sol curvatus intrahebat vesperam: tum ecce
appointment and the-sun bent was-drawing-in evening then behold
confluunt undique turbae sacratorum ritu vetusto variis
flow-together from-everywhere crowds of-the-initiates by-rite ancient with-various
quisque me muneribus honorantes. Tunc semotis procul
each me gifts honoring then with-removed far
profanis omnibus linteo rudique me contectum amicimine
profane all in-linen and-new me covered garment
arrepta manu sacerdos deducit ad ipsius sacrarii penetralia.
with-seized hand the-priest leads to of-the-very shrine the-inmost
Quaeras forsitan satis anxie, studiose lector, quid deinde
you-would-ask perhaps quite anxiously zealous reader what then
dictum, quid factum: dicerem si dicere liceret, cognosceres
said what done I-would-tell if to-tell were-allowed you-would-learn
si liceret audire: sed parem noxam contraherent aures et
if were-allowed to-hear but equal guilt would-contract the-ears and
linguae illae temerariae curiositatis. Nec te tamen desiderio
tongues those of-rash curiosity nor you still with-longing
forsitan religioso suspensum angore diutino cruciabo: igitur
perhaps devout suspended with-anguish long I-shall-torture therefore
audi, sed crede, quae vera sunt. Accessi confinium mortis
hear but believe what true are I-approached the-boundary of-death
et calcato Proserpinae limine per omnia vectus elementa
and with-trodden of-Proserpina threshold through all carried elements
remeavi; nocte media vidi solem candido coruscantem lumine;
I-returned at-night middle I-saw the-sun with-white flashing light

deos inferos et deos superos accessi coram et adoravi
the-gods below and the-gods above I-approached face-to-face and worshiped
de proxumo. Ecce tibi rettuli quae, quamvis audita,
from nearby behold to-you I-have-told what although heard
ignores tamen necesse est: ergo quod solum potest
you-may-not-know still necessary it-is therefore what alone can
sine piaculo ad profanorum intellegentias enuntiari, referam.
without sin to of-the-profane the-understandings be-declared I-shall-relate
24 Mane factum est, et perfectis sollemnibus processi
morning come it-was and with-completed rites I-came-forth
duodecim sacratus stolis, habitu quidem religioso satis, sed
with-twelve consecrated robes in-dress indeed religious enough but
effari de eo nullo vinculo prohibeor, quippe quod tunc
to-speak of it by-no bond I-am-prevented naturally because then
temporis videre praesentes plurimi. Namque in ipso aedis
of-time saw-it those-present very-many for in the-very of-the-house
sacrae meditullio ante deae simulacrum constitutum
sacred middle before of-the-goddess the-image set-up
tribunal ligneum iussus superstiti, byssina quidem sed floride
a-platform wooden ordered I-stood-upon in-linen indeed but floridly
depicta veste conspicuus, et humeris dependebat pone
embroidered garment conspicuous and from-the-shoulders hung behind
tergum talorum tenus pretiosa chlamida: quaqua tamen
the-back the-ankles as-far-as a-precious cloak wherever still
viseres, colore vario circumnotatis insignibar animalibus;
you-looked with-color various marked-all-round I-was-distinguished with-animals
hinc dracones Indici, inde grypes Hyperborei quos in speciem
here serpents Indian there griffins Hyperborean which in the-form
pinnatae alitis generat mundus alter: hanc Olympiacam stolam
of-a-winged bird begets world the-other this Olympian robe
sacrati nuncupant. At manu dextera gerebam flammis adultam
the-initiates call but in-hand right I-carried with-flames grown

facem, et caput decore corona cinxerat, palmae candidae
a-torch and head handsomely a-garland had-encircled of-palm white
foliis in modum radiorum prosistentibus: sic ad instar
with-leaves in the-manner of-rays standing-out thus in the-likeness
solis exornato me et in vicem simulacri constituto, repente
of-the-sun with-adorned me and in place of-an-image set suddenly
velis reductis, in aspectum populus errabat. Exhinc
with-curtains drawn-back into the-view the-people wandered thereupon
festissimum celebravi natalem sacrorum et suaves epulae et
most-festive I-celebrated the-birthday of-the-rites and sweet feasts and
faceta convivia; dies etiam tertius pari caerimoniarum ritu
merry banquets the-day also third with-equal of-ceremonies rite
celebratus, et ientaculum religiosum et teletae legitima
celebrated and a-breakfast religious and of-the-initiation the-lawful
consummatio. Paucis dehinc ibidem commoratus diebus
completion a-few then there having-stayed days
inexplicabili voluptate simulacri divini perfruebar, irremunerabili
with-inexpressible pleasure of-the-image divine I-enjoyed by-unrepayable
quippe beneficio pigneratus. Sed tandem deae monitu,
naturally kindness pledged but at-last by-the-goddess's warning
licet non plene, tamen pro meo modulo supplicue
though not fully still according-to my little-measure humbly
gratiis persolutis, tardam satis domuitionem comparo, vix
with-thanks paid-in-full a-late enough homecoming I-prepare scarcely
equidem abruptis ardentissimi desiderii retinaculis. Provolutus
indeed with-broken of-most-ardent longing tethers prostrate
denique ante conspectum deae et facie mea diu detersis
in-short before the-sight of-the-goddess and with-face my long with-wiped
vestigiis eius, lacrimis obortis, singultu crebro sermonem
feet her with-tears arisen with-sobbing frequent speech
interficiens et verba devorans, aio:
cutting-off and words swallowing I-say

25 “Tu quidem sancta et humani generis sospitatrix perpetua,
you indeed holy and of-the-human race savior perpetual
semper fovendis mortalibus munifica, dulcem matris
always for-cherishing mortals bountiful the-sweet of-a-mother
affectionem miserorum casibus tribuis. Nec dies nec
love of-the-wretched to-the-misfortunes you-give nor day nor
quies ulla ac ne momentum quidem tenue tuis transcurrit
rest any and not a-moment even slight of-your passes-by
beneficiis otiosum, quin mari terraque protegas homines
kindnesses empty but-that on-sea and-land you-protect men
et depulsis vitae procellis salutarem porrigas dexteram,
and with-driven-off of-life the-storms the-saving you-stretch-out right-hand
qua fatorum etiam inextricabiliter contorta retractas licia,
by-which of-the-fates even inextricably twisted you-unwind threads
et Fortunae tempestates mitigas, et stellarum noxios meatus
and of-Fortune the-tempests you-soften and of-the-stars harmful courses
cohibes. Te superi colunt, observant inferi, tu rotas
you-restrain you the-gods-above worship revere the-gods-below you turn
orbem, luminas solem, regis mundum, calcas Tartarum.
the-world light the-sun rule the-universe tread Tartarus
Tibi respondent sidera, redeunt tempora, gaudent numina,
to-you answer the-stars return the-seasons rejoice the-divinities
serviunt elementa: tuo nutu spirant flamina, nutriunt
serve the-elements at-your nod blow breezes nourish
nubila, germinant semina, crescunt germina. Tuam maiestatem
clouds sprout seeds grow sprouts your majesty
perhorrescunt aves caelo meantes, ferae montibus errantes,
dread birds in-the-sky going beasts on-mountains wandering
serpentes solo latentes, beluae ponto natantes. At ego
serpents in-the-ground lurking monsters in-the-sea swimming but I
referendis laudibus tuis exilis ingenio et adhibendis sacrificiis
for-rendering praises your slight in-talent and for-offering sacrifices

tenuis patrimonio: nec mihi vocis ubertas ad dicenda quae
thin in-patrimony nor to-me of-voice the-richness for saying what
de tua maiestate sentio sufficit, nec ora mille linguaeque
about your majesty I-feel suffices nor mouths a-thousand and-tongues
totidem vel indefessi sermonis aeterna series. Ergo quod
as-many or of-untiring speech eternal a-sequence therefore what
solum potest, religiosus quidem sed pauper alioquin, efficere
alone can a-devout-man indeed but poor otherwise to-accomplish
curabo: divinos tuos vultus numenque sanctissimum
I-shall-take-care divine your features and-divinity most-holy
intra pectoris mei secreta conditum perpetuo custodiens
within of-breast my the-secrets stored perpetually guarding
imaginabor." Ad istum modum deprecato summo numine,
I-shall-picture in this way with-entreated highest divinity
complexus Mithram sacerdotem et meum iam parentem,
embracing Mithras the-priest and my now parent
colloque eius multis osculis inhaerens veniam postulabam,
and-on-the-neck his with-many kisses clinging pardon I-asked
quod eum condigne tantis beneficiis munerari nequirem.
because him worthily for-so-great kindnesses to-reward I-could-not

LXXX · ROME AND OSIRIS

Lucius sails to Rome and serves Isis in the Campus Martius. A dream calls him to the mysteries of Osiris, and he is initiated by the pastophorus Asinius Marcellus, though he must sell his clothes to pay.

Diu denique gratiarum gerendarum sermone prolixo 26
long in-short of-thanks to-be-given in-speech lengthy
commoratus, tandem digredior, et recta patrium Larem
having-lingered at-last I-depart and straight paternal hearth

revisurus meum post aliquam multum temporis, contendo;
going-to-revisit my after some much of-time I-hasten
paucisque post diebus, deae potentis instinctu,
and-a-few after days of-the-goddess mighty by-the-prompting
raptim constrictis sarcinulis, nave conscensa Romam
hastily with-tied-up little-packs with-a-ship boarded to-Rome
versus profectionem dirigo; tutusque prosperitate ventorum
toward my-journey I-direct and-safe by-the-favor of-winds
ferentium Augusti portum celerrime ac dehinc carpento
favorable of-Augustus the-harbor most-swiftly and then by-carriage
pervolavi, vesperaque quam dies insequebatur Iduum
I-flew and-in-the-evening which the-day followed of-the-Ides
Decembrium sacrosanctam istam civitatem accedo. Nec ullum
of-December holy this city I-reach nor any
tam praecipuum mihi exinde studium fuit, quam cotidie
so special for-me thereafter zeal was as daily
supplicare summo numini reginae Isidis, quae, de templi
to-pray to-the-highest divinity of-queen Isis who from of-the-temple
situ sumpto nomine, Campensis summa cum veneratione
the-site with-taken name as-the-Campensian highest with veneration
propitiatur. Eram cultor denique assiduus, fani quidem
is-propitiated I-was a-worshiper in-short constant of-the-shrine indeed
advena, religionis autem indigena. Ecce transcurso
a-newcomer of-the-religion however a-native behold with-passed-through
signifero circulo sol magnus annum compleverat, et
the-zodiac circle the-sun great the-year had-completed and
quietem meam rursus interpellat numinis benefici cura
rest my again interrupts of-the-divinity kind the-care
pervigilis et rursus teletae, rursus sacrorum commonet.
ever-watchful and again of-initiation again of-rites reminds

Mirabar quid rei temptaret, quid pronuntiaret futurum;
I-wondered what thing it-attempted what it-announced going-to-come
quidni? Plenissime iamdudum videbar initiatus.
why-not fully long-since I-seemed initiated
Ac dum religiosum scrupulum partim apud meum sensum 27
and while the-religious scruple partly with my judgment
disputo, partim sacratorum consiliis examino, novum mirumque
I-debate partly by-the-initiates' counsels I-examine a-new and-wondrous
plane comperior, deae quidem me tantum sacris
plainly I-learn of-the-goddess indeed me only in-the-rites
imbutum at magni dei deumque summi parentis, invicti
instructed but of-the-great god and-of-the-gods' highest parent unconquered
Osiris, necdum sacris illustratum. Quamquam enim connexa,
Osiris not-yet in-the-rites enlightened although for connected
immo vero inunita ratio numinis religionisque esset,
nay indeed united the-system of-the-divinity and-of-the-religion was
tamen teletae discrimen interesse maximum: prohinc me
still of-the-initiation the-difference to-exist very-great hence me
quoque peti magno etiam deo famulum sentire deberem.
also to-be-sought by-the-great also god as-servant to-feel I-ought
Nec diu res in ambiguo stetit: nam proxuma nocte
nor long the-matter in doubt stood for on-the-next night
vidi quendam de sacratis, linteis iniectum, qui thyrsos et
I-saw a-certain-one of the-initiates in-linens clad who thyrsi and
hederas et tacenda quaedam gerens ad ipsos meos
ivies and things-not-to-be-spoken certain carrying to the-very my
Lares collocaret, et occupato sedili meo religionis amplae
household-gods placed and with-occupied seat my of-the-religion rich
denuntiaret epulas. Is ut agnitionem mihi scilicet certo aliquo
announced feast he that recognition to-me of-course by-a-sure some
sui signo subministraret, sinistri pedis talo paululum
of-himself sign he-might-supply of-the-left foot with-the-ankle a-little

reflexo cunctabundo clementer incedebat vestigio. Sublata est
bent with-hesitating gently walked step removed was
ergo post tam manifestam deum voluntatem ambiguitatis
therefore after so manifest of-the-gods will of-ambiguity
tota caligo, et illico deae matutinis perfectis
the-whole fog and at-once to-the-goddess with-the-morning performed
salutationibus summo studio percontabar singulos, ecqui
salutations with-highest zeal I-asked each whether-anyone
vestigium similis sit ut somnium. Nec fides afuit:
in-step like might-be as the-dream nor confirmation was-lacking
nam de pastophoris unum conspexi statim praeter indicium
for of the-pastophori one I-saw at-once besides the-evidence
pedis, cetero etiam statu atque habitu examussim nocturnae
of-the-foot in-the-rest also stature and dress exactly to-the-night
imagini congruentem, quem Asinium Marcellum vocitari
vision agreeing whom Asinius Marcellus to-be-called
cognovi postea, reformationis meae non alienum nomen. Nec
I-learned afterward to-the-transformation my not foreign a-name nor
moratus conveni protinus eum, sane nec ipsum futuri
having-delayed I-met at-once him truly nor himself of-the-coming
sermonis ignarum, quippe iamdudum consimili praecepto
talk ignorant naturally long-since by-like command
sacrorum ministrandorum commonefactum: nam sibi visus
of-rites to-be-administered reminded for to-himself seemed
est quiete proxuma, dum magno deo coronas exaptat, et de
has in-sleep the-next while for-the-great god garlands he-fits and from
eius ore, quo singulorum fata dictat, audisse, mitti
his mouth by-which of-each the-fates he-dictates to-have-heard to-be-sent
sibi Madaurensem sed admodum pauperem, cui statim
to-himself a-man-of-Madauros but very poor to-whom at-once

sua sacra deberet ministrare; nam et illi studiorum gloriam
his rites he-ought to-administer for both to-him of-studies the-glory
et ipsi grande compendium sua comparari providentia.
and to-himself great profit by-his to-be-prepared providence
Ad istum modum desponsus sacris, sumptuum tenuitate 28
in this way betrothed to-the-rites of-means by-the-thinness
contra votum meum retardabar: nam et viriculas
against wish my I-was-held-back for both the-little-strength
patrimonii peregrinationis attriverant impensae, et erogationes
of-patrimony of-travel had-worn-down the-expenses and the-outlays
urbicae pristinis illis provincialibus antistabant plurimum.
of-the-city the-former those provincial exceeded very-much
Ergo duritia paupertatis intercedente, quod ait vetus
therefore with-the-hardship of-poverty intervening as says the-old
proverbium, inter sacrum et saxum positus cruciabar,
proverb between the-sacrifice and the-stone placed I-was-tormented
nec setius tamen identidem numinis premebar instantia.
nor otherwise still repeatedly by-the-divinity's I-was-pressed urgency
Iamque saepicule non sine magna turbatione stimulatus,
and-now rather-often not without great disturbance goaded
postremo iussus, veste ipsa mea quamvis parvula distracta,
at-last ordered with-clothing itself my although small sold-off
sufficientem corrasi summulam Et id ipsum praeceptum
a-sufficient I-scraped-together little-sum and that very-thing commanded
fuerat specialiter: "An tu" inquit "Si quam rem voluptati
had-been specially or you he-says if any thing for-pleasure
struendae moliris, laciniis tuis nequaquam parceres, nunc
to-be-furnished you-contrive garments your by-no-means would-you-spare now
tantas caerimonias aditurus impaenitendae te pauperiei
so-great ceremonies going-to-approach to-unregrettable yourself poverty
cunctaris committere?" Ergo igitur cunctis affatim
do-you-hesitate to-commit therefore then with-all-things amply

praeparatis, decem rursus diebus inanimis contentus cibis,
prepared for-ten again days with-lifeless content foods
insuper etiam deraso capite, principalis dei nocturnis orgiis
moreover also with-shaven head of-the-chief god by-the-nightly orgies
illustratus, plena iam fiducia germanae religionis obsequium
enlightened with-full now confidence of-the-kindred religion the-service
divinum frequentabam. Quae res summum peregrinationi
divine I-attended which thing the-greatest to-sojourn
meae tribuebat solacium, nec minus etiam victum uberiorem
my gave solace nor less also a-living more-abundant
subministrabat: quidni? Spiritu faventis eventus quaesticulo
supplied why-not by-the-breath of-a-favoring outcome with-gain
forensi nutrito per patrocinia sermonis Romani.
forensic nourished through advocacy in-speech Roman

LXXXI · THE THIRD INITIATION

Lucius is called to a third initiation and doubts the priests, but a gentle vision reassures him, and Osiris himself appears in his sleep and bids him plead in the forum. He prospers as an advocate in Rome, and the god admits him to the college of the pastophori, where he serves with his head shaved.

29 Et ecce post pauculum tempus inopinatis et usquequaque
and behold after a-little time by-unexpected and wholly
mirificis imperiis deum rursus interpellor, et cogor
wondrous commands of-the-gods again I-am-called-upon and am-compelled
tertiam quoque teletam susceptare. Nec levi cura sollicitus
a-third also initiation to-undertake nor by-slight care troubled
sed oppido suspensus animi mecum ipse cogitationes
but exceedingly in-suspense in-mind with-myself I thoughts
exercitius agitabam, quorsus nova haec et inaudita se
more-busily I-turned-over whither new this and unheard-of itself

caelestium porrigeret intentio, quid subsecivum quamvis
of-the-heavenly-ones might-stretch purpose what leftover although
iteratae iam traditioni remansisset: nimirum perperam
to-the-repeated now handing-over had-remained no-doubt wrongly
vel minus plene consuluerunt in me sacerdos uterque: et
or less fully have-provided for me priest each and
Hercule iam de fide quoque eorum opinari coeptabam
by-Hercules now about the-faith also their to-think I-began
sequius. Quo me cogitationis aestu fluctuantem ad
otherwise with-which me of-thought tide tossing to
instar insaniae percitum sic instruxit nocturna divinatione
the-likeness of-madness roused thus instructed with-a-nightly divination
clemens imago: "Nihil est" inquit "Quod numerosa serie
a-gentle vision nothing there-is it-says that by-numerous series
religionis, quasi quicquam sit prius omissum, terreare.
of-religion as-if anything were before omitted you-be-frightened
Quin assidua ista numinum dignatione laetum capesse
rather at-constant this of-the-divinities favor glad take
gaudium, et potius exulta ter futurus quod alii
joy and rather exult thrice going-to-be what others
vel semel vix conceditur, teque de isto numero
even once scarcely is-granted and-yourself from this number
merito praesume semper beatum. Ceterum futura tibi
rightly presume always blessed besides the-coming for-you
sacrorum traditio pernecessaria est, si tecum nunc
of-rites handing-over very-necessary is if with-yourself now
saltem reputaveris exuvias deae, quas in provincia
at-least you-reflect the-garments of-the-goddess which in the-province
sumpsisti, in eodem fano depositas perseverare, nec te
you-took in the-same shrine laid-up to-remain nor you
Romae diebus sollemnibus vel supplicare iis vel, cum
at-Rome on-days solemn either to-pray in-them or when

praeceptum fuerit, felici illo amictu illustrari posse.
commanded it-be with-blessed that mantle to-be-glorified to-be-able
Quod felix itaque ac faustum salutareque tibi sit,
which happy and-so and auspicious and-salutary to-you may-it-be
animo gaudiali rursum sacris initiare diis magnis
with-mind joyful again into-the-rites be-initiated with-the-gods great
auctoribus."
as-sponsors

30 Hactenus divini somnii suada maiestas, quod usus
thus-far of-the-divine dream the-persuasive majesty what of-use
foret, pronuntiavit. Nec deinceps postposito vel in supinam
would-be declared nor thereafter with-put-off or into supine
procrastinationem reiecto negotio, statim sacerdoti meo
procrastination thrown-back business at-once to-priest my
relatis quae videram, inanimae protinus castimoniae iugum
with-reported what I-had-seen of-lifeless at-once abstinence the-yoke
subeo et lege perpetua praescriptis illis decem diebus
I-undergo and by-law perpetual with-prescribed those ten days
spontali sobrietate multiplicatis, instructum teletae
with-voluntary sobriety multiplied the-equipment for-the-initiation
comparo largitus, ex studio pietatis magis quam mensura
I-procure having-spent from zeal of-devotion more than by-the-measure
rerum collatis. Nec Hercule laborum me sumptuumque
of-means contributions nor by-Hercules of-labors me and-of-expenses
quicquam tamen paenituit; quidni? Liberali deum providentia
anything still regretted why-not by-generous of-the-gods providence
iam stipendiis forensibus bellule fotum. Denique post dies
now with-earnings forensic prettily cherished in-short after days
admodum pauculos deus deum magnorum potior, et
very few the-god of-the-gods great the-mightier and
maiorum summus, et summorum maximus, et maximorum
of-the-greater highest and of-the-highest greatest and of-the-greatest

regnator Osiris, non alienam quampiam personam reformatus,
ruler Osiris not into-another any person changed
sed coram suo illo venerando me dignatus affamine
but face-to-face with-his that venerable me having-deigned address
per quietem praecipere visus est, quam nunc incunctanter
in sleep to-instruct seemed has that now without-hesitation
gloriosa in foro redderem patrocinia, nec extimescerem
glorious in the-forum I-should-render advocacies nor should-dread
malevolorum disseminationes, quas studiorum meorum
of-the-malevolent the-slanders which of-studies my
laboriosa doctrina ibi differebat. Ac ne sacris suis gregi
laborious learning there spread and lest to-rites his with-the-flock
cetero permixtus deservirem, in collegium me pastophorum
other mingled I-should-serve into the-college me of-the-pastophori
suorum, immo inter ipsos decurionum quinquennales allegit:
his nay among the-very of-the-councilors quinquennial elected
rursus denique quam raso capillo collegii vetustissimi
again in-short that with-shaven hair of-the-college most-ancient
et sub illis Syllae temporibus conditi munia, non obumbrato
and under those of-Sulla times founded the-duties not with-shaded
vel obtecto calvitio sed quoquoversus obvio, gaudens
or covered baldness but on-every-side exposed rejoicing
obibam.
I-performed