LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 66

Heroides

Ovid

Heroides

With the Amores

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



CANES NOBILES · MMXXVI

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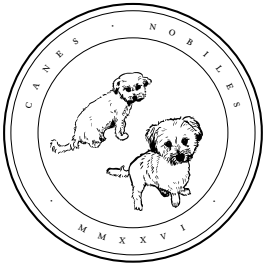

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of the Heroides and the Amores, of 1914

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∗∗∗ marks a gap. The couplets Showerman does not print are not printed, and the line numbers skip where they stood. The English section titles are this press's.

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OVID

Heroides

Penelope Ulixi

I · PENELOPE TO ULYSSES

Penelope writes to her slow husband: he need not answer, only come. Troy has fallen, but she still waits; she feared at every report of the fighting, and Nestor's tale of Ulysses' night raid, in which Rhesus and Dolon were killed, frightened her after the event. Every returning Greek has a tale; she sends to Pylos and Sparta for news and gets none. Suitors devour the house, while Laertes is old, Telemachus young and in danger. She was a girl when he left; she will seem an old woman when he returns.

Hanc tua Penelope lento tibi mittit, Ulixe —
This your Penelope to-the-slow to-you sends, Ulysses
nil mihi rescribas tu tamen; ipse veni!
nothing to-me you-should-write-back you still; yourself come!
Troia iacet certe, Danais invisa puellis;
Troy lies-low surely, to-the-Danaan hateful girls;
vix Priamus tanti totaque Troia fuit.
hardly Priam of-such-worth and-all Troy was.
O utinam tum, cum Lacedaemona classe petebat,
O would-that then, when Lacedaemon with-a-fleet he-was-seeking,
obrutus insanis esset adulter aquis!
overwhelmed by-raging had-been the-adulterer waters!
Non ego deserto iacuissem frigida lecto,
Not I in-a-deserted would-have-lain cold bed,
non quererer tardos ire relicta dies;
not I-would-complain slow to-go deserted the-days;
nec mihi quaerenti spatiosam fallere noctem
nor for-me seeking the-spacious to-beguile night
lassaret viduas pendula tela manus.
would-weary widowed the-hanging web hands.

Quando ego non timui graviora pericula veris?
When I not have-feared graver dangers than-the-real?
Res est solliciti plena timoris amor.
A-thing is of-anxious full fear love.
In te fingebam violentos Troas ituros;
On you I-imagined violent the-Trojans about-to-rush;
nomine in Hectoreo pallida semper eram.
the-name at of-Hector pale always I-was.
Sive quis Antilochum narrabat ab hoste revictum,
Whether anyone Antilochus told by the-enemy overcome,
Antilochus nostri causa timoris erat;
Antilochus our the-cause of-fear was;
sive Menoetiaden falsis cecidisse sub armis,
or the-son-of-Menoetius false to-have-fallen under arms,
flebam successu posse carere dolos.
I-wept with-success to-be-able to-lack wiles.
Sanguine Tlepolemus Lyciam tepefecerat hastam;
With-blood Tlepolemus the-Lycian had-warmed spear;
Tlepolemi leto cura novata mea est.
Tlepolemus' by-the-death care renewed my was.
Denique, quisquis erat castris iugulatus Achivis,
In-short, whoever was in-the-camp slain Achaean,
frigidius glacie pectus amantis erat.
colder than-ice the-breast of-the-one-loving was.
Sed bene consuluit casto deus aequus amori.
But well has-provided for-chaste a-god kind love.
Versa est in cineres sospite Troia viro.
Turned has-been into ashes safe Troy my-husband.
Argolici rediere duces, altaria fumant;
The-Argive have-returned leaders, the-altars smoke;

ponitur ad patrios barbara praeda deos.
is-placed before the-ancestral barbarian spoil gods.
Grata ferunt nymphae pro salvis dona maritis;
Grateful bring the-young-wives for safe gifts husbands;
illi victa suis Troica fata canunt.
they conquered by-their-own the-Trojan fates sing.
Mirantur iustique senes trepidaeque puellae;
Admire both-the-just old-men and-the-trembling girls;
narrantis coniunx pendet ab ore viri.
of-the-one-telling the-wife hangs on the-lips of-her-husband.
Atque aliquis posita monstrat fera proelia mensa,
And someone set shows the-fierce battles on-the-table,
pingit et exiguo Pergama tota mero:
paints and with-a-little Pergamum whole wine:
'Hac ibat Simois; haec est Sigeia tellus;
'Here went the-Simois; this is the-Sigean land;
hic steterat Priami regia celsa senis.
here had-stood of-Priam the-palace lofty the-old.
Illic Aeacides, illic tendebat Ulixes;
There the-descendant-of-Aeacus, there pitched-tent Ulysses;
hic lacer admissos terruit Hector equos.'
here mangled the-galloping terrified Hector horses.'
Omnia namque tuo senior te quaerere misso
Everything for your old-man you to-seek sent
rettulerat nato Nestor, at ille mihi.
had-told to-son Nestor, but he to-me.
Rettulit et ferro Rhesumque Dolonaque caesos,
He-told also by-the-sword both-Rhesus and-Dolon slain,
utque sit hic somno proditus, ille dolo.
and-how was this-one by-sleep betrayed, that-one by-guile.

Ausus es, — o nimium nimiumque oblite tuorum! —
Dared you-have, O too and-too-much forgetful of-your-own!
Thracia nocturno tangere castra dolo
the-Thracian by-night to-touch camp by-a-trick
totque simul mactare viros, adiutus ab uno!
and-so-many at-once to-slaughter men, helped by one!
At bene cautus eras et memor ante mei!
But well cautious you-were and mindful before of-me!
Usque metu micuere sinus, dum victor amicum
All-the-while with-fear throbbed my-breast, until victorious the-friendly
dictus es Ismariis isse per agmen equis.
said you-were with-Ismarian to-have-gone through ranks horses.
Sed mihi quid prodest vestris disiecta lacertis
But to-me what profits by-your scattered arms
Ilios et, murus quod fuit, esse solum,
Ilios and, a-wall what was, to-be ground,
si maneo, qualis Troia durante manebam,
if I-remain, such-as with-Troy enduring I-remained,
virque mihi dempto fine carendus abest?
and-my-husband for-me removed with-end to-be-done-without is-absent?
Diruta sunt aliis, uni mihi Pergama restant,
Destroyed are for-others, alone for-me Pergamum stands,
incola captivo quae bove victor arat.
an-inhabitant with-captured which ox victor plows.
Iam seges est, ubi Troia fuit, resecandaque falce
Now a-crop is, where Troy was, and-to-be-cut with-the-sickle
luxuriat Phrygio sanguine pinguis humus;
grows-rank with-Phrygian blood fat the-soil;
semisepulta virum curvis feriuntur aratris
half-buried of-men by-the-curved are-struck plows

ossa, ruinosas occulit herba domos.
bones, ruined hides grass houses.
Victor abes, nec scire mihi, quae causa morandi,
Victor you-are-absent, nor to-know for-me, what the-cause of-delay,
aut in quo lateas ferreus orbe, licet!
or in what you-hide iron-hearted world, is-it-allowed!
Quisquis ad haec vertit peregrinam litora puppim,
Whoever to these turns foreign shores his-ship,
ille mihi de te multa rogatus abit,
he by-me about you much asked departs,
quamque tibi reddat, si te modo viderit usquam,
and-which to-you he-may-render, if you only he-shall-have-seen anywhere,
traditur huic digitis charta notata meis.
is-handed to-him by-fingers a-sheet written my.
Nos Pylon, antiqui Neleia Nestoris arva,
We to-Pylos, ancient the-Nelean of-Nestor fields,
misimus; incerta est fama remissa Pylo.
have-sent; uncertain is the-report sent-back from-Pylos.
Misimus et Sparten; Sparte quoque nescia veri.
We-have-sent also to-Sparta; Sparta too ignorant of-the-truth.
Quas habitas terras, aut ubi lentus abes?
What you-inhabit lands, or where slow are-you-absent?
Utilius starent etiamnunc moenia Phoebi —
More-useful would-stand even-now the-walls of-Phoebus
irascor votis, heu, levis ipsa meis!
I-am-angry with-vows, alas, fickle myself my-own!
Scirem ubi pugnares, et tantum bella timerem,
I-would-know where you-fought, and only wars I-would-fear,
et mea cum multis iuncta querela foret.
and my with many joined complaint would-be.

Quid timeam, ignoro — timeo tamen omnia demens,
What I-should-fear, I-know-not I-fear still everything distraught,
et patet in curas area lata meas.
and lies-open for cares a-field wide my.
Quaecumque aequor habet, quaecumque pericula tellus,
Whatever the-sea holds, whatever dangers the-land,
tam longae causas suspicor esse morae.
of-so long the-causes I-suspect to-be delay.
Haec ego dum stulte metuo, quae vestra libido est,
These-things I while foolishly fear, what your lust is,
esse peregrino captus amore potes.
to-be by-a-foreign captured love you-can.
Forsitan et narres, quam sit tibi rustica coniunx,
Perhaps also you-may-tell, how is to-you rustic a-wife,
quae tantum lanas non sinat esse rudes.
who only wool not would-allow to-be rough.
Fallar, et hoc crimen tenues vanescat in auras,
May-I-be-deceived, and this charge thin may-vanish into airs,
neve, revertendi liber, abesse velis!
nor, of-returning free, to-be-absent may-you-wish!
Me pater Icarius viduo discedere lecto
Me father Icarius from-the-widowed to-depart bed
cogit et immensas increpat usque moras.
compels and immense chides always delays.
Increpet usque licet — tua sum, tua dicar oportet;
Let-him-chide always it-is-allowed yours I-am, yours I-be-called it-behooves;
Penelope coniunx semper Ulixis ero.
Penelope wife always of-Ulysses I-shall-be.
Ille tamen pietate mea precibusque pudicis
He still by-the-devotion my and-by-prayers chaste

frangitur et vires temperat ipse suas.
is-broken and strength tempers himself his-own.
Dulichii Samiique et quos tulit alta Zacynthos,
Of-Dulichium and-of-Samos and those-whom bore lofty Zacynthos,
turba ruunt in me luxuriosa proci,
a-throng rush upon me wanton suitors,
inque tua regnant nullis prohibentibus aula;
and-in your they-reign with-no-one forbidding hall;
viscera nostra, tuae dilacerantur opes.
the-vitals our, your are-torn-apart riches.
Quid tibi Pisandrum Polybumque Medontaque dirum
Why to-you Pisander and-Polybus and-Medon the-dread
Eurymachique avidas Antinoique manus
and-of-Eurymachus greedy and-of-Antinous hands
atque alios referam, quos omnis turpiter absens
and others should-I-recount, whom all shamefully absent
ipse tuo partis sanguine rebus alis?
yourself by-your won blood with-goods you-feed?
Irus egens pecorisque Melanthius actor edendi
Irus the-needy and-of-the-flock Melanthius the-driver to-be-eaten
ultimus accedunt in tua damna pudor.
the-last are-added to your losses disgrace.
Tres sumus inbelles numero, sine viribus uxor
Three we-are unwarlike in-number, without strength a-wife
Laertesque senex Telemachusque puer.
and-Laertes old and-Telemachus a-boy.
Ille per insidias paene est mihi nuper ademptus,
He by plots almost was from-me lately taken-away,
dum parat invitis omnibus ire Pylon.
while he-prepares unwilling all to-go to-Pylos.

Di, precor, hoc iubeant, ut euntibus ordine fatis
The-gods, I-pray, this may-they-ordain, that going in-order with-fates
ille meos oculos conprimat, ille tuos!
he my eyes may-close, he yours!
Hac faciunt custosque boum longaevaque nutrix,
On-this-side act both-the-keeper of-oxen and-the-aged nurse,
tertius inmundae cura fidelis harae;
the-third of-the-unclean the-care faithful of-the-sty;
sed neque Laertes, ut qui sit inutilis armis,
but neither Laertes, as one-who is useless for-arms,
hostibus in mediis regna tenere potest —
enemies in the-midst-of the-kingdom to-hold can
Telemacho veniet, vivat modo, fortior aetas;
to-Telemachus will-come, let-him-live only, a-stronger age;
nunc erat auxiliis illa tuenda patris —
now was by-the-help that to-be-guarded of-his-father
nec mihi sunt vires inimicos pellere tectis.
nor to-me is strength the-enemies to-drive from-the-house.
Tu citius venias, portus et ara tuis!
You sooner come, harbor and altar for-yours!
Est tibi sitque, precor, natus, qui mollibus annis
There-is to-you and-may-there-be, I-pray, a-son, who in-tender years
in patrias artes erudiendus erat.
in his-father's arts to-be-trained was.
Respice Laerten; ut iam sua lumina condas,
Look-back-on Laertes; that now his eyes you-may-close,
extremum fati sustinet ille diem.
the-last of-fate he-holds-out he day.
Certe ego, quae fueram te discedente puella,
Surely I, who had-been with-you departing a-girl,

protinus ut venias, facta videbor anus.
straightway though you-come, made will-seem an-old-woman.

Phyllis Demophoonti

II · PHYLLIS TO DEMOPHOON

Phyllis of Thrace counts the months since Demophoon sailed from Rhodope promising to return within one. She believed his oaths by the sea, by his grandfather Neptune, and by Venus, and she gave him harbor, her kingdom, and herself. Now she watches the sea from the cliffs and mistakes every sail for his. She foresees her death and dictates its epitaph: Demophoon gave the cause, and she gave the hand.

Hospita, Demophoon, tua te Rhodopeia Phyllis
Hostess, Demophoon, your you Rhodopean Phyllis
ultra promissum tempus abesse queror.
beyond the-promised time to-be-absent I-complain.
Cornua cum lunae pleno semel orbe coissent,
The-horns when of-the-moon in-full once orb had-met,
litoribus nostris ancora pacta tua est —
on-shores our anchor promised your was
luna quater latuit, toto quater orbe recrevit;
the-moon four-times has-hidden, in-whole four-times orb has-grown-again;
nec vehit Actaeas Sithonis unda rates.
nor carries Attic the-Sithonian wave ships.
Tempora si numeres — bene quae numeramus amantes —
Times if you-count well which we-count lovers
non venit ante suam nostra querela diem.
not comes before its-own our complaint day.
Spes quoque lenta fuit; tarde, quae credita laedunt,
Hope too slow was; slowly, what believed hurts,

credimus. invito nunc et amore noces.
we-believe. unwilling now even by-love you-harm.

Saepe fui mendax pro te mihi, saepe putavi
Often I-was lying for you to-myself, often I-thought

alba procellosos vela referre Notos.
white storm-bringing sails to-bring-back South-Winds.

Thesea devovi, quia te dimittere nollet;
Theseus I-cursed, because you to-let-go he-was-unwilling;

nec tenuit cursus forsitan ille tuos.
nor held courses perhaps he your.

Interdum timui, ne, dum vada tendis ad Hebri,
Sometimes I-feared, lest, while shallows you-make-for to of-the-Hebrus,

mersa foret cana naufraga puppis aqua.
sunk had-been in-the-white shipwrecked ship water.

Saepe deos supplex, ut tu, scelerate, valeres,
Often the-gods suppliant, that you, villain, might-be-well,

cum prece turicremis sum venerata sacris;
with prayer at-incense-burning I-have worshiped rites;

saepe, videns ventos caelo pelagoque faventes,
often, seeing winds to-sky and-sea favorable,

ipsa mihi dixi: 'si valet ille, venit.'
I-myself to-myself said: 'if is-well he, he-is-coming.'

Denique fidus amor, quidquid properantibus obstat,
In-short faithful love, whatever to-those-hastening stands-in-the-way,

finxit, et ad causas ingeniosa fui.
invented, and for excuses ingenious I-was.

At tu lentus abes; nec te iurata reducunt
But you slow are-absent; nor you sworn bring-back

numina, nec nostro motus amore redis.
divinities, nor by-our moved love do-you-return.

Demophoon, ventis et verba et vela dedisti;
Demophoon, to-the-winds both words and sails you-have-given;
vela queror reditu, verba carere fide.
the-sails I-complain of-return, the-words to-lack faith.
Dic mihi, quid feci, nisi non sapienter amavi?
Tell me, what I-did, except not wisely I-loved?
Crimine te potui demeruisse meo.
By-crime you I-could to-have-won-over my.
Unum in me scelus est, quod te, scelerate, recepi;
One in me crime is, that you, villain, I-received;
sed scelus hoc meriti pondus et instar habet.
but crime this of-merit the-weight and the-likeness has.
Iura, fides ubi nunc, commissaque dextera dextrae,
The-oaths, faith where now, and-pledged right-hand to-right-hand,
quique erat in falso plurimus ore deus?
and-who was in false most-often mouth god?
Promissus socios ubi nunc Hymenaeus in annos,
Promised allied where now Hymen for years,
qui mihi coniugii sponsor et obses erat?
who to-me of-marriage the-surety and hostage was?
Per mare, quod totum ventis agitatur et undis,
By the-sea, which whole by-winds is-tossed and waves,
per quod saepe ieras, per quod iturus eras,
by which often you-had-gone, by which about-to-go you-were,
perque tuum mihi iurasti — nisi fictus et ille est —
and-by your to-me you-swore unless feigned also he is
concita qui ventis aequora mulcet, avum,
roused who by-winds the-seas calms, grandfather,
per Venerem nimiumque mihi facientia tela —
by Venus and-too-much against-me working weapons

altera tela arcus, altera tela faces —
the-one weapons bows, the-other weapons torches
Iunonemque, toris quae praesidet alma maritis,
and-Juno, over-beds who presides kindly marriage,
et per taediferae mystica sacra deae.
and by of-the-torch-bearing mystic the-rites goddess.
Si de tot laesis sua numina quisque deorum
If for so-many wronged their-own divine-powers each of-the-gods
vindicet, in poenas non satis unus eris.
should-avenge, for punishments not enough one you-will-be.
At laceras etiam puppes furiosa refeci —
But shattered even ships raving I-repaired
ut, qua desererer, firma carina foret! —
that, by-which I-might-be-deserted, firm the-keel might-be!
remigiumque dedi, quod me fugiturus haberes.
and-the-oars I-gave, which me about-to-flee you-might-have.
Heu! patior telis vulnera facta meis!
Alas! I-suffer by-weapons wounds made my-own!
Credidimus blandis, quorum tibi copia, verbis;
We-believed in-coaxing, of-which for-you abundance, words;
credidimus generi nominibusque tuis;
we-believed in-race and-names your;
credidimus lacrimis — an et hae simulare docentur?
we-believed tears or-whether even these to-feign are-taught?
Hae quoque habent artes, quaque iubentur, eunt?
These too have arts, and-where they-are-bidden, go?
Dis quoque credidimus. quo iam tot pignora nobis?
The-gods too we-believed. why now so-many pledges to-us?
Parte satis potui qualibet inde capi.
By-a-part enough I-could any thence to-be-caught.

Nec moveor, quod te iuvi portuque locoque —
Nor am-I-moved, that you I-helped both-with-harbor and-place
debuit haec meriti summa fuisse mei!
ought this of-merit the-sum to-have-been my!
Turpiter hospitium lecto cumulasse iugali
Shamefully hospitality with-a-bed to-have-crowned nuptial
paenitet, et lateri conseruisse latus.
it-repents-me, and side to-have-joined side.
Quae fuit ante illam, mallem suprema fuisset
Which was before that-night, I-would-rather the-last had-been
nox mihi, dum potui Phyllis honesta mori.
night for-me, while I-could Phyllis honorable to-die.
Speravi melius, quia me meruisse putavi;
I-hoped better, because myself to-have-deserved I-thought;
quaecumque ex merito spes venit, aequa venit.
whatever from merit hope comes, just comes.
Fallere credentem non est operosa puellam
To-deceive trusting not is laborious a-girl
gloria. simplicitas digna favore fuit.
glory. simplicity worthy of-favor was.
Sum decepta tuis et amans et femina verbis.
I-was deceived by-your both loving and a-woman words.
Di faciant, laudis summa sit ista tuae!
The-gods grant, of-praise the-sum may-be that your!
Inter et Aegidas, media statuaris in urbe,
Among also the-Aegidae, the-middle-of may-you-be-set-up in the-city,
magnificus titulis stet pater ante suis.
magnificent with-titles let-stand your-father before his-own.
Cum fuerit Sciron lectus torvusque Procrustes
When shall-have-been Sciron read and-grim Procrustes

et Sinis et tauri mixtaque forma viri
and Sinis and of-the-bull and-mixed the-form of-the-man
et domitae bello Thebae fusique bimembres
and subdued in-war Thebes and-routed the-two-limbed
et pulsata nigri regia caeca dei —
and struck of-the-black the-palace dark god
hoc tua post illos titulo signetur imago:
by-this your after them inscription may-be-marked the-statue:
hic est, cuius amans hospita capta dolo est.
this is, whose loving hostess captured by-guile was.
De tanta rerum turba factisque parentis
From so-great of-deeds a-throng and-the-acts of-your-father
sedit in ingenio Cressa relicta tuo.
has-settled in disposition the-Cretan deserted your.
Quod solum excusat, solum miraris in illo;
What alone he-excuses, alone you-admire in him;
heredem patriae, perfide, fraudis agis.
the-heir of-your-father's, treacherous, of-the-fraud you-play.
Illa — nec invideo — fruitur meliore marito
She nor do-I-envy enjoys a-better husband
inque capistratis tigribus alta sedet;
and-on harnessed tigers on-high sits;
at mea despecti fugiunt conubia Thraces,
but my despised flee marriage the-Thracians,
quod ferar externum praeposuisse meis.
because I-am-said a-foreigner to-have-preferred to-my-own.
Atque aliquis 'iam nunc doctas eat,' inquit, 'Athenas;
And someone 'right now to-learned let-her-go,' he-says, 'Athens;
armiferam Thracen qui regat, alter erit.
arms-bearing Thrace who may-rule, another will-be.

Exitus acta probat.' careat successibus, opto,
The-outcome deeds approves.' may-be-lack successes, I-pray,
quisquis ab eventu facta notanda putat!
whoever from the-outcome deeds to-be-judged thinks!
At si nostra tuo spumescant aequora remo,
But if our with-your should-foam seas oar,
iam mihi, iam dicar consuluisse meis —
now for-me, now I-shall-be-said to-have-provided for-my-people
sed neque consului, nec te mea regia tanget
but neither have-I-provided, nor you my palace will-touch
fessaque Bistonia membra lavabis aqua!
and-weary in-Bistonian limbs will-you-wash water!
Illa meis oculis species abeuntis inhaeret,
That in-my eyes appearance of-you-departing clings,
cum premeret portus classis itura meos.
when pressed harbor fleet about-to-go my.
Ausus es amplecti colloque infusus amantis
Dared you-have to-embrace and-on-the-neck poured of-your-lover
oscula per longas iungere pressa moras
kisses through long to-join pressed delays
cumque tuis lacrimis lacrimas confundere nostras,
and-with your tears tears to-mingle our,
quodque foret velis aura secunda, queri
and-that was for-the-sails the-breeze favorable, to-complain
et mihi discedens suprema dicere voce:
and to-me departing the-last to-say with-voice:
'Phylli, fac expectes Demophoonta tuum!'
'Phyllis, see-to-it you-wait-for Demophoon your!'
Expectem, qui me numquam visurus abisti?
Should-I-wait, who me never about-to-see you-have-gone-away?

Expectem pelago vela negata meo?
Should-I-wait-for to-the-sea sails denied my?
Et tamen expecto — redeas modo serus amanti,
And still I-wait return only late to-your-lover,
ut tua sit solo tempore lapsa fides!
that your may-be only by-time lapsed faith!
Quid precor infelix? te iam tenet altera coniunx
What do-I-pray unhappy? you now holds another wife
forsitan et, nobis qui male favit, amor;
perhaps also, to-us who badly has-favored, love;
utque tibi excidimus, nullam, puto, Phyllida nosti.
and-as from-you we-have-fallen, no, I-think, Phyllis you-know.
Ei mihi! si, quae sim Phyllis et unde, rogas —
Ah me! if, who I-am Phyllis and whence, you-ask
quae tibi, Demophoon, longis erroribus acto
who to-you, Demophoon, by-long wanderings driven
Threicios portus hospitiumque dedi,
Thracian harbors and-hospitality I-gave,
cuius opes auxere meae, cui dives egenti
whose wealth increased my, to-whom rich to-one-needy
munera multa dedi, multa datura fui;
gifts many I-gave, many about-to-give I-was;
quae tibi subieci latissima regna Lycurgi,
who to-you subjected widest the-realms of-Lycurgus,
nomine femineo vix satis apta regi,
by-the-name feminine hardly enough fitted to-be-ruled,
qua patet umbrosum Rhodope glacialis ad Haemum,
where stretches shady Rhodope icy to Haemus,
et sacer admissas exigit Hebrus aquas,
and sacred let-loose drives the-Hebrus waters,

cui mea virginitas avibus libata sinistris
to-whom my maidenhood with-birds offered sinister
castaque fallaci zona recincta manu!
and-chaste with-deceitful girdle loosened hand!
Pronuba Tisiphone thalamis ululavit in illis,
As-bridesmaid Tisiphone chamber howled in that,
et cecinit maestum devia carmen avis;
and sang a-mournful wandering song bird;
adfuit Allecto brevibus torquata colubris,
was-present Allecto with-short necklaced snakes,
suntque sepulcrali lumina mota face!
and-were with-a-funeral lights moved torch!
Maesta tamen scopulos fruticosaque litora calco
Sad still the-cliffs and-bushy shores I-tread
quaeque patent oculis litora lata meis.
and-which lie-open to-eyes shores wide my.
Sive die laxatur humus, seu frigida lucent
Whether by-day is-loosened the-earth, or cold shine
sidera, prospicio, quis freta ventus agat;
stars, I-look-out, what the-straits wind drives;
et quaecumque procul venientia lintea vidi,
and whatever far coming sails I-have-seen,
protinus illa meos auguror esse deos.
straightway those my I-augur to-be gods.
In freta procurro, vix me retinentibus undis,
Into the-straits I-run-forward, hardly me holding-back waves,
mobile qua primas porrigit aequor aquas.
shifting where its-first stretches the-sea waters.
Quo magis accedunt, minus et minus utilis adsto;
By-how-much more they-approach, less and less useful I-stand;

linquor et ancillis excipienda cado.
I-faint and by-my-maids to-be-caught I-fall.

Est sinus, adductos modice falcatus in arcus;
There-is a-bay, drawn moderately curved into arcs;

ultima praerupta cornua mole rigent.
the-outermost with-abrupt horns mass are-stiff.

Hinc mihi suppositas inmittere corpus in undas
From-here for-me placed-below to-hurl body into waves

mens fuit; et, quoniam fallere pergis, erit.
the-mind was; and, since to-deceive you-continue, it-will-be.

Ad tua me fluctus proiectam litora portent,
To your me the-waves cast-out shores may-carry,

occurramque oculis intumulata tuis!
and-may-I-meet to-eyes unburied your!

Duritia ferrum ut superes adamantaque teque,
With-hardness iron though you-surpass and-adamant and-yourself,

'Non tibi sic,' dices, 'Phylli, sequendus eram!'
'Not by-you so,' you-will-say, 'Phyllis, to-be-followed was-I!'

Saepe venenorum sitis est mihi; saepe cruenta
Often for-poisons thirst is to-me; often bloody

traiectam gladio morte perire iuvat.
pierced with-a-sword by-death to-perish it-pleases.

Colla quoque, infidis quia se nectenda lacertis
My-neck too, faithless because itself to-be-bound to-arms

praebuerunt, laqueis inplicuisse iuvat.
offered, with-nooses to-have-entwined it-pleases.

Stat nece matura tenerum pensare pudorem.
It-is-fixed by-death early tender to-pay-for honor.

In necis electu parva futura mora est.
In of-death the-choice small about-to-be delay is.

Inscribere meo causa invidiosa sepulcro.
You-will-be-written on-my the-cause odious tomb.
Aut hoc aut simili carmine notus eris:
Either by-this or by-a-like verse known you-will-be:
Phyllida Demophoon leto dedit hospes amantem;
Phyllis Demophoon to-death gave the-guest her-who-loved;
ille necis causam praebuit, ipsa manum.
he of-death the-cause offered, she-herself the-hand.

Briseis Achilli

III · BRISEIS TO ACHILLES

Briseis, taken from Achilles by Agamemnon's heralds, writes in blotted Greek from the other camp. He handed her over without delay, and she left without a kiss; he has not asked for her back, though Agamemnon offers her with gifts. She reminds him that he killed her husband and brothers and became all she has. She asks to be taken back as a slave if not a wife, and begs him to arm and fight again rather than leave her to his anger.

Quam legis, a rapta Briseide littera venit,
Which you-read, from the-carried-off Briseis the-letter comes,
vix bene barbarica Graeca notata manu.
hardly well by-a-barbarian Greek written hand.
Quascumque adspicies, lacrimae fecere lituras;
Whatever you-will-see, tears have-made the-blots;
sed tamen et lacrimae pondera vocis habent.
but still also tears the-weight of-a-voice have.
Si mihi pauca queri de te dominoque viroque
If for-me a-few-things to-complain about you both-my-master and-husband
fas est, de domino pauca viroque querar.
right it-is, about my-master a-few-things and-husband I-will-complain.

Non, ego poscenti quod sum cito tradita regi,
Not, I to-the-demanding that I-was quickly handed-over king,
culpa tua est — quamvis haec quoque culpa tua est;
the-fault your is although this too the-fault yours is;
nam simul Eurybates me Talthybiusque vocarunt,
for as-soon-as Eurybates me and-Talthybius called,
Eurybati data sum Talthybioque comes.
to-Eurybates given I-was and-to-Talthybius as-companion.
Alter in alterius iactantes lumina vultum
One into of-the-other casting eyes the-face
quaerebant taciti, noster ubi esset amor.
asked silent, our where was love.
Differri potui; poenae mora grata fuisset.
To-be-put-off I-could-have; of-the-punishment delay welcome would-have-been.
Ei mihi! discedens oscula nulla dedi;
Ah me! departing kisses none I-gave;
at lacrimas sine fine dedi rupique capillos —
but tears without end I-gave and-I-tore my-hair
infelix iterum sum mihi visa capi!
unhappy again I to-myself seemed to-be-captured!
Saepe ego decepto volui custode reverti,
Often I deceived wished with-the-guard to-return,
sed, me qui timidam prenderet, hostis erat.
but, me who timid might-seize, the-enemy was.
Si progressa forem, caperer ne nocte timebam,
If gone-forth I-had, I-might-be-caught lest by-night I-feared,
quamlibet ad Priami munus itura nurum.
any to of-Priam a-gift about-to-go daughter-in-law.
Sed data sim, quia danda fui — tot noctibus absum
But given let-me-be, since to-be-given I-was so-many nights I-am-away

nec repetor; cessas, iraque lenta tua est.
nor am-I-reclaimed; you-delay, and-anger slow your is.
Ipse Menoetiades tum, cum tradebar, in aurem
Himself the-son-of-Menoetius then, when I-was-handed-over, into my-ear
'Quid fles? hic parvo tempore,' dixit, 'eris.'
'Why do-you-weep? here in-a-little time,' he-said, 'you-will-be.'
Nec repetisse parum; pugnas, ne reddar, Achille!
Nor to-have-reclaimed is-too-little; you-fight, lest I-be-returned, Achilles!
I nunc et cupidi nomen amantis habe!
Go now and of-an-eager the-name lover have!
Venerunt ad te Telamone et Amyntore nati —
Came to you of-Telamon and of-Amyntor sons
ille gradu propior sanguinis, ille comes —
the-one in-degree nearer of-blood, the-other a-companion
Laertaque satus, per quos comitata redirem.
and-of-Laertes the-son, through whom accompanied I-might-return.
Auxerunt blandas grandia dona preces:
Increased coaxing great gifts prayers:
viginti fulvos operoso ex aere lebetas,
twenty tawny wrought from bronze cauldrons,
et tripodas septem pondere et arte pares;
and tripods seven in-weight and in-art equal;
addita sunt illis auri bis quinque talenta,
added were to-these of-gold twice five talents,
bis sex adsueti vincere semper equi,
twice six accustomed to-win always horses,
quodque supervacuum est, forma praestante puellae
and-what superfluous is, of-beauty outstanding girls
Lesbides, eversa corpora capta domo,
Lesbian, from-overthrown bodies captured home,

cumque tot his — sed non opus est tibi coniuge — coniunx
and-with so-many these but not need is to-you of-a-wife a-wife
ex Agamemnoniis una puella tribus.
of Agamemnon's one maiden three.
Si tibi ab Atride pretio redimenda fuissem,
If to-you from the-son-of-Atreus with-a-price to-be-ransomed I-had-been,
quae dare debueras, accipere illa negas!
what to-give you-ought-to-have, to-accept those-things you-refuse!
Qua merui culpa fieri tibi vilis, Achille?
By-what did-I-deserve fault to-become to-you cheap, Achilles?
Quo levis a nobis tam cito fugit amor?
Whither fickle from us so quickly flees love?
An miseros tristis fortuna tenaciter urget,
Or-whether the-wretched grim fortune tenaciously presses,
nec venit inceptis mollior hora malis?
nor comes to-begun a-milder hour evils?
Diruta Marte tuo Lyrnesia moenia vidi —
Destroyed by-Mars your the-Lyrnesian walls I-saw
et fueram patriae pars ego magna meae;
and I-had-been of-my-fatherland a-part I great my;
vidi consortes pariter generisque necisque
I-saw sharers equally both-of-birth and-of-death
tres cecidisse — tribus, quae mihi, mater erat;
three to-have-fallen to-three, who to-me, mother was;
vidi, quantus erat, fusum tellure cruenta
I-saw, how-great he-was, outstretched on-the-earth bloody
pectora iactantem sanguinolenta virum.
breast tossing blood-stained my-husband.
Tot tamen amissis te conpensavimus unum;
So-many still lost you we-have-set-against alone;

tu dominus, tu vir, tu mihi frater eras.
you master, you husband, you to-me brother were.
Tu mihi, iuratus per numina matris aquosae,
You to-me, sworn by the-divinity of-your-mother watery,
utile dicebas ipse fuisse capi —
useful said yourself to-have-been to-be-captured
scilicet ut, quamvis veniam dotata, repellas
doubtless that, although I-come dowered, you-may-repel
et mecum fugias quae tibi dantur opes!
and with-me you-may-flee which to-you are-given riches!
Quin etiam fama est, cum crastina fulserit Eos,
Nay even report is, when tomorrow's shall-have-shone Eos,
te dare nubiferis lintea velle Notis.
you to-give to-cloud-bringing your-sails to-wish South-Winds.
Quod scelus ut pavidas miserae mihi contigit aures,
Which crime when the-timid wretched my touched ears,
sanguinis atque animi pectus inane fuit.
of-blood and of-spirit my-breast empty was.
Ibis et — o miseram! — cui me, violente, relinquis?
You-will-go and O wretched-me! to-whom me, violent-one, do-you-leave?
Quis mihi desertae mite levamen erit?
Who to-me deserted gentle solace will-be?
Devorer ante, precor, subito telluris hiatu
May-I-be-swallowed first, I-pray, by-a-sudden of-the-earth gaping
aut rutilo missi fulminis igne cremer,
or by-the-red of-a-sent thunderbolt fire may-I-be-burned,
quam sine me Phthiis canescant aequora remis,
than without me with-Phthian grow-white the-seas oars,
et videam puppes ire relicta tuas!
and may-I-see ships go left-behind your!

Si tibi iam reditusque placent patriique Penates,
If to-you now both-return please and-your-ancestral Penates,
non ego sum classi sarcina magna tuae.
not I am to-the-fleet a-burden great your.
Victorem captiva sequar, non nupta maritum;
The-victor captive I-will-follow, not married the-husband;
est mihi, quae lanas molliat, apta manus.
there-is to-me, which wool to-soften, fit a-hand.
Inter Achaeiadas longe pulcherrima matres
Among the-Achaean by-far most-beautiful mothers
in thalamos coniunx ibit eatque tuos,
into chamber a-wife will-go and-let-her-go your,
digna nurus socero, Iovis Aeginaeque nepote,
a-worthy daughter-in-law of-the-father-in-law, of-Jupiter and-of-Aegina the-grandson,
cuique senex Nereus prosocer esse velit.
and-to-whom old Nereus grandfather-in-law to-be would-wish.
Nos humiles famulaeque tuae data pensa trahemus,
We humble and-maidservants your the-allotted tasks will-spin,
et minuent plenos stamina nostra colos.
and will-diminish full threads our distaffs.
Exagitet ne me tantum tua, deprecor, uxor —
Let-her-harass not me only your, I-pray, wife
quae mihi nescio quo non erit aequa modo —
who to-me in-I-know-not what not will-be fair way
neve meos coram scindi patiare capillos
nor my in-your-presence to-be-torn may-you-allow hair
et leviter dicas: 'haec quoque nostra fuit.'
and lightly may-you-say: 'this-one too ours was.'
Vel patiare licet, dum ne contempta relinquar —
Or you-may-allow it-is-allowed, provided not despised I-be-left

hic mihi vae! miserae concutit ossa metus.
this to-me alas! wretched shakes my-bones fear.
Quid tamen expectas? Agamemnona paenitet irae,
What still do-you-await? Agamemnon repents of-his-anger,
et iacet ante tuos Graecia maesta pedes.
and lies before your Greece sad feet.
Vince animos iramque tuam, qui cetera vincis!
Conquer spirit and-anger your, who the-rest conquer!
Quid lacerat Danaas inpiger Hector opes?
Why tears the-Danaan tireless Hector resources?
Arma cape, Aeacide, sed me tamen ante recepta,
Arms take, descendant-of-Aeacus, but with-me still before received,
et preme turbatos Marte favente viros!
and press the-disordered with-Mars favoring men!
Propter me mota est, propter me desinat ira,
On-account-of me stirred it-was, on-account-of me let-it-cease anger,
simque ego tristitiae causa modusque tuae.
and-may-be I of-gloom the-cause and-limit your.
Nec tibi turpe puta precibus succumbere nostris;
Nor to-you shameful think to-prayers to-yield our;
coniugis Oenides versus in arma prece est.
by-his-wife's the-son-of-Oeneus turned to arms by-prayer was.
Res audita mihi, nota est tibi. fratribus orba
The-thing heard to-me, known is to-you. of-brothers bereft
devovit nati spemque caputque parens.
cursed of-her-son both-the-hope and-life the-parent.
Bellum erat; ille ferox positis secessit ab armis
War there-was; he fierce laid-down withdrew from arms
et patriae rigida mente negavit opem.
and to-his-fatherland with-rigid mind refused help.

Sola virum coniunx flexit. felicior illa!
Alone the-man his-wife bent. more-fortunate she!

At mea pro nullo pondere verba cadunt.
But my for no weight words fall.

Nec tamen indignor nec me pro coniuge gessi
Nor still am-I-indignant nor myself as wife conducted

saepius in domini serva vocata torum.
more-often to of-my-master a-slave called bed.

Me quaedam, memini, dominam captiva vocabat.
Me a-certain-woman, I-remember, mistress a-captive called.

'Servitio,' dixi, 'nominis addis onus.'
'To-slavery,' I-said, 'of-a-name you-add a-burden.'

Per tamen ossa viri subito male tecta sepulcro,
By still the-bones of-my-husband in-a-hasty badly covered tomb,

semper iudiciis ossa verenda meis;
always in-the-judgments bones to-be-revered my;

perque trium fortes animas, mea numina, fratrum,
and-by of-three the-brave souls, my divine-powers, of-brothers,

qui bene pro patria cum patriaque iacent;
who well for fatherland with and-fatherland lie;

perque tuum nostrumque caput, quae iunximus una,
and-by your and-our head, which we-joined together,

perque tuos enses, cognita tela meis —
and-by your swords, known weapons to-my-people

nulla Mycenaeum sociasse cubilia mecum
no Mycenaean to-have-shared bed with-me

iuro; fallentem deseruisse velis!
I-swear; deceiving-me to-have-deserted may-you-wish!

Si tibi nunc dicam: 'fortissime, tu quoque iura
If to-you now I-should-say: 'bravest, you too swear

nulla tibi sine me gaudia facta!' neges.
no to-you without me joys made!" you-would-deny.

At Danai maerere putant — tibi plectra moventur,
But the-Danaans to-mourn think for-you quills are-plucked,

te tenet in tepido mollis amica sinu!
you holds in a-warm soft girlfriend lap!

Et quisquam quaerit, quare pugnare recuses?
And anyone asks, why to-fight you-refuse?

Pugna nocet, citharae noxque Venusque iuvant.
Fighting harms, lyres and-night and-Venus delight.

Tutius est iacuisse toro, tenuisse puellam,
Safer it-is to-have-lain on-a-couch, to-have-held a-girl,

Threiciam digitis increpuisse lyram,
the-Thracian with-fingers to-have-strummed lyre,

quam manibus clipeos et acutae cuspidis hastam,
than with-hands shields and of-sharp point the-spear,

et galeam pressa sustinuisse coma.
and the-helmet with-pressed to-have-borne hair.

Sed tibi pro tutis insignia facta placebant,
But to-you over safe-things distinguished deeds pleased,

partaque bellando gloria dulcis erat.
and-won by-warring glory sweet was.

An tantum dum me caperes, fera bella probabas,
Or-whether only while me you-took, fierce wars did-you-approve,

cumque mea patria laus tua victa iacet?
and-with my fatherland praise your conquered lies?

Di melius! validoque, precor, vibrata lacerto
The-gods better! and-by-strong, I-pray, hurled arm

transeat Hectoreum Pelias hasta latus!
may-pass-through Hector's the-Pelian spear side!

Mittite me, Danai! dominum legata rogabo
Send me, Danaans! my-master as-envoy I-will-ask
multaque mandatis oscula mixta feram.
and-many with-messages kisses mixed I-will-carry.
Plus ego quam Phoenix, plus quam facundus Ulixes,
More I than Phoenix, more than eloquent Ulysses,
plus ego quam Teucri, credite, frater agam.
more I than of-Teucer, believe-me, the-brother will-do.
Est aliquid, collum solitis tetigisse lacertis,
It-is something, the-neck with-accustomed to-have-touched arms,
praesentisque oculos admonuisse sinu.
and-of-one-present the-eyes to-have-reminded with-the-bosom.
Sis licet inmitis matrisque ferocior undis,
You-be though harsh and-than-your-mother's fiercer waves,
ut taceam, lacrimis conminuere meis.
though I-be-silent, by-tears you-will-be-broken my.
Nunc quoque — sic omnes Peleus pater inpleat annos,
Now too so all Peleus your-father may-fill years,
sic eat auspiciis Pyrrhus ad arma tuis! —
so may-go with-auspices Pyrrhus to arms your!
respice sollicitam Briseida, fortis Achille,
look-back-on anxious Briseis, brave Achilles,
nec miseram lenta ferreus ure mora!
nor wretched with-slow iron-hearted burn delay!
Aut, si versus amor tuus est in taedia nostri,
Or, if turned love your is to weariness of-me,
quam sine te cogis vivere, coge mori!
whom without you you-compel to-live, compel to-die!
Utque facis, coges. abiit corpusque colorque;
And-as you-do, you-will-compel. has-gone both-body and-color;

sustinet hoc animae spes tamen una tui.
sustains this of-the-life hope still one of-you.
Qua si destituor, repetam fratresque virumque —
Which if I-am-forsaken-by, I-will-seek both-brothers and-husband
nec tibi magnificum femina iussa mori.
nor for-you magnificent a-woman ordered to-die.
Cur autem iubeas? stricto pete corpora ferro;
Why moreover would-you-order? with-drawn seek my-body sword;
est mihi qui fosso pectore sanguis eat.
there-is to-me which from-a-pierced breast blood may-go.
Me petat ille tuus, qui, si dea passa fuisset,
Me may-seek that your, which, if the-goddess allowed had,
ensis in Atridae pectus iturus erat!
sword into of-the-son-of-Atreus the-breast about-to-go was!
A, potius serves nostram, tua munera, vitam!
Ah, rather may-you-save our, your gifts, life!
Quod dederas hosti victor, amica rogo.
What you-had-given to-the-enemy as-victor, as-your-love I-ask.
Perdere quos melius possis, Neptunia praebent
To-destroy whom better you-may, Neptunian offer
Pergama; materiam caedis ab hoste pete.
Pergamum; material for-slaughter from the-enemy seek.
Me modo, sive paras inpellere remige classem,
Me only, whether you-prepare to-drive with-oarsmen the-fleet,
sive manes, domini iure venire iube!
or you-remain, by-a-master's right to-come bid!

Phaedra Hippolyto

IV · PHAEDRA TO HIPPOLYTUS

Phaedra confesses to her stepson that she loves him: Love has ordered her to write what shame forbids her to say. She praises his hunting and his plain beauty, and recalls the fated loves of her house, Europa, her mother Pasiphae, and her sister Ariadne. Theseus is away with Pirithous and has wronged them both. Their kinship will cover their meetings, and she offers him her dowry, Crete, if he will yield.

Quam nisi tu dederis, caritura est ipsa, salutem
Which unless you shall-have-given, about-to-lack is she-herself, greeting
mittit Amazonio Cressa puella viro.
sends to-the-Amazonian the-Cretan girl man.
Perlege, quodcumque est — quid epistula lecta nocebit?
Read-through, whatever it-is what a-letter read will-harm?
Te quoque in hac aliquid quod iuvet esse potest;
You too in this something which may-please to-be can;
his arcana notis terra pelagoque feruntur.
by-these secret marks over-land and-sea are-borne.
Inspicit acceptas hostis ab hoste notas.
Inspects received an-enemy from an-enemy marks.
Ter tecum conata loqui ter inutilis haesit
Three-times with-you having-tried to-speak three-times useless stuck
lingua, ter in primo destitit ore sonus.
my-tongue, three-times at the-first failed lips the-sound.
Qua licet et sequitur, pudor est miscendus amori;
As-far-as it-is-allowed and follows, shame is to-be-mingled with-love;
dicere quae puduit, scribere iussit amor.
to-say what shamed, to-write bade love.
Quidquid Amor iussit, non est contemnere tutum;
Whatever Love has-bidden, not is to-scorn safe;

regnat et in dominos ius habet ille deos.
he-reigns and over the-ruling right has he gods.
Ille mihi primo dubitanti scribere dixit:
He to-me at-first hesitating to-write said:
'Scribe! dabit victas ferreus ille manus.'
'Write! will-give conquered iron-hearted-one that hands.'
Adsit et, ut nostras avido fovet igne medullas,
May-he-be-present and, as our with-greedy warms fire marrow,
figat sic animos in mea vota tuos!
may-he-fix so mind on my wishes your!
Non ego nequitia socialia foedera rumpam;
Not I by-wickedness marriage bonds will-break;
fama — velim quaeras — crimine nostra vacat.
reputation I-would-wish you-should-ask of-crime our is-free.
Venit amor gravius, quo serius — urimur intus;
Comes love more-heavily, by-how-much later we-burn within;
urimur, et caecum pectora vulnus habent.
we-burn, and blind the-breast a-wound has.
Scilicet ut teneros laedunt iuga prima iuvencos,
Doubtless as tender hurt the-yokes first bullocks,
frenaque vix patitur de grege captus equus,
and-the-reins hardly suffers from the-herd caught a-horse,
sic male vixque subit primos rude pectus amores,
so badly and-hardly receives its-first a-raw breast loves,
sarcinaque haec animo non sedet apta meo.
and-burden this to-mind not sits fitting my.
Ars fit, ubi a teneris crimen condiscitur annis;
An-art it-becomes, when from tender a-fault is-learned years;
quae venit exacto tempore, peius amat.
she-who comes with-spent time, worse loves.

Tu nova servatae carpes libamina famae,
You new of-preserved will-pluck first-fruits fame,
et pariter nostrum fiet uterque nocens.
and equally of-us will-become each guilty.
Est aliquid, plenis pomaria carpere ramis,
It-is something, with-full orchards to-pluck branches,
et tenui primam delegere ungue rosam.
and with-slender the-first to-pick nail rose.
Si tamen ille prior, quo me sine crimine gessi,
If still that former, in-which myself without crime I-bore,
candor ab insolita labe notandus erat,
whiteness by unaccustomed a-stain to-be-marked was,
at bene successit, digno quod adurimur igni;
but well it-has-turned-out, by-a-worthy that I-am-scorched fire;
peius adulterio turpis adulter obest.
worse than-adultery a-base adulterer harms.
Si mihi concedat Iuno fratremque virumque,
If to-me should-yield Juno both-brother and-husband,
Hippolytum videor praepositura Iovi!
Hippolytus I-seem about-to-prefer to-Jupiter!
Iam quoque — vix credes — ignotas mutor in artes;
Now too hardly you-will-believe to-unknown I-am-changed into arts;
est mihi per saevas impetus ire feras.
there-is to-me through savage an-impulse to-go wild-beasts.
Iam mihi prima dea est arcu praesignis adunco
Now to-me the-first goddess is by-bow distinguished curved
Delia; iudicium subsequor ipsa tuum.
the-Delian; the-judgment I-follow myself your.
In nemus ire libet pressisque in retia cervis
Into the-grove to-go it-pleases and-driven into nets stags

hortari celeris per iuga summa canes,
to-urge swift along ridges the-highest dogs,
aut tremulum excusso iaculum vibrare lacerto,
or quivering with-shaken-out the-javelin to-brandish arm,
aut in graminea ponere corpus humo.
or on grassy to-lay my-body ground.
Saepe iuvat versare leves in pulvere currus
Often it-delights to-turn light in the-dust chariots
torquentem frenis ora fugacis equi;
twisting with-reins the-mouth of-the-fleeing horse;
nunc feror, ut Bacchi furiis Eleleides actae,
now I-am-borne, as of-Bacchus by-the-frenzies Bacchants driven,
quaeque sub Idaeo tympana colle movent,
and-those-who beneath the-Idaean drums hill shake,
aut quas semideae Dryades Faunique bicornes
or those-whom half-goddess Dryads and-Fauns two-horned
numine contactas attonuere suo.
by-divine-power touched have-thunderstruck their-own.
Namque mihi referunt, cum se furor ille remisit,
For to-me they-report, when itself frenzy that has-relaxed,
omnia; me tacitam conscius urit amor.
everything; me silent the-knowing burns love.
Forsitan hunc generis fato reddamus amorem,
Perhaps this of-our-race to-the-fate we-should-render love,
et Venus ex tota gente tributa petat.
and Venus from the-whole family tribute may-seek.
Iuppiter Europen — prima est ea gentis origo —
Jupiter Europa first is that of-the-family the-origin
dilexit, tauro dissimulante deum.
loved, with-a-bull disguising the-god.

Pasiphae mater, decepto subdita tauro,
Pasiphae my-mother, to-the-deceived submitted bull,
enixa est utero crimen onusque suo.
brought-forth has from-the-womb her-crime and-burden her-own.
Perfidus Aegides, ducentia fila secutus,
Treacherous the-son-of-Aegeus, guiding the-threads following,
curva meae fugit tecta sororis ope.
the-curved of-my fled house sister by-the-help.
En, ego nunc, ne forte parum Minoia credar,
Lo, I now, lest perhaps too-little a-daughter-of-Minos I-be-believed,
in socias leges ultima gentis eo!
into allied laws the-last of-my-family go!
Hoc quoque fatale est: placuit domus una duabus;
This too fated is: pleased house one to-two;
me tua forma capit, capta parente soror.
me your beauty captures, was-captured by-your-father my-sister.
Thesides Theseusque duas rapuere sorores —
The-son-of-Theseus and-Theseus two have-snatched sisters
ponite de nostra bina tropaea domo!
set-up from our two trophies house!
Tempore quo nobis inita est Cerealis Eleusin,
At-the-time when by-us visited was Ceres' Eleusis,
Gnosia me vellem detinuisset humus!
Cnossian me I-wish had-detained ground!
Tunc mihi praecipue, nec non tamen ante, placebas;
Then to-me especially, nor not still before, you-pleased;
acer in extremis ossibus haesit amor.
keen in the-outermost bones stuck love.
Candida vestis erat, praecincti flore capilli,
White your-robe was, bound with-flowers your-hair,

flava verecundus tinxerat ora rubor,
blond modest had-tinged your-face a-blush,
quemque vocant aliae vultum rigidumque trucemque,
and-which call other-women a-face both-stiff and-fierce,
pro rigido Phaedra iudice fortis erat.
for stiff Phaedra being-judge strong was.
Sint procul a nobis iuvenes ut femina compti! —
Let-them-be far from us young-men like a-woman adorned!
fine coli modico forma virilis amat.
in-limit to-be-cared-for moderate the-form manly loves.
Te tuus iste rigor positique sine arte capilli
You your that stiffness and-laid without art hair
et levis egregio pulvis in ore decet.
and light outstanding dust on face becomes.
Sive ferocis equi luctantia colla recurvas,
Whether of-a-fierce horse the-struggling neck you-bend-back,
exiguo flexos miror in orbe pedes;
a-small turned I-admire in circle feet;
seu lentum valido torques hastile lacerto,
or tough with-strong you-whirl the-spear arm,
ora ferox in se versa lacertus habet,
eyes fierce to itself turned the-arm has,
sive tenes lato venabula cornea ferro.
or you-hold broad hunting-spears of-cornel with-iron.
Denique nostra iuvat lumina, quidquid agis.
In-short our it-delights eyes, whatever you-do.
Tu modo duritiam silvis depone iugosis;
You only your-hardness in-forests lay-aside mountainous;
non sum militia digna perire tua.
not I-am by-the-warfare worthy to-perish your.

Quid iuvat incinctae studia exercere Dianae,
What does-it-help girded the-pursuits to-practice of-Diana,
et Veneri numeros eripuisse suos?
and from-Venus dues to-have-snatched her-own?
Quod caret alterna requie, durabile non est;
What lacks alternate rest, lasting not is;
haec reparat vires fessaque membra novat.
this restores strength and-weary limbs renews.
Arcus — et arma tuae tibi sunt imitanda Dianae —
The-bow and arms of-your to-you are to-be-imitated Diana
si numquam cesses tendere, mollis erit.
if never you-cease to-bend, slack it-will-be.
Clarus erat silvis Cephalus, multaeque per herbas
Famous was in-the-forests Cephalus, and-many through the-grass
conciderant illo percutiente ferae;
had-fallen with-him striking wild-beasts;
nec tamen Aurorae male se praebebat amandum.
nor still to-Aurora badly himself offered to-be-loved.
Ibat ad hunc sapiens a sene diva viro.
Went to him wise from her-old goddess husband.
Saepe sub ilicibus Venerem Cinyraque creatum
Often under holm-oaks Venus and-of-Cinyras the-son
sustinuit positos quaelibet herba duos.
bore laid any grass two.
Arsit et Oenides in Maenalia Atalanta;
Burned also the-son-of-Oeneus for the-Maenalian Atalanta;
illa ferae spolium pignus amoris habet.
she of-the-beast the-spoil as-a-pledge of-love has.
Nos quoque iam primum turba numeremur in ista!
We too now first throng may-be-counted in that!

Si Venerem tollas, rustica silva tua est.
If Venus you-remove, rustic forest your is.
Ipsa comes veniam, nec me latebrosa movebunt
Myself as-companion I-will-come, nor me full-of-hiding-places will-move
saxa neque obliquo dente timendus aper.
rocks nor with-slanting tooth to-be-feared the-boar.
Aequora bina suis obpugnant fluctibus isthmon,
Seas two with-their-own assail waves the-isthmus,
et tenuis tellus audit utrumque mare.
and slender the-land hears each sea.
Hic tecum Troezena colam, Pittheia regna;
Here with-you Troezen I-will-inhabit, of-Pittheus the-realm;
iam nunc est patria gratior illa mea.
already now is than-fatherland more-pleasing that my.
Tempore abest aberitque diu Neptunius heros;
For-a-time is-absent and-will-be-absent long the-Neptunian hero;
illum Pirithoi detinet ora sui.
him of-Pirithous detains the-shore his-own.
Praeposuit Theseus — nisi si manifesta negamus —
Has-preferred Theseus unless if evident-things we-deny
Pirithoum Phaedrae Pirithoumque tibi.
Pirithous to-Phaedra and-Pirithous to-you.
Sola nec haec ad nos iniuria venit ab illo;
Alone nor this to us injury has-come from him;
in magnis laesi rebus uterque sumus.
in great wronged things each are-we.
Ossa mei fratris clava perfracta trinodi
The-bones of-my brother with-a-club broken three-knotted
sparsit humi; soror est praeda relicta feris.
he-scattered on-the-ground; my-sister is as-prey left to-beasts.

Prima securigeras inter virtute puellas
First the-axe-bearing among in-valor girls
te peperit, nati digna vigore parens;
you bore, of-her-son worthy in-vigor parent;
si quaeras, ubi sit — Theseus latus ense peregit,
if you-should-ask, where she-is Theseus her-side with-the-sword pierced,
nec tanto mater pignore tuta fuit.
nor by-so-great your-mother a-pledge safe was.
At ne nupta quidem taedaque accepta iugali —
But not wedded even and-with-a-torch received nuptial
cur, nisi ne caperes regna paterna nothus?
why, except lest you-should-take the-realm paternal bastard?
Addidit et fratres ex me tibi, quos tamen omnis
He-added also brothers from me to-you, whom still all
non ego tollendi causa, sed ille fuit.
not I to-be-raised the-cause, but he was.
O utinam nocitura tibi, pulcherrime rerum,
O would-that about-to-harm to-you, most-beautiful of-things,
in medio nisu viscera rupta forent!
in the-middle-of the-labor my-womb burst had-been!
I nunc, sic meriti lectum reverere parentis —
Go now, so of-a-deserving the-bed revere father
quem fugit et factis abdicat ipse suis!
which he-flees and by-deeds disowns himself his-own!
Nec, quia privigno videar coitura noverca,
Nor, because with-a-stepson I-seem about-to-unite a-stepmother,
terruerint animos nomina vana tuos.
should-have-terrified mind names empty your.
Ista vetus pietas, aevo moritura futuro,
That old piety, by-age about-to-die future,

rustica Saturno regna tenente fuit.
rustic with-Saturn kingdoms holding was.

Iuppiter esse pium statuit, quodcumque iuvaret,
Jupiter to-be pious decreed, whatever pleased,

et fas omne facit fratre marita soror.
and lawful all makes with-her-brother married a-sister.

Illa coit firma generis iunctura catena,
That is-joined by-a-firm of-kinship bond chain,

inposuit nodos cui Venus ipsa suos.
placed knots on-which Venus herself her-own.

Nec labor est celare — licet; pete munus ab illa;
Nor toil is to-conceal it-is-allowed; seek the-favor from her;

cognato poterit nomine culpa tegi.
by-a-kindred will-be-able name the-fault to-be-covered.

Viderit amplexos aliquis, laudabimur ambo;
Should-see embraced someone, we-shall-be-praised both;

dicar privigno fida noverca meo.
I-shall-be-called to-stepson a-faithful stepmother my.

Non tibi per tenebras duri reseranda mariti
Not by-you through darkness of-a-harsh to-be-unbarred husband

ianua, non custos decipiendus erit;
the-door, not the-guard to-be-deceived will-be;

ut tenuit domus una duos, domus una tenebit;
as held house one two, house one will-hold;

oscula aperta dabas, oscula aperta dabis;
kisses open you-gave, kisses open you-will-give;

tutus eris mecum laudemque merebere culpa,
safe you-will-be with-me and-praise you-will-deserve by-fault,

tu licet in lecto conspiciare meo.
you though in bed be-seen my.

Tolle moras tantum properataque foedera iunge —
Take-away delays only and-hastened bonds join
qui mihi nunc saevit, sic tibi parcat Amor!
who on-me now rages, so on-you may-spare Love!
Non ego dedignor supplex humilisque precari.
Not I disdain suppliant and-humble to-pray.
Heu! ubi nunc fastus altaque verba? iacent!
Alas! where now pride and-lofty words? lie!
Et pugnare diu nec me submittere culpae
Both to-fight long nor myself to-submit to-fault
certa fui — certi siquid haberet amor;
resolved I-was of-firmness if-anything had love;
victa precor genibusque tuis regalia tendo
conquered I-pray and-to-knees your royal I-stretch
bracchia! quid deceat, non videt ullus amans.
arms! what befits, not sees any lover.
Depuduit, profugusque pudor sua signa reliquit.
It-has-ceased-to-shame, and-fled shame its-own standards has-left.
Da veniam fassae duraque corda doma!
Give pardon to-one-confessing and-hard heart tame!
Quod mihi sit genitor, qui possidet aequora, Minos,
That to-me is father, who possesses the-seas, Minos,
quod veniant proavi fulmina torta manu,
that come of-my-great-grandfather the-thunderbolts hurled from-the-hand,
quod sit avus radiis frontem vallatus acutis,
that is my-grandfather with-rays the-forehead ringed sharp,
purpureo tepidum qui movet axe diem —
with-purple warm who moves axle day
nobilitas sub amore iacet! miserere priorum
nobility under love lies! pity my-ancestors

et, mihi si non vis parcere, parce meis!
and, to-me if not you-wish to-spare, spare mine!
Est mihi dotalis tellus Iovis insula, Crete —
There-is to-me as-dowry the-land of-Jupiter the-island, Crete
serviat Hippolyto regia tota meo!
let-serve to-Hippolytus the-palace whole my!
Flecte, ferox, animos! potuit corrumpere taurum
Bend, fierce-one, your-mind! could to-seduce a-bull
mater; eris tauro saevior ipse truci?
my-mother; will-you-be than-a-bull more-savage yourself grim?
Per Venerem, parcas, oro, quae plurima mecum est!
By Venus, spare, I-pray, who most with-me is!
Sic numquam, quae te spernere possit, ames;
So never, one-who you to-spurn could, may-you-love;
sic tibi secretis agilis dea saltibus adsit,
so to-you in-secret nimble the-goddess glades may-be-present,
silvaque perdendas praebeat alta feras;
and-the-forest to-be-destroyed may-offer lofty beasts;
sic faveant Satyri montanaque numina Panes,
so may-favor the-Satyrs and-mountain divinities the-Pans,
et cadat adversa cuspide fossus aper;
and may-fall by-the-opposing point pierced the-boar;
sic tibi dent Nymphae, quamvis odisse puellas
so to-you may-give the-Nymphs, although to-hate girls
diceris, arentem quae levet unda sitim!
you-are-said, parching which may-relieve water thirst!
Addimus his precibus lacrimas quoque; verba precantis
We-add to-these prayers tears too; the-words of-one-praying
perlegis et lacrimas finge videre meas!
you-read-through and tears imagine to-see my!

Oenone Paridi

V · OENONE TO PARIS

The nymph Oenone writes to Paris, who has brought home a Spartan bride. She loved him on Ida when he was a herdsman, and their names are still carved on the beech trees. She recalls the day his ship left and the day she saw it return with Helen at his side, and Cassandra's prophecy. Helen, carried off once before by Theseus, will betray Paris as she betrayed Menelaus; Oenone, skilled in herbs, cannot heal her own wound.

Perlegis? an coniunx prohibet nova? perlege — non est
Do-you-read? or a-wife forbids new? read-on not is
ista Mycenaea littera facta manu!
that by-a-Mycenaean letter made hand!
Pegasis Oenone, Phrygiis celeberrima silvis,
The-Pegasid Oenone, in-the-Phrygian most-famous forests,
laesa queror de te, si sinis, ipsa meo.
wronged I-complain about you, if you-allow, myself my.
Quis deus opposuit nostris sua numina votis?
What god has-opposed to-our his-own divinity prayers?
Ne tua permaneam, quod mihi crimen obest?
That-not yours I-should-remain, what to-me crime stands-in-the-way?
Leniter, ex merito quidquid patiare, ferendum est;
Gently, from desert whatever you-suffer, to-be-borne is;
quae venit indigno poena, dolenda venit.
which comes to-the-undeserving punishment, to-be-grieved comes.
Nondum tantus eras, cum te contenta marito
Not-yet so-great you-were, when with-you content as-husband
edita de magno flumine nympha fui.
born from a-great river a-nymph I-was.

Qui nunc Priamides — absit reverentia vero! —
Who now son-of-Priam be-absent respect from-truth!
servus eras; servo nubere nympha tuli!
a-slave you-were; to-a-slave to-marry a-nymph I-endured!
Saepe greges inter requievimus arbore tecti,
Often the-herds among we-rested by-a-tree covered,
mixtaque cum foliis praebuit herba torum;
and-mixed with leaves offered grass a-bed;
saepe super stramen faenoque iacentibus alto
often upon the-straw and-hay lying deep
defensa est humili cana pruina casa.
kept-off was by-the-humble white frost hut.
Quis tibi monstrabat saltus venatibus aptos,
Who to-you showed glades for-hunts suited,
et tegeret catulos qua fera rupe suos?
and might-shelter cubs where the-wild-beast in-rock its-own?
Retia saepe comes maculis distincta tetendi;
Nets often as-companion with-meshes marked I-stretched;
saepe citos egi per iuga longa canes.
often swift I-drove over ridges long dogs.
Incisae servant a te mea nomina fagi,
Carved keep by you my names the-beeches,
et legor Oenone falce notata tua,
and I-am-read Oenone with-the-knife marked your,
et quantum trunci, tantum mea nomina crescunt.
and as-much-as the-trunks, so-much my names grow.
Crescite et in titulos surgite recta meos!
Grow and into titles rise straight my!
Populе, vive, precor, quae consita margine ripae
Poplar, live, I-pray, which planted on-the-edge of-the-bank

hoc in rugoso cortice carmen habes:
this on wrinkled bark a-verse you-have:
cum Paris Oenone poterit spirare relicta,
when Paris with-Oenone will-be-able to-breathe deserted,
ad fontem Xanthi versa recurret aqua.
to the-spring of-Xanthus turned will-run-back the-water.
Xanthe, retro propera, versaeque recurrite lymphae!
Xanthus, backward hasten, and-turned run-back waters!
Sustinet Oenonen deseruisse Paris.
Endures Oenone to-have-deserted Paris.
Illa dies fatum miserae mihi dixit, ab illa
That day the-fate for-wretched me spoke, from that
pessima mutati coepit amoris hiemps,
the-worst of-changed began love winter,
qua Venus et Iuno sumptisque decentior armis
on-which Venus and Juno and-taken more-comely arms
venit in arbitrium nuda Minerva tuum.
came to judgment naked Minerva your.
Attoniti micuere sinus, gelidusque cucurrit,
Astounded throbbed my-breast, and-cold ran,
ut mihi narrasti, dura per ossa tremor.
as to-me you-told, hard through bones a-trembling.
Consului — neque enim modice terrebar — anusque
I-consulted nor indeed moderately was-I-frightened both-old-women
longaevosque senes. constitit esse nefas.
and-aged old-men. it-was-agreed to-be wickedness.
Caesa abies, sectaeque trabes, et classe parata
Felled the-fir, and-cut beams, and with-the-fleet prepared
caerula ceratas accipit unda rates.
the-blue waxed receives wave ships.

Flesti discedens — hoc saltim parce negare!
You-wept departing this at-least spare to-deny!
Miscuimus lacrimas maestus uterque suas;
We-mixed tears sad each his-own;
non sic adpositis vincitur vitibus ulmus,
not so with-placed-against is-bound vines the-elm,
ut tua sunt collo bracchia nexa meo.
as your are to-neck arms twined my.
A, quotiens, cum te vento quererere teneri,
Ah, how-often, when you by-wind complained to-be-held,
riserunt comites — ille secundus erat!
laughed your-companions it favorable was!
Oscula dimissae quotiens repetita dedisti!
Kisses of-the-dismissed how-often repeated you-gave!
Quam vix sustinuit dicere lingua 'vale'!
How hardly endured to-say tongue 'farewell'!
Aura levis rigido pendentia lintea malo
A-breeze light on-the-stiff hanging sails mast
suscitat, et remis eruta canet aqua.
rouses, and by-oars churned whitens the-water.
Prosequor infelix oculis abeuntia vela,
I-follow unhappy with-eyes departing the-sails,
qua licet, et lacrimis umet harena meis,
as-far-as it-is-allowed, and with-tears is-wet the-sand my,
utque celer venias, virides Nereidas oro —
and-that swift you-may-come, green the-Nereids I-pray
scilicet ut venias in mea damna celer!
doubtless that you-may-come to my ruin swift!
Votis ergo meis alii rediture redisti?
By-vows so my for-another about-to-return have-you-returned?

Ei mihi, pro dira paelice blanda fui!
Ah me, for a-dire rival coaxing I-was!
Adspicit inmensum moles nativa profundum —
Looks-out-on the-immense a-mass native deep
mons fuit; aequoreis illa resistit aquis.
a-mountain it-was; against-the-sea's it resists waters.
Hinc ego vela tuae cognovi prima carinae,
From-here I the-sails of-your recognized first keel,
et mihi per fluctus impetus ire fuit.
and to-me through the-waves an-impulse to-go was.
Dum moror, in summa fulsit mihi purpura prora —
While I-linger, on the-top shone to-me purple prow
pertimui; cultus non erat ille tuus.
I-was-terrified; the-dress not was that yours.
Fit propior terrasque cita ratis attigit aura;
It-becomes nearer and-the-lands swift the-ship touched by-breeze;
femineas vidi corde tremente genas.
feminine I-saw with-heart trembling cheeks.
Non satis id fuerat — quid enim furiosa morabar? —
Not enough that had-been why indeed raving did-I-linger?
haerebat gremio turpis amica tuo!
clung in-lap shameful girlfriend your!
Tunc vero rupique sinus et pectora planxi,
Then indeed both-I-tore my-bosom and breast beat,
et secui madidas ungue rigente genas,
and I-cut wet with-nail rigid cheeks,
inplevique sacram querulis ululatibus Iden
and-I-filled holy with-complaining howls Ida
illuc has lacrimas in mea saxa tuli.
thither these tears to my rocks I-carried.

Sic Helene doleat desertaque coniuge ploret,
So Helen may-grieve and-deserted by-her-husband may-she-wail,
quaeque prior nobis intulit, ipsa ferat!
and-what first on-us she-brought, herself may-she-bear!
Nunc tibi conveniunt, quae te per aperta sequantur
Now to-you suit, women-who you through open may-follow
aequora legitimos destituantque viros;
seas their-lawful and-may-desert husbands;
at cum pauper eras armentaque pastor agebas,
but when poor you-were and-herds a-shepherd you-drove,
nulla nisi Oenone pauperis uxor erat.
no-one except Oenone of-the-poor-man the-wife was.
Non ego miror opes, nec me tua regia tangit
Not I admire wealth, nor me your palace touches
nec de tot Priami dicar ut una nurus —
nor of so-many of-Priam may-I-be-called as one daughter-in-law
non tamen ut Priamus nymphae socer esse recuset,
not still that Priam of-a-nymph father-in-law to-be would-refuse,
aut Hecubae fuerim dissimulanda nurus;
or to-Hecuba I-would-have-been to-be-concealed a-daughter-in-law;
dignaque sum et cupio fieri matrona potentis;
and-worthy I-am and I-desire to-become the-matron of-a-powerful-one;
sunt mihi, quas possint sceptra decere, manus.
there-are to-me, which could the-scepter to-become, hands.
Nec me, faginea quod tecum fronde iacebam,
Nor me, on-beech because with-you leaves I-lay,
despice; purpureo sum magis apta toro.
despise; for-purple I-am more fitted couch.
Denique tutus amor meus est; tibi nulla parantur
In-short safe love my is; for-you no are-prepared

bella, nec ultrices advehit unda rates.
wars, nor avenging brings wave ships.
Tyndaris infestis fugitiva reposcitur armis;
The-daughter-of-Tyndareus by-hostile fugitive is-demanded-back arms;
hac venit in thalamos dote superba tuos.
with-this she-comes into chamber dowry proud your.
Quae si sit Danais reddenda, vel Hectora fratrem,
Which if she-be to-the-Danaans to-be-returned, either Hector your-brother,
vel cum Deiphobo Polydamanta roga;
or with Deiphobus Polydamas ask;
quid gravis Antenor, Priamus quid suadeat ipse,
what grave Antenor, Priam what may-advise himself,
consule, quis aetas longa magistra fuit!
consult, to-whom age long a-teacher has-been!
Turpe rudimentum, patriae praeponere raptam.
Shameful a-first-lesson, to-the-fatherland to-prefer a-stolen-woman.
Causa pudenda tua est; iusta vir arma movet.
The-cause shameful yours is; just her-husband arms moves.
Nec tibi, si sapias, fidam promitte Lacaenam,
Nor to-yourself, if you-are-wise, faithful promise the-Spartan-woman,
quae sit in amplexus tam cito versa tuos.
who has into embraces so quickly turned your.
Ut minor Atrides temerati foedera lecti
As the-younger son-of-Atreus of-the-violated the-bonds bed
clamat et externo laesus amore dolet,
cries and by-a-foreign wronged love grieves,
tu quoque clamabis. nulla reparabilis arte
you too will-cry. no reparable by-art
laesa pudicitia est; deperit illa semel.
wronged chastity is; it-perishes it once.

Ardet amore tui? sic et Menelaon amavit.
She-burns with-love of-you? so also Menelaus she-loved.
Nunc iacet in viduo credulus ille toro.
Now lies in widowed credulous he bed.
Felix Andromache, certo bene nupta marito!
Happy Andromache, to-a-sure well married husband!
Uxor ad exemplum fratris habenda fui;
A-wife after the-example of-your-brother to-be-held I-was;
tu levior foliis, tum cum sine pondere suci
you lighter than-leaves, then when without weight of-sap
mobilibus ventis arida facta volant;
by-mobile winds dry made they-fly;
et minus est in te quam summa pondus arista,
and less is in you than the-top weight of-the-ear,
quae levis adsiduis solibus usta riget.
which light by-constant suns scorched stiffens.
Hoc tua — nam recolo — quondam germana canebat,
This your for I-recall once sister sang,
sic mihi diffusis vaticinata comis:
so to-me with-spread prophesying hair:
'Quid facis, Oenone? quid harenae semina mandas?
'What do-you, Oenone? why to-the-sand seeds do-you-entrust?
Non profecturis litora bubus aras.
Not with-about-to-profit the-shores oxen you-plow.
Graia iuvenca venit, quae te patriamque domumque
A-Greek heifer comes, who you and-fatherland and-house
perdat! io prohibe! Graia iuvenca venit!
may-destroy! ho prevent! a-Greek heifer comes!
Dum licet, obscenam ponto demergite puppim!
While it-is-allowed, the-foul in-the-sea sink ship!

Heu! quantum Phrygii sanguinis illa vehit!'
Alas! how-much of-Phrygian blood it carries!'
Dixerat; in cursu famulae rapuere furentem;
She-had-spoken; in course the-maids snatched-away the-raving-one;
at mihi flaventes diriguere comae.
but on-me blond stiffened hair.
A, nimium miserae vates mihi vera fuisti —
Ah, too for-wretched a-prophet to-me true you-were
possidet, en, saltus illa iuvenca meos!
possesses, lo, glades that heifer my!
Sit facie quamvis insignis, adultera certe est;
Let-her-be in-face however distinguished, an-adulteress certainly she-is;
deseruit socios hospite capta deos.
she-deserted her-allied by-a-guest captured gods.
Illam de patria Theseus — nisi nomine fallor —
Her from fatherland Theseus unless in-name I-am-deceived
nescio quis Theseus abstulit ante sua.
I-know-not what Theseus carried-off before her-own.
A iuvene et cupido credatur reddita virgo?
By a-young-man and eager be-believed returned a-virgin?
Unde hoc conpererim tam bene, quaeris? amo.
Whence this have-I-learned so well, you-ask? I-love.
Vim licet appelles et culpam nomine veles;
Violence you-may call and fault by-name veil;
quae totiens rapta est, praebuit ipsa rapi.
she-who so-often carried-off has-been, offered herself to-be-carried-off.
At manet Oenone fallenti casta marito —
But remains Oenone to-the-deceiving chaste husband
et poteras falli legibus ipse tuis!
and you-could to-be-deceived by-the-laws yourself your-own!

Me Satyri celeres — silvis ego tecta latebam —
Me Satyrs swift in-the-forests I covered hid

quaesierunt rapido, turba proterva, pede
sought with-swift, a-throng wanton, foot

cornigerumque caput pinu praecinctus acuta
and-horned head with-pine girt sharp

Faunus in inmensis, qua tumet Ida, iugis.
Faunus on immense, where swells Ida, ridges.

Me fide conspicuus Troiae munitor amavit,
Me by-faith conspicuous of-Troy the-builder loved,

admisitque meas ad sua dona manus.
and-admitted my to his gifts hands.

Quaecumque herba potens ad opem radixque medendo
Whatever herb powerful for help and-root by-healing

utilis in toto nascitur orbe, mea est.
useful in the-whole is-born world, mine is.

Me miseram, quod amor non est medicabilis herbis!
Me wretched, that love not is curable by-herbs!

Deficior prudens artis ab arte mea.
I-am-failed skilled in-the-art by art my.

Quod nec graminibus tellus fecunda creandis
What neither for-grasses the-earth fruitful to-be-created

nec deus, auxilium tu mihi ferre potes.
nor a-god, help you to-me to-bring can.

Et potes, et merui — dignae miserere puellae!
And you-can, and I-have-deserved a-worthy pity girl!

Non ego cum Danais arma cruenta fero —
Not I with the-Danaans arms bloody bear

sed tua sum tecumque fui puerilibus annis
but yours I-am and-with-you I-was in-boyish years

et tua, quod superest temporis, esse precor!
and yours, what remains of-time, to-be I-pray!

Hypsipyle Iasoni

VI · HYPSIPYLE TO JASON

Hypsipyle of Lemnos hears from rumor, not from Jason's letter, that he has yoked the bulls, sown the dragon's teeth, and taken the fleece. A Thessalian guest also tells her of the Colchian sorceress who has his bed. She recalls their marriage and his promise when he sailed, and describes Medea's spells over the dead. She has borne him twins, and she prays that Medea, like her, be left without husband and children, and wander in exile.

Litora Thessaliae reduci tetigisse carina
The-shores of-Thessaly with-returned to-have-touched keel
diceris auratae vellere dives ovis.
you-are-said of-the-golden with-the-fleece rich sheep.
Gratulor incolumi, quantum sinis; hoc tamen ipsum
I-rejoice for-the-safe, as-much-as you-allow; this still itself
debueram scripto certior esse tuo.
I-ought by-writing more-certain to-be your.
Nam ne pacta tibi praeter mea regna redires,
For lest promised to-you past my realms you-should-return,
cum cuperes, ventos non habuisse potes;
when you-wished, winds not to-have-had you-can;
quamlibet adverso signetur epistula vento.
however-much with-adverse may-be-sealed a-letter wind.
Hypsipyle missa digna salute fui.
Hypsipyle sent worthy greeting I-was.
Cur mihi fama prior de te quam littera venit:
Why to-me rumor earlier about you than letter came:

isse sacros Martis sub iuga panda boves,
to-have-gone the-sacred of-Mars under yokes curved oxen,
seminibus iactis segetes adolesse virorum
with-seeds thrown the-crops to-have-grown of-men
inque necem dextra non eguisse tua,
and-for slaughter right-hand not to-have-needed your,
pervigilem spolium pecudis servasse draconem,
the-ever-watchful the-spoil of-the-beast to-have-guarded dragon,
rapta tamen forti vellera fulva manu?
snatched still by-a-strong the-fleece tawny hand?
Haec ego si possem timide credentibus 'ista
These-things I if I-could to-the-timidly believing 'these-things
ipse mihi scripsit' dicere, quanta forem!
himself to-me wrote' to-say, how-great I-would-be!
Quid queror officium lenti cessasse mariti?
Why do-I-complain the-duty of-a-slow to-have-lapsed husband?
Obsequium, maneo si tua, grande tuli!
Indulgence, I-remain if yours, great I-have-won!
Barbara narratur venisse venefica tecum,
A-barbarian is-told to-have-come sorceress with-you,
in mihi promissi parte recepta tori.
into to-me of-the-promised share received of-the-bed.
Credula res amor est; utinam temeraria dicar
Credulous thing love is; would-that rash I-may-be-said
criminibus falsis insimulasse virum!
with-charges false to-have-accused husband!
Nuper ab Haemoniis hospes mihi Thessalus oris
Lately from Haemonian a-guest to-me Thessalian shores
venerat, et tactum vix bene limen erat,
he-had-come, and touched hardly well the-threshold was,

'Aesonides,' dixi, 'quid agit meus?' ille pudore
'Son-of-Aeson,' I-said, 'what does mine?' he with-shame
haesit in opposita lumina fixus humo.
stuck on facing eyes fixed ground.
Protinus exilui tunicisque a pectore ruptis
At-once I-leapt-out and-with-tunics from breast torn
'Vivit? an,' exclamo, 'me quoque fata vocant?'
'He-lives? or,' I-cry-out, 'me too the-fates call?'
'Vivit,' ait. timidum quod amat; iurare coegi.
'He-lives,' he-says. fearful-(is) what loves; to-swear I-compelled.
Vix mihi teste deo credita vita tua est.
Hardly by-me with-witness a-god believed life your was.
Utque animus rediit, tua facta requirere coepi.
And-as spirit returned, your deeds to-ask-about I-began.
Narrat aenipedes Martis arasse boves,
He-tells the-bronze-footed of-Mars to-have-plowed oxen,
vipereos dentes in humum pro semine iactos,
viperous teeth into the-ground for seed thrown,
et subito natos arma tulisse viros —
and suddenly born arms to-have-borne men
terrigenas populos civili Marte peremptos
the-earthborn peoples in-civil war destroyed
inplesse aetatis fata diurna suae.
to-have-fulfilled of-life the-fate of-one-day their-own.
Devictus serpens. iterum, si vivat Iason,
Conquered the-serpent. again, if lives Jason,
quaerimus; alternant spesque timorque fidem.
we-ask; alternate and-hope and-fear belief.
Singula dum narrat, studio cursuque loquendi
Each-thing while he-tells, with-zeal and-with-the-run of-speaking

detegit ingenio vulnera nostra suo.
he-uncovers by-nature wounds our his-own.
Heu! ubi pacta fides? ubi conubialia iura
Alas! where pledged faith? where marital rights
faxque sub arsuros dignior ire rogos?
and-the-torch beneath about-to-burn more-worthy to-go pyres?
Non ego sum furto tibi cognita; pronuba Iuno
Not I am by-stealth to-you known; bride's-attendant Juno
adfuit et sertis tempora vinctus Hymen.
was-present and with-garlands temples bound Hymen.
At mihi nec Iuno, nec Hymen, sed tristis Erinys
But for-me neither Juno, nor Hymen, but grim Erinys
praetulit infaustas sanguinolenta faces.
carried-before ill-omened bloody torches.
Quid mihi cum Minyis, quid cum Dodonide pinu?
What to-me with the-Minyans, what with the-Dodonian pine?
Quid tibi cum patria, navita Tiphy, mea?
What to-you with fatherland, sailor Tiphys, my?
Non erat hic aries villo spectabilis aureo,
Not was here a-ram for-fleece remarkable golden,
nec senis Aeetae regia Lemnos erat.
nor of-old Aeetes the-palace Lemnos was.
Certa fui primo — sed me mala fata trahebant —
Resolved I-was at-first but me evil fates were-dragging
hospita feminea pellere castra manu;
the-stranger's by-woman's to-drive-off camp hand;
Lemniadesque viros, nimium quoque, vincere norunt.
and-the-Lemnian-women men, too-much too, to-conquer know-how.
Milite tam forti causa tuenda fuit!
By-soldiery so brave the-cause to-be-defended was!

Urbe virum vidi, tectoque animoque recepi!
In-city the-man I-saw, and-with-roof and-with-heart I-received!
Hic tibi bisque aestas bisque cucurrit hiemps.
Here for-you and-twice summer and-twice ran winter.
Tertia messis erat, cum tu dare vela coactus
The-third harvest it-was, when you to-give sails forced
inplesti lacrimis talia verba tuis:
you-filled with-tears such words your-own:
'Abstrahor, Hypsipyle; sed dent modo fata recursus,
'I-am-torn-away, Hypsipyle; but may-give only the-fates returns,
vir tuus hinc abeo, vir tibi semper ero.
husband your from-here I-go-away, husband to-you always I-shall-be.
Quod tamen e nobis gravida celatur in alvo,
What still from us pregnant is-hidden in womb,
vivat, et eiusdem simus uterque parens!'
may-it-live, and of-the-same may-we-be each parent!'
Hactenus, et lacrimis in falsa cadentibus ora
Thus-far, and with-tears on false falling face
cetera te memini non potuisse loqui.
the-rest you I-remember not to-have-been-able to-speak.
Ultimus e sociis sacram conscendis in Argon.
Last of companions the-sacred you-board onto Argo.
Illa volat; ventus concava vela tenet;
She flies; the-wind hollow sails holds;
caerula propulsae subducitur unda carinae;
the-blue of-the-driven-forward is-drawn-away wave keel;
terra tibi, nobis adspiciuntur aquae.
land by-you, by-us are-looked-at waters.
In latus omne patens turris circumspicit undas;
To side every open a-tower looks-around-on waves;

huc feror, et lacrimis osque sinusque madent.
here I-am-borne, and with-tears and-face and-bosom are-wet.
Per lacrimas specto, cupidaeque faventia menti
Through tears I-look, and-to-the-eager favoring mind
longius adsueto lumina nostra vident.
farther than-usual eyes our see.
Adde preces castas inmixtaque vota timori —
Add prayers chaste and-mingled vows with-fear
nunc quoque te salvo persoluenda mihi.
now too with-you safe to-be-paid by-me.
Vota ego persolvam? votis Medea fruetur!
Vows I will-pay? with-vows Medea will-enjoy!
Cor dolet, atque ira mixtus abundat amor.
Heart aches, and with-anger mixed overflows love.
Dona feram templis, vivum quod Iasona perdo?
Gifts shall-I-bring to-temples, alive because Jason I-lose?
Hostia pro damnis concidat icta meis?
A-victim for losses is-to-fall struck my?
Non equidem secura fui semperque verebar,
Not for-my-part untroubled I-was and-always I-feared,
ne pater Argolica sumeret urbe nurum.
lest father from-an-Argive should-take city daughter-in-law.
Argolidas timui — nocuit mihi barbara paelex!
Argive-women I-feared harmed me a-barbarian mistress!
Non expectata vulnus ab hoste tuli.
Not expected wound from foe I-received.
Nec facie meritisque placet, sed carmina novit
Nor by-beauty and-by-merits she-pleases, but spells she-knows
diraque cantata pabula falce metit.
and-dread enchanted herbs with-a-sickle she-reaps.

Illa reluctantem cursu deducere lunam
She the-resisting from-course to-draw-down moon
nititur et tenebris abdere solis equos;
strives and in-darkness to-hide of-the-sun horses;
illa refrenat aquas obliquaque flumina sistit;
she reins-in waters and-winding rivers stops;
illa loco silvas vivaque saxa movet.
she from-place woods and-living rocks moves.
Per tumulos errat passis discincta capillis
Through tombs she-wanders with-loosened ungirt hair
certaque de tepidis colligit ossa rogis.
and-chosen from warm she-gathers bones pyres.
Devovet absentis simulacraque cerea figit,
She-curses the-absent and-images waxen pierces,
et miserum tenuis in iecur urget acus —
and wretched slender into liver drives needles
et quae nescierim melius. male quaeritur herbis
and what I-may-not-know better. wrongly is-sought by-herbs
moribus et forma conciliandus amor.
by-character and beauty to-be-won love.
Hanc potes amplecti thalamoque relictus in uno
Her can-you to-embrace and-the-bedroom left in one
inpavidus somno nocte silente frui?
unafraid sleep in-night silent to-enjoy?
Scilicet ut tauros, ita te iuga ferre coegit
Doubtless as bulls, so you yokes to-bear she-forced
quaque feros anguis, te quoque mulcet ope.
and-by-what fierce snakes, you too she-soothes means.
Adde, quod adscribi factis procerumque tuisque
Add, that to-be-ascribed to-deeds and-of-chiefs and-yours

se facit, et titulo coniugis uxor obest.
herself she-makes, and to-the-title of-husband the-wife is-in-the-way.
Atque aliquis Peliae de partibus acta venenis
And someone of-Pelias from parties the-deeds to-poisons
inputat et populum, qui sibi credat, habet:
credits and a-people, who him would-believe, has:
'Non haec Aesonides, sed Phasias Aeetine
'Not this the-son-of-Aeson, but the-Phasian daughter-of-Aeetes
aurea Phrixeae terga revellit ovis.'
the-golden of-Phrixus' back tore-off sheep.'
Non probat Alcimede mater tua — consule matrem —
Not approves Alcimede mother your consult mother
non pater, a gelido cui venit axe nurus.
not father, from frozen to-whom comes pole daughter-in-law.
Illa sibi a Tanai Scythiaeque paludibus udae
She for-herself from the-Tanais and-of-Scythia marshes wet
quaerat et a patria Phasidis usque virum!
let-her-seek and from the-fatherland of-Phasis even a-husband!
Mobilis Aesonide vernaque incertior aura,
Fickle son-of-Aeson and-than-spring more-uncertain breeze,
cur tua polliciti pondere verba carent?
why your of-a-promiser weight words lack?
Vir meus hinc ieras, vir non meus inde redisti.
Husband mine from-here you-had-gone, husband not mine thence you-have-returned.
Sim reducis coniunx, sicut euntis eram!
May-I-be of-the-returning wife, as of-the-going I-was!
Si te nobilitas generosaque nomina tangunt —
If you nobility and-noble names touch
en, ego Minoo nata Thoante feror!
behold, I from-Minoan born Thoas am-said!

Bacchus avus; Bacchi coniunx redimita corona
Bacchus grandfather; of-Bacchus the-wife crowned with-crown
praeradiat stellis signa minora suis.
outshines with-stars signs lesser her-own.
Dos tibi Lemnos erit, terra ingeniosa colenti;
Dowry for-you Lemnos will-be, a-land generous to-one-tilling;
me quoque dotalis inter habere potes.
me too dowry-goods among to-have you-can.
Nunc etiam peperi; gratare ambobus, Iason!
Now also I-have-given-birth; rejoice-with both, Jason!
Dulce mihi gravidae fecerat auctor onus.
Sweet for-me pregnant had-made the-author burden.
Felix in numero quoque sum prolemque gemellam,
Fortunate in number too I-am and-offspring twin,
pignora Lucina bina favente dedi.
pledges with-Lucina two favoring I-gave.
Si quaeris, cui sint similes, cognosceris illis.
If you-ask, whom they-are like, you-are-recognized in-them.
Fallere non norunt; cetera patris habent.
To-deceive not they-know; the-rest of-the-father they-have.
Legatos quos paene dedi pro matre ferendos;
As-envoys whom almost I-gave for mother to-be-carried;
sed tenuit coeptas saeva noverca vias.
but held-back begun cruel stepmother journeys.
Medeam timui: plus est Medea noverca;
Medea I-feared: more is Medea stepmother;
Medeae faciunt ad scelus omne manus.
Medea's are-fit for crime every hands.
Spargere quae fratris potuit lacerata per agros
To-scatter who of-brother could torn through fields

corpora, pignoribus parceret illa meis?
body, pledges would-spare she my?
Hanc, hanc, o demens Colchisque ablate venenis,
Her, her, O mad and-by-Colchian carried-off poisons,
diceris Hypsipyles praeposuisse toro!
you-are-said to-Hypsipyle's to-have-preferred bed!
Turpiter illa virum cognovit adultera virgo;
Shamefully she a-man knew adulterous maiden;
me tibi teque mihi taeda pudica dedit.
me to-you and-you to-me torch chaste gave.
Prodidit illa patrem; rapui de clade Thoanta.
Betrayed she father; I-snatched from slaughter Thoas.
Deseruit Colchos; me mea Lemnos habet.
She-deserted the-Colchians; me my Lemnos holds.
Quid refert, scelerata piam si vincet et ipso
What matters, the-wicked the-dutiful if will-conquer and by-very
crimine dotata est emeruitque virum?
with-crime dowered is and-has-earned husband?
Lemniadum facinus culpo, non miror, Iason;
Of-the-Lemnian-women the-deed I-blame, not I-wonder, Jason;
quamlibet infirmis ipse dat arma dolor.
however to-the-weak itself gives arms grief.
Dic age, si ventis, ut oportuit, actus iniquis
Say come, if by-winds, as was-right, driven unfavorable
intrasses portus tuque comesque meos,
you-had-entered harbors and-you and-companion my,
obviaque exissem fetu comitante gemello —
and-to-meet I-had-gone-out with-offspring accompanying twin
hiscere nempe tibi terra roganda fuit! —
to-gape surely for-you earth to-be-asked was!

quo vultu natos, quo me, scelerate, videres?
with-what face children, with-what me, wicked-one, would-you-see?

Perfidiae pretio qua nece dignus eras?
Of-treachery as-price of-what death worthy were-you?

Ipse quidem per me tutus sospesque fuisses —
Yourself indeed through me safe and-sound you-would-have-been

non quia tu dignus, sed quia mitis ego.
not because you worthy, but because gentle I.

Paelicis ipsa meos inplessem sanguine vultus,
Of-the-mistress myself my I-would-have-filled with-blood face,

quosque veneficiis abstulit illa suis!
and-(yours)-which with-sorceries took-away she her-own!

Medeae Medea forem! quodsi quid ab alto
To-Medea a-Medea I-would-be! but-if at-all from high

iustus adest votis Iuppiter ipse meis,
just is-here to-prayers Jupiter himself my,

quod gemit Hypsipyle, lecti quoque subnuba nostri
what groans Hypsipyle, of-bed too the-usurper our

maereat et leges sentiat ipsa suas;
may-she-mourn and laws may-feel she her-own;

utque ego destituor coniunx materque duorum,
and-as I am-forsaken wife and-mother of-two,

a totidem natis orba sit illa viro!
of as-many children bereft may-be she husband!

Nec male parta diu teneat peiusque relinquat —
Nor ill gotten long may-she-hold and-worse may-she-leave

exulet et toto quaerat in orbe fugam!
may-she-be-exiled and whole may-she-seek in world refuge!

Quam fratri germana fuit miseroque parenti
As to-brother sister she-was and-to-wretched father

filia, tam natis, tam sit acerba viro!
daughter, so to-children, so may-she-be bitter to-husband!
Cum mare, cum terras consumpserit, aera temptet;
When sea, when lands she-has-used-up, the-air let-her-try;
erret inops, exspes, caede cruenta sua!
may-she-wander helpless, hopeless, with-slaughter bloody her-own!
Haec ego, coniugio fraudata Thoantias oro.
These-things I, of-marriage cheated daughter-of-Thoas pray.
Vivite, devoto nuptaque virque toro!
Live, in-cursed and-bride and-husband bed!

Dido Aeneae

VII · DIDO TO AENEAS

Dido, like a dying swan, writes to Aeneas, though she has no hope of moving him. He is set on leaving her and Carthage for an Italy he has never seen, to build another city and deceive another wife. She warns him of the winter sea and of the gods he betrays, and asks for a little time until the storms abate. She may be pregnant by him. She writes with his Trojan sword in her lap and composes her epitaph.

Sic ubi fata vocant, udis abiectus in herbis
So when fates call, the-wet cast-down in grass
ad vada Maeandri concinit albus olor.
at the-shallows of-Maeander sings the-white swan.
Nec quia te nostra sperem prece posse moveri,
Nor because you by-our I-hope prayer to-be-able to-be-moved,
adloquor — adverso movimus ista deo;
I-address with-adverse we-set-in-motion these-things god;
sed merita et famam corpusque animumque pudicum
but merits and good-name and-body and-mind chaste

cum male perdiderim, perdere verba leve est.
since badly I-have-lost, to-lose words light is.

Certus es ire tamen miseramque relinquere Didon,
Resolved you-are to-go still and-wretched to-leave Dido,

atque idem venti vela fidemque ferent?
and the-same winds sails and-faith will-carry?

Certus es, Aenea, cum foedere solvere naves,
Resolved you-are, Aeneas, with pact to-loose ships,

quaeque ubi sint nescis, Itala regna sequi?
and-which where they-are you-do-not-know, Italian realms to-follow?

Nec nova Carthago, nec te crescentia tangunt
Nor new Carthage, nor you growing touch

moenia nec sceptro tradita summa tuo?
walls nor to-scepter handed-over supreme-power your?

Facta fugis, facienda petis; quaerenda per orbem
Things-done you-flee, things-to-be-done you-seek; to-be-sought through world

altera, quaesita est altera terra tibi.
another, sought is another land by-you.

Ut terram invenias, quis eam tibi tradet habendam?
Granted-that land you-find, who it to-you will-hand-over to-be-held?

Quis sua non notis arva tenenda dabit?
Who his-own not to-the-known fields to-be-kept will-give?

Alter habendus amor tibi restat et altera Dido;
Another to-be-had love for-you remains and another Dido;

quamque iterum fallas altera danda fides.
and-which again you-may-deceive another to-be-given faith.

Quando erit, ut condas instar Carthaginis urbem
When will-it-be, that you-found the-likeness of-Carthage city

et videas populos altus ab arce tuos?
and you-see peoples high from citadel your?

Omnia ut eveniant, nec te tua vota morentur,
Everything granted-that they-come-about, nor you your vows delay,
unde tibi, quae te sic amet, uxor erit?
whence for-you, who you so may-love, a-wife will-be?
Uror, ut inducto ceratae sulpure taedae,
I-burn, as with-applied waxed sulfur torches,
ut pia fumosis addita tura focis.
as pious on-smoky added incense hearths.
Aeneas oculis semper vigilantis inhaeret;
Aeneas to-the-eyes always of-me-waking clings;
Aenean animo noxque diesque refert.
Aeneas to-the-mind and-night and-day bring-back.
Ille quidem male gratus et ad mea munera surdus,
He indeed badly grateful and to my gifts deaf,
et quo, si non sim stulta, carere velim;
and whom, if not I-were foolish, to-be-without I-would-wish;
non tamen Aenean, quamvis male cogitat, odi,
not still Aeneas, although ill he-intends, I-hate,
sed queror infidum questaque peius amo.
but I-complain-of the-faithless and-having-complained worse I-love.
Parce, Venus, nurui, durumque amplectere fratrem,
Spare, Venus, daughter-in-law, and-hard embrace brother,
frater Amor, castris militet ille tuis!
brother Love, in-camp let-him-serve he your!
Aut ego, quem coepi — neque enim dedignor — amare,
Or I, whom I-began nor indeed I-disdain to-love,
materiam curae praebeat ille meae!
material of-care let-him-provide he my!
Fallor, et ista mihi falso iactatur imago;
I-am-deceived, and that to-me falsely is-tossed image;

matris ab ingenio dissidet ille suae.
of-mother from nature differs he his.

Te lapis et montes innataque rupibus altis
You stone and mountains and-born-in on-cliffs high

robora, te saevae progenuere ferae,
oaks, you savage begot beasts,

aut mare, quale vides agitari nunc quoque ventis,
or sea, such-as you-see to-be-tossed now too by-winds,

quo tamen adversis fluctibus ire paras.
by-which still adverse with-waves to-go you-prepare.

Quo fugis? obstat hiemps. hiemis mihi gratia prosit!
Where do-you-flee? stands-in-the-way winter. of-winter to-me the-favor may-help!

Adspice, ut eversas concitet Eurus aquas!
Look, how overturned stirs Eurus waters!

Quod tibi malueram, sine me debere procellis;
What to-you I-had-preferred, allow me to-owe to-storms;

iustior est animo ventus et unda tuo.
juster is than-mind wind and wave your.

Non ego sum tanti — quid non censeris inique? —
Not I am of-such-worth what not you-are-judged unfairly?

ut pereas, dum me per freta longa fugis.
that you-perish, while me through straits long you-flee.

Exerces pretiosa odia et constantia magno,
You-practice costly hatreds and costing at-a-great-price,

si, dum me careas, est tibi vile mori.
if, while me you-are-rid-of, is to-you cheap to-die.

Iam venti ponent, strataque aequaliter unda
Soon the-winds will-subside, and-spread-flat evenly wave

caeruleis Triton per mare curret equis.
with-blue Triton through sea will-run horses.

Tu quoque cum ventis utinam mutabilis esses!
You too with winds would-that changeable you-were!
Et, nisi duritia robora vincis, eris.
And, unless in-hardness oaks you-surpass, you-will-be.
Quid, si nescires, insana quid aequora possunt?
What, if you-did-not-know, raging what seas can-do?
Expertae totiens quam male credis aquae!
To-the-tested so-often how wrongly you-trust water!
Ut, pelago suadente etiam, retinacula solvas,
Granted-that, with-sea urging even, cables you-loose,
multa tamen latus tristia pontus habet.
many still broad sorrows sea has.
Nec violasse fidem temptantibus aequora prodest;
Nor to-have-violated faith to-those-trying seas profits;
perfidiae poenas exigit ille locus,
of-treachery penalties exacts that place,
praecipue cum laesus amor, quia mater Amorum
especially when wounded love, because the-mother of-the-Loves
nuda Cytheriacis edita fertur aquis.
naked from-Cytherean born is-said waters.
Perdita ne perdam, timeo, noceamve nocenti,
Ruined lest I-ruin, I-fear, or-I-harm the-harmer,
neu bibat aequoreas naufragus hostis aquas.
nor-that may-drink of-the-sea shipwrecked foe waters.
Vive, precor! sic te melius quam funere perdam.
Live, I-pray! so you better than by-death I-shall-lose.
Tu potius leti causa ferere mei.
You rather of-death the-cause will-be-called my.
Finge, age, te rapido — nullum sit in omine pondus! —
Imagine, come, you by-swift no let-there-be in omen weight!

turbine deprendi; quid tibi mentis erit?
whirlwind to-be-caught; what to-you of-mind will-be?
Protinus occurrent falsae periuria linguae,
At-once will-come-to-mind of-false the-perjuries tongue,
et Phrygia Dido fraude coacta mori;
and by-Phrygian Dido fraud forced to-die;
coniugis ante oculos deceptae stabit imago
of-wife before eyes deceived will-stand the-image
tristis et effusis sanguinolenta comis.
grim and with-loosened bloody hair.
Quid tanti est ut tum 'merui! concedite!' dicas,
What of-such-worth is that then 'I-deserved! yield!' you-say,
quaeque cadent, in te fulmina missa putes?
and-which will-fall, at you bolts sent you-think?
Da breve saevitiae spatium pelagique tuaeque;
Give short to-savagery space and-of-sea and-of-yours;
grande morae pretium tuta futura via est.
great of-delay the-price safe going-to-be way is.
Nec mihi tu curae; puero parcatur Iulo!
Nor to-me you for-care; boy let-him-be-spared Iulus!
Te satis est titulum mortis habere meae.
You enough is the-title of-death to-have my.
Quid puer Ascanius, quid di meruere Penates?
What the-boy Ascanius, what the-gods deserved Penates?
Ignibus ereptos obruet unda deos?
From-fires snatched will-overwhelm wave gods?
Sed neque fers tecum, nec, quae mihi, perfide, iactas,
But neither you-carry with-you, nor, which to-me, faithless-one, you-boast,
presserunt umeros sacra paterque tuos.
pressed shoulders sacred-things and-father your.

Omnia mentiris, neque enim tua fallere lingua
Everything you-lie, nor indeed your to-deceive tongue
incipit a nobis, primaque plector ego.
begins with us, and-first am-punished I.
Si quaeras, ubi sit formosi mater Iuli —
If you-should-ask, where is of-the-handsome the-mother Iulus
occidit a duro sola relicta viro!
she-perished by hard alone left husband!
Haec mihi narraras — sat me monuere! merentem
These-things to-me you-had-told enough me they-warned! deserving
ure; minor culpa poena futura mea est.
burn; lesser than-guilt punishment going-to-be my is.
Nec mihi mens dubia est, quin te tua numina damnent.
Nor to-me mind doubtful is, that-not you your divinities condemn.
Per mare, per terras septima iactat hiemps.
Through sea, through lands the-seventh tosses winter.
Fluctibus eiectum tuta statione recepi
By-waves cast-out in-safe anchorage I-received
vixque bene audito nomine regna dedi.
and-hardly well heard with-name realms I-gave.
His tamen officiis utinam contenta fuissem,
With-these still services would-that content I-had-been,
et mihi concubitus fama sepulta foret!
and for-me of-the-union report buried were!
Illa dies nocuit, qua nos declive sub antrum
That day harmed, on-which us sloping under cave
caeruleus subitis conpulit imber aquis.
the-dark with-sudden drove rain waters.
Audieram vocem; nymphas ululasse putavi —
I-had-heard a-voice; nymphs to-have-howled I-thought

Eumenides fati signa dedere mei!
the-Eumenides of-fate signs gave my!
Exige, laese pudor, poenas! violate Sychaei ∗∗∗
Exact, wronged honor, penalties! violated of-Sychaeus (lacuna)
Ad quas, me miseram, plena pudoris eo.
To which, me wretched, full of-shame I-go.
Est mihi marmorea sacratus in aede Sychaeus —
There-is for-me marble consecrated in shrine Sychaeus
oppositae frondes velleraque alba tegunt.
set-before leaves and-fleeces white cover.
Hinc ego me sensi noto quater ore citari;
From-here I me felt with-known four-times voice to-be-summoned;
ipse sono tenui dixit 'Elissa, veni!'
he-himself with-sound faint said 'Elissa, come!'
Nulla mora est, venio, venio tibi debita coniunx;
No delay is, I-come, I-come to-you owed wife;
sum tamen admissi tarda pudore mei.
I-am still of-committed slow with-shame my.
Da veniam culpae! decepit idoneus auctor;
Give pardon to-fault! deceived a-fit sponsor;
invidiam noxae detrahit ille meae.
the-odium from-offense takes-away he my.
Diva parens seniorque pater, pia sarcina nati,
Goddess mother and-aged father, pious burden of-the-son,
spem mihi mansuri rite dedere viri.
hope to-me of-a-remaining duly gave husband.
Si fuit errandum, causas habet error honestas;
If it-was to-be-erred, reasons has error honorable;
adde fidem, nulla parte pigendus erit.
add faith, in-no part to-be-regretted it-will-be.

Durat in extremum vitaeque novissima nostrae
Endures to the-end and-of-life the-last our
prosequitur fati, qui fuit ante, tenor.
follows of-fate, which was before, the-course.
Occidit internas coniunx mactatus ad aras,
Fell household husband slain at altars,
et sceleris tanti praemia frater habet;
and of-crime so-great the-rewards brother has;
exul agor cineresque viri patriamque relinquo,
an-exile I-am-driven and-ashes of-husband and-fatherland I-leave,
et feror in duras hoste sequente vias.
and I-am-borne into hard with-foe following ways.
Adplicor ignotis fratrique elapsa fretoque
I-put-in to-unknown-shores and-from-brother escaped and-from-sea
quod tibi donavi, perfide, litus emo.
which to-you I-gave, faithless-one, shore I-buy.
Urbem constitui lateque patentia fixi
A-city I-founded and-widely extending I-set
moenia finitimis invidiosa locis.
walls to-neighboring envied places.
Bella tument; bellis peregrina et femina temptor,
Wars swell; by-wars a-foreigner and a-woman I-am-assailed,
vixque rudis portas urbis et arma paro.
and-hardly raw gates of-city and arms I-prepare.
Mille procis placui, qui me coiere querentes
A-thousand to-suitors I-pleased, who me came-together complaining
nescio quem thalamis praeposuisse suis.
I-know-not whom to-marriage to-have-preferred their.
Quid dubitas vinctam Gaetulo tradere Iarbae?
Why do-you-hesitate bound to-Gaetulian to-hand-over Iarbas?

Praebuerim sceleri bracchia nostra tuo.
I-would-offer to-crime arms our your.
Est etiam frater, cuius manus inpia possit
There-is also a-brother, whose hand impious could
respergi nostro, sparsa cruore viri.
to-be-spattered with-our, sprinkled with-blood of-husband.
Pone deos et quae tangendo sacra profanas!
Put-down gods and which by-touching sacred-things you-profane!
Non bene caelestis inpia dextra colit.
Not well heavenly-ones impious right-hand worships.
Si tu cultor eras elapsis igne futurus,
If you worshiper were for-escaped from-fire going-to-be,
paenitet elapsos ignibus esse deos.
it-repents escaped from-fires to-be gods.
Forsitan et gravidam Didon, scelerate, relinquas,
Perhaps also pregnant Dido, wicked-one, you-leave,
parsque tui lateat corpore clausa meo.
and-part of-you lies-hidden in-body enclosed my.
Accedet fatis matris miserabilis infans,
Will-be-added to-fates of-mother pitiable infant,
et nondum nato funeris auctor eris,
and not-yet to-one-born of-death the-author you-will-be,
cumque parente sua frater morietur Iuli,
and-with parent his-own the-brother will-die of-Iulus,
poenaque conexos auferet una duos.
and-punishment joined will-carry-off one two.
'Sed iubet ire deus.' vellem, vetuisset adire,
'But bids to-go god.' I-would-wish, he-had-forbidden to-come,
Punica nec Teucris pressa fuisset humus!
Punic nor by-Teucrians pressed had-been ground!

Hoc duce nempe deo ventis agitaris iniquis
With-this as-leader surely god by-winds you-are-tossed hostile
et teris in rapido tempora longa freto?
and you-wear-away in swift times long sea?
Pergama vix tanto tibi erant repetenda labore,
Pergamum hardly with-so-great for-you were to-be-sought-again toil,
Hectore si vivo quanta fuere forent.
with-Hector if alive as-great-as they-were they-would-be.
Non patrium Simoenta petis, sed Thybridas undas —
Not ancestral Simois you-seek, but Tiber's waves
nempe ut pervenias, quo cupis, hospes eris;
surely granted-that you-arrive, where you-desire, a-stranger you-will-be;
utque latet vitatque tuas abstrusa carinas,
and-as it-lies-hidden and-avoids your hidden keels,
vix tibi continget terra petita seni.
hardly to-you will-fall-to land sought old.
Hos potius populos in dotem, ambage remissa,
These rather peoples as dowry, with-evasion dismissed,
accipe et advectas Pygmalionis opes.
accept and brought-over of-Pygmalion wealth.
Ilion in Tyriam transfer felicius urbem
Ilium into Tyrian transfer more-happily city
resque loco regis sceptraque sacra tene!
and-affairs in-place of-king and-scepter sacred hold!
Si tibi mens avida est belli, si quaerit Iulus,
If to-you mind eager is for-war, if seeks Iulus,
unde suo partus Marte triumphus eat,
whence by-his-own won war a-triumph may-go,
quem superet, nequid desit, praebebimus hostem;
whom he-may-overcome, that-nothing be-lacking, we-will-provide foe;

hic pacis leges, hic locus arma capit.
here of-peace laws, here place arms holds.
Tu modo, per matrem fraternaque tela, sagittas,
You only, by mother and-brotherly weapons, arrows,
perque fugae comites, Dardana sacra, deos —
and-by of-flight companions, Dardan sacred, gods
sic superent, quoscumque tua de gente reportas,
so may-survive, whomever your of race you-bring-back,
Mars ferus et damni sit modus ille tui,
Mars fierce and of-loss may-be the-limit that your,
Ascaniusque suos feliciter inpleat annos,
and-Ascanius his happily may-fill years,
et senis Anchisae molliter ossa cubent! —
and of-old Anchises softly the-bones may-lie!
parce, precor, domui, quae se tibi tradit habendam!
spare, I-pray, a-house, which itself to-you hands-over to-be-held!
Quod crimen dicis praeter amasse meum?
What crime do-you-name except to-have-loved my?
Non ego sum Phthias magnisque oriunda Mycenis,
Not I am Phthian and-from-great sprung Mycenae,
nec steterunt in te virque paterque meus.
nor have-stood against you and-husband and-father my.
Si pudet uxoris, non nupta, sed hospita dicar;
If it-shames of-a-wife, not bride, but hostess let-me-be-called;
dum tua sit, Dido quidlibet esse feret.
provided yours she-be, Dido anything to-be will-bear.
Nota mihi freta sunt Afrum plangentia litus;
Known to-me seas are African beating shore;
temporibus certis dantque negantque viam.
at-times fixed and-they-give and-refuse passage.

Cum dabit aura viam, praebebis carbasa ventis;
When will-give breeze passage, you-will-offer canvas to-winds;
nunc levis eiectam continet alga ratem.
now light beached holds seaweed ship.
Tempus ut observem, manda mihi; serius ibis,
The-time that I-watch-for, entrust to-me; later you-will-go,
nec te, si cupies, ipsa manere sinam.
nor you, if you-desire, I-myself to-stay will-allow.
Et socii requiem poscunt, laniataque classis
And companions rest demand, and-mangled fleet
postulat exiguas semirefecta moras;
asks short half-repaired delays;
pro meritis et siqua tibi debebimus ultra,
for merits and whatever to-you we-shall-owe beyond,
pro spe coniugii tempora parva peto —
for hope of-marriage times little I-ask
dum freta mitescunt et amor, dum tempore et usu
while seas grow-gentle and love, while by-time and by-use
fortiter edisco tristia posse pati.
bravely I-learn sad-things to-be-able to-suffer.
Si minus, est animus nobis effundere vitam;
If not, there-is a-mind to-us to-pour-out life;
in me crudelis non potes esse diu.
to me cruel not you-can to-be long.
Adspicias utinam, quae sit scribentis imago!
May-you-see would-that, what is of-the-writer the-image!
Scribimus, et gremio Troicus ensis adest,
We-write, and in-lap Trojan sword is-here,
perque genas lacrimae strictum labuntur in ensem,
and-down cheeks tears drawn slip onto sword,

qui iam pro lacrimis sanguine tinctus erit.
which soon instead-of tears with-blood stained will-be.
Quam bene conveniunt fato tua munera nostro!
How well suit fate your gifts our!
Instruis inpensa nostra sepulcra brevi.
You-furnish with-cost our tomb small.
Nec mea nunc primum feriuntur pectora telo;
Nor my now first are-struck breasts by-weapon;
ille locus saevi vulnus amoris habet.
that place of-savage the-wound love has.
Anna soror, soror Anna, meae male conscia culpae,
Anna sister, sister Anna, of-my badly sharing guilt,
iam dabis in cineres ultima dona meos.
soon you-will-give on ashes last gifts my.
Nec consumpta rogis inscribar Elissa Sychaei,
Nor consumed by-pyres shall-I-be-inscribed Elissa of-Sychaeus,
hoc tamen in tumuli marmore carmen erit:
this still on of-tomb the-marble verse will-be:
praebuit Aeneas et causam mortis et ensem;
provided Aeneas both the-cause of-death and the-sword;
ipsa sua Dido concidit usa manu.
herself by-her-own Dido fell having-used hand.

Hermione Orestae

VIII · HERMIONE TO ORESTES

Hermione, Menelaus' daughter, is held against her will by Pyrrhus, son of Achilles. She was promised to Orestes by her grandfather Tyndareus, and her father later promised her to Pyrrhus. She urges Orestes to act as Menelaus did for Helen and reclaim her by force; he has avenged his father already. She recalls her mother's departure when she was a child, and swears that she will either die young or be Orestes' wife.

Pyrrhus Achillides, animosus imagine patris,
Pyrrhus son-of-Achilles, high-spirited from-the-likeness of-father,
inclusam contra iusque piumque tenet.
shut-in against both-right and-duty holds.
Quod potui, renui, ne non invita tenerer;
What I-could, I-refused, lest not unwilling I-be-held;
cetera femineae non valuere manus.
the-rest woman's not had-strength hands.
'Quid facis, Aeacide? non sum sine vindice,' dixi:
'What are-you-doing, descendant-of-Aeacus? not I-am without avenger,' I-said:
'Haec tibi sub domino est, Pyrrhe, puella suo!'
'This to-you under master is, Pyrrhus, girl her-own!'
Surdior ille freto clamantem nomen Orestis
Deafer he than-the-sea me-crying the-name of-Orestes
traxit inornatis in sua tecta comis.
dragged by-unadorned into his house hair.
Quid gravius capta Lacedaemone serva tulissem,
What heavier captured with-Lacedaemon a-slave would-I-have-borne,
si raperet Graias barbara turba nurus?
if were-carrying-off Greek barbarian throng brides?

Parcius Andromachen vexavit Achaia victrix,
More-sparingly Andromache harassed Achaea victorious,
cum Danaus Phrygias ureret ignis opes.
when Danaan Phrygian burned fire wealth.
At tu, cura mei si te pia tangit, Oreste,
But you, care of-me if you dutiful touches, Orestes,
inice non timidas in tua iura manus!
lay not timid on your rights hands!
An siquis rapiat stabulis armenta reclusis,
Or if-anyone should-steal from-stalls herds opened,
arma feras, rapta coniuge lentus eris?
arms you-would-bear, stolen with-wife slow will-you-be?
Sit socer exemplo nuptae repetitor ademptae,
Let-be father-in-law for-example of-a-bride the-reclaimer taken-away,
cui pia militiae causa puella fuit!
to-whom dutiful of-warfare cause a-girl was!
Si socer ignavus vidua stertisset in aula,
If father-in-law idle widowed had-snored in hall,
nupta foret Paridi mater, ut ante fuit.
married would-be to-Paris mother, as before she-was.
Nec tu mille rates sinuosaque vela pararis
Nor you a-thousand ships and-billowing sails should-prepare
nec numeros Danai militis — ipse veni!
nor numbers Danaan of-soldiery yourself come!
Sic quoque eram repetenda tamen, nec turpe marito
So too I-was to-be-reclaimed still, nor shameful for-a-husband
aspera pro caro bella tulisse toro.
harsh for dear wars to-have-borne bed.
Quid, quod avus nobis idem Pelopeius Atreus,
What, that grandfather to-us the-same Pelopian Atreus,

et, si non esses vir mihi, frater eras.
and, if not you-were husband to-me, brother you-were.
Vir, precor, uxori, frater succurre sorori!
Husband, I-pray, to-wife, brother help to-sister!
Instant officio nomina bina tuo.
Press on-duty names two your.
Me tibi Tyndareus, vita gravis auctor et annis,
Me to-you Tyndareus, by-life weighty sponsor and by-years,
tradidit; arbitrium neptis habebat avus.
handed-over; control of-granddaughter had grandfather.
At pater Aeacidae promiserat inscius acti;
But father to-the-descendant-of-Aeacus had-promised unaware of-the-deed;
plus quoque, qui prior est ordine, posset avus.
more too, who prior is in-order, could grandfather.
Cum tibi nubebam, nulli mea taeda nocebat;
When to-you I-was-marrying, to-no-one my torch did-harm;
si iungar Pyrrho, tu mihi laesus eris.
if I-am-joined to-Pyrrhus, you by-me wronged will-be.
Et pater ignoscet nostro Menelaus amori —
And father will-pardon our Menelaus love
succubuit telis praepetis ipse dei.
yielded to-the-darts of-the-winged himself god.
Quem sibi permisit, genero concedet amorem;
Which to-himself he-allowed, to-son-in-law he-will-grant love;
proderit exemplo mater amata suo.
will-help by-example mother loved her-own.
Tu mihi, quod matri pater est; quas egerat olim
You to-me, what to-mother father is; which had-played once
Dardanius partis advena, Pyrrhus agit.
the-Dardanian parts stranger, Pyrrhus plays.

Ille licet patriis sine fine superbiat actis;
He granted in-father's without end may-pride-himself deeds;
et tu, quae referas facta parentis, habes.
and you, which you-may-recount deeds of-parent, have.
Tantalides omnis ipsumque regebat Achillem.
The-descendant-of-Tantalus all and-himself ruled Achilles.
Hic pars militiae; dux erat ille ducum.
This-one part of-the-army; leader was that-one of-leaders.
Tu quoque habes proavum Pelopem Pelopisque parentem;
You too have great-grandfather Pelops and-of-Pelops parent;
si melius numeres, a Iove quintus eris.
if better you-count, from Jupiter fifth you-will-be.
Nec virtute cares. arma invidiosa tulisti,
Nor of-courage you-lack. arms odious you-bore,
sed tibi — quid faceres? — induit illa pater.
but on-you what were-you-to-do? put those father.
Materia vellem fortis meliore fuisses;
In-matter I-would-wish brave better you-had-been;
non lecta est operi, sed data causa tuo.
not chosen was for-deed, but given cause your.
Hanc tamen inplesti; iuguloque Aegisthus aperto
This still you-fulfilled; and-with-throat Aegisthus opened
tecta cruentavit, quae pater ante tuus.
the-house bloodied, which father before your.
Increpat Aeacides laudemque in crimina vertit —
Rebukes the-descendant-of-Aeacus and-praise into charges turns
et tamen adspectus sustinet ille meos.
and still the-gaze endures he my.
Rumpor, et ora mihi pariter cum mente tumescunt,
I-burst, and face to-me equally with mind swell,

pectoraque inclusis ignibus usta dolent.
and-breast with-shut-in fires burnt aches.
Hermione coram quisquamne obiecit Oresti,
Hermione in-the-presence-of did-anyone reproach Orestes,
nec mihi sunt vires, nec ferus ensis adest?
and-not to-me are strength, nor fierce sword is-at-hand?
Flere licet certe; flendo defundimus iram,
To-weep is-allowed surely; by-weeping we-pour-out anger,
perque sinum lacrimae fluminis instar eunt.
and-down bosom tears of-a-river like go.
Has solas habeo semper semperque profundo;
These only I-have always and-always I-pour-forth;
ument incultae fonte perenne genae.
are-wet unkempt from-the-spring perennially cheeks.
Num generis fato, quod nostros errat in annos,
Surely-not of-the-race by-fate, which our wanders into years,
Tantalides matres apta rapina sumus?
descendants-of-Tantalus mothers fit plunder we-are?
Non ego fluminei referam mendacia cygni
Not I of-the-river shall-recount the-lies swan
nec querar in plumis delituisse Iovem.
nor shall-complain in feathers to-have-hidden Jupiter.
Qua duo porrectus longe freta distinet Isthmos,
Where two stretched-out far seas separates Isthmus,
vecta peregrinis Hippodamia rotis;
carried on-foreign Hippodamia wheels;
Taenaris Idaeo trans aequor ab hospite rapta
the-Taenarian Idaean across sea by guest seized
Argolicas pro se vertit in arma manus.
Argive for herself turned to arms hands.

Vix equidem memini, memini tamen. omnia luctus,
Hardly for-my-part I-remember, I-remember still. everything of-grief,
omnia solliciti plena timoris erant;
everything anxious full of-fear were;
flebat avus Phoebeque soror fratresque gemelli,
wept grandfather and-Phoebe sister and-brothers twin,
orabat superos Leda suumque Iovem.
prayed-to the-gods-above Leda and-her-own Jupiter.
Ipsa ego, non longos etiamtunc scissa capillos,
Myself I, not long even-then torn hair,
clamabam: 'sine me, me sine, mater, abis?'
I-was-crying: 'without me, me without, mother, are-you-going-away?'
Nam coniunx aberat! ne non Pelopeia credar,
For husband was-away! lest not Pelopian I-be-believed,
ecce, Neoptolemo praeda parata fui!
behold, for-Neoptolemus prey ready I-was!
Pelides utinam vitasset Apollinis arcus!
Peleus'-son would-that had-avoided of-Apollo the-bow!
Damnaret nati facta proterva pater;
Would-condemn of-son deeds wanton father;
nec quondam placuit nec nunc placuisset Achilli
nor once it-pleased nor now would-it-have-pleased Achilles
abducta viduum coniuge flere virum.
with-taken-away bereft wife to-weep husband.
Quae mea caelestis iniuria fecit iniquos,
What my heavenly-ones wrong made unjust,
quodve mihi miserae sidus obesse querar?
or-what to-me wretched star to-oppose shall-I-complain?
Parva mea sine matre fui, pater arma ferebat,
Small my without mother I-was, father arms was-bearing,

et duo cum vivant, orba duobus eram.
and two though they-live, bereft of-two I-was.

Non tibi blanditias primis, mea mater, in annis
Not to-you endearments first, my mother, in years

incerto dictas ore puella tuli;
with-unsure spoken mouth a-girl I-brought;

non ego captavi brevibus tua colla lacertis
not I caught with-short your neck arms

nec gremio sedi sarcina grata tuo.
nor in-lap I-sat a-burden welcome your.

Non cultus tibi cura mei, nec pacta marito
Not dress to-you care of-me, nor promised to-husband

intravi thalamos matre parante novos.
I-entered chamber with-mother preparing new.

Obvia prodieram reduci tibi — vera fatebor —
To-meet I-had-gone-forth returning to-you true-things I-will-confess

nec facies nobis nota parentis erat!
nor the-face to-us known of-parent was!

Te tamen esse Helenen, quod eras pulcherrima, sensi;
You still to-be Helen, because you-were most-beautiful, I-sensed;

ipsa requirebas, quae tua nata foret!
you-yourself were-asking, which your daughter would-be!

Pars haec una mihi, coniunx bene cessit Orestes;
Portion this one to-me, husband well fell-out Orestes;

is quoque, ni pro se pugnat, ademptus erit.
he too, unless for himself fights, taken-away will-be.

Pyrrhus habet captam reduce et victore parente —
Pyrrhus holds captive returned and victorious with-parent

hoc munus! nobis diruta Troia dedit!
this gift! to-us demolished Troy gave!

Cum tamen altus equis Titan radiantibus instat,
When still high with-horses Titan radiant presses-on,
perfruor infelix liberiore malo;
I-enjoy-fully unhappy with-freer misfortune;
nox ubi me thalamis ululantem et acerba gementem
night when me in-chamber wailing and bitter-things groaning
condidit in maesto procubuique toro,
has-buried on sad and-I-have-lain-down bed,
pro somno lacrimis oculi funguntur obortis,
instead-of sleep with-tears eyes are-busied welling,
quaque licet, fugio sicut ab hoste viro.
and-where it-is-allowed, I-flee as from foe husband.
Saepe malis stupeo rerumque oblita locique
Often in-misfortunes I-am-stunned and-of-things forgetful and-of-place
ignara tetigi Scyria membra manu,
unaware I-have-touched Scyrian limbs hand,
utque nefas sensi, male corpora tacta relinquo
and-when wrong I-perceived, badly bodies touched I-leave
et mihi pollutas credor habere manus.
and to-me polluted I-am-believed to-have hands.
Saepe Neoptolemi pro nomine nomen Orestis
Often of-Neoptolemus instead-of name the-name of-Orestes
exit, et errorem vocis ut omen amo.
goes-out, and error of-voice as omen I-love.
Per genus infelix iuro generisque parentem,
By race unhappy I-swear and-of-race the-parent,
qui freta, qui terras et sua regna quatit;
who seas, who lands and his realms shakes;
per patris ossa tui, patrui mihi, quae tibi debent,
by of-father bones your, of-uncle to-me, which to-you owe,

quod se sub tumulo fortiter ulta iacent — 120
that themselves under tomb bravely avenged they-lie
aut ego praemoriar primoque exstinguar in aevo,
either I shall-die-first and-first be-extinguished in age,
aut ego Tantalidae Tantalis uxor ero!
or I of-a-descendant-of-Tantalus descendant-of-Tantalus wife will-be!

Deianira Herculi

IX · DEIANIRA TO HERCULES

Deianira writes to Hercules, who has conquered Oechalia but is himself conquered by love for Iole. She lists his labors and contrasts them with his service to Omphale in Lydia: spinning wool, wearing a woman's dress, and letting the queen carry his club and lion skin. Now Iole enters his house as a captive. As she writes, news comes that the robe she sent him, smeared with Nessus' blood, is killing him, and she resolves to die.

Gratulor Oechaliam titulis accedere nostris;
I-rejoice Oechalia to-the-honors to-be-added our;
victorem victae succubuisse queror.
the-victor to-the-conquered to-have-yielded I-complain.
Fama Pelasgiadas subito pervenit in urbes
Report Pelasgian suddenly has-come into cities
decolor et factis infitianda tuis,
discreditable and by-deeds to-be-denied your,
quem numquam Iuno seriesque inmensa laborum 5
whom never Juno and-the-series immense of-labors
fregerit, huic Iolen inposuisse iugum.
could-break, on-him Iole to-have-imposed a-yoke.
Hoc velit Eurystheus, velit hoc germana Tonantis,
This may-want Eurystheus, may-want this the-sister of-the-Thunderer,

laetaque sit vitae labe noverca tuae;
and-glad let-be at-life's stain stepmother your;
at non ille velit, cui nox — sic creditur — una
but not he would-want, for-whom night so it-is-believed one
non tanta, ut tantus conciperere, fuit.
not so-great, that so-great you-might-be-conceived, was.
Plus tibi quam Iuno, nocuit Venus: illa premendo
More you than Juno, harmed Venus: she by-pressing
sustulit, haec humili sub pede colla tenet.
raised, this-one lowly under foot neck holds.
Respice vindicibus pacatum viribus orbem,
Look-back-on by-avenging pacified strength world,
qua latam Nereus caerulus ambit humum.
where broad Nereus blue encircles ground.
Se tibi pax terrae, tibi se tuta aequora debent;
Itself to-you peace of-earth, to-you themselves safe seas owe;
inplesti meritis solis utramque domum.
you-filled with-merits of-the-sun each house.
Quod te laturum est, caelum prius ipse tulisti;
What you about-to-carry is, the-sky before yourself you-carried;
Hercule supposito sidera fulsit Atlans.
with-Hercules set-beneath stars propped Atlas.
Quid nisi notitia est misero quaesita pudori,
What except notoriety is for-wretched sought shame,
si cumulus stupri facta priora notat?
if the-crown of-lust deeds earlier brands?
Tene ferunt geminos pressisse tenaciter angues,
You-whether they-say twin to-have-squeezed tightly snakes,
cum tener in cunis iam Iove dignus eras?
when tender in cradle already of-Jupiter worthy you-were?

Coepisti melius quam desinis; ultima primis
You-began better than you-end; the-last to-the-first
cedunt; dissimiles hic vir et ille puer.
yield; unlike this man and that boy.
Quem non mille ferae, quem non Stheneleius hostis,
Whom not a-thousand beasts, whom not the-Sthenelean foe,
non potuit Iuno vincere, vincit amor.
not could Juno to-conquer, conquers love.
At bene nupta feror, quia nominer Herculis uxor,
But well married I-am-said, because I-am-named of-Hercules wife,
sitque socer, rapidis qui tonat altus equis.
and-be father-in-law, with-swift who thunders on-high horses.
Quam male inaequales veniunt ad aratra iuvenci,
As badly unequal come to plows bullocks,
tam premitur magno coniuge nupta minor.
so is-pressed by-great husband a-bride lesser.
Non honor est sed onus species laesura ferentis;
Not honor is but burden a-show about-to-hurt the-bearer;
siqua voles apte nubere, nube pari.
if-any-woman you-will fittingly to-marry, marry an-equal.
Vir mihi semper abest, et coniuge notior hospes,
Husband to-me always is-away, and than-husband better-known guest,
monstraque terribiles persequiturque feras.
and-monsters terrible and-he-pursues beasts.
Ipsa domo vidua votis operata pudicis
Myself in-a-house widowed with-prayers busied chaste
torqueor, infesto ne vir ab hoste cadat;
I-am-tortured, hostile lest husband by foe fall;
inter serpentes aprosque avidosque leones
among serpents and-boars and-greedy lions

iactor et haesuros terna per ora canes.
I-am-tossed and about-to-cling three-fold through mouths dogs.
Me pecudum fibrae simulacraque inania somni
Me of-beasts the-entrails and-images empty of-sleep
omniaque arcana nocte petita movent.
and-all-things secret in-night sought move.
Aucupor infelix incertae murmura famae,
I-hunt-for unhappy of-uncertain murmurs report,
speque timor dubia spesque timore cadit.
and-by-hope fear doubtful and-hope by-fear falls.
Mater abest queriturque deo placuisse potenti,
Mother is-away and-complains to-a-god to-have-pleased powerful,
nec pater Amphitryon nec puer Hyllus adest;
nor father Amphitryon nor boy Hyllus is-here;
arbiter Eurystheus irae Iunonis iniquae
arbiter Eurystheus of-the-wrath of-Juno unjust
sentitur nobis iraque longa deae.
is-felt by-us and-wrath long of-goddess.
Haec mihi ferre parum? peregrinos addis amores,
These-things for-me to-bear too-little? foreign you-add loves,
et mater de te quaelibet esse potest.
and mother by you any-woman to-be can.
Non ego Partheniis temeratam vallibus Augen,
Not I in-Parthenian violated valleys Auge,
nec referam partus, Ormeni nympha, tuos;
nor shall-I-recount childbirth, of-Ormenus nymph, your;
non tibi crimen erunt, Teuthrantia turba, sorores,
not to-you charge will-be, Teuthrantian throng, sisters,
quarum de populo nulla relicta tibi est.
of-whom from the-people none left by-you is.

Una, recens crimen, referetur adultera nobis,
One, recent charge, will-be-reported adulteress to-us,
unde ego sum Lydo facta noverca Lamo.
whence I am to-Lydian made stepmother Lamus.
Maeandros, terris totiens errator in isdem,
Maeander, lands so-often wanderer in the-same,
qui lassas in se saepe retorquet aquas,
who weary into itself often twists-back waters,
vidit in Herculeo suspensa monilia collo
saw on Herculean hung necklaces neck
illo, cui caelum sarcina parva fuit.
that, to-which the-sky burden small was.
Non puduit fortis auro cohibere lacertos,
Not did-it-shame strong with-gold to-confine arms,
et solidis gemmas opposuisse toris?
and on-solid gems to-have-set muscles?
Nempe sub his animam pestis Nemeaea lacertis
Surely under these breath the-plague Nemean arms
edidit, unde umerus tegmina laevus habet!
gave-up, whence shoulder covering left has!
Ausus es hirsutos mitra redimire capillos!
Dared you-have shaggy with-a-turban to-bind hair!
Aptior Herculeae populus alba comae.
Fitter for-Herculean poplar white hair.
Nec te Maeonia lascivae more puellae
Nor you with-Maeonian of-wanton in-the-manner girl
incingi zona dedecuisse pudet?
to-be-girt belt to-have-been-unbecoming shames?
Non tibi succurrit crudi Diomedis imago,
Not to-you occurs of-savage Diomedes the-image,

efferus humana qui dape pavit equas?
fierce on-human who feast fed mares?
Si te vidisset cultu Busiris in isto,
If you had-seen dress Busiris in that,
huic victor victo nempe pudendus eras.
to-him victor to-the-conquered surely to-be-shamed you-were.
Detrahat Antaeus duro redimicula collo,
May-pull-off Antaeus from-hard ribbons neck,
ne pigeat molli succubuisse viro.
lest it-irk to-soft to-have-yielded man.
Inter Ioniacas calathum tenuisse puellas
Among Ionian the-basket to-have-held girls
diceris et dominae pertimuisse minas.
you-are-said and of-mistress to-have-dreaded threats.
Non fugis, Alcide, victricem mille laborum
Not do-you-shrink, Alcides, victorious of-a-thousand labors
rasilibus calathis inposuisse manum,
on-smooth baskets to-have-laid hand,
crassaque robusto deducis pollice fila,
and-thick with-sturdy you-draw-out thumb threads,
aequaque formosae pensa rependis erae?
and-equal to-the-beautiful tasks you-weigh-out mistress?
A, quotiens digitis dum torques stamina duris,
Ah, how-often with-fingers while you-twist threads hard,
praevalidae fusos conminuere manus!
too-strong spindles crushed hands!
Ante pedes dominae ∗∗∗
Before the-feet of-mistress (lacuna)
factaque narrabas dissimulanda tibi —
and-deeds you-used-to-tell to-be-concealed by-you

scilicet inmanes elisis faucibus hydros
doubtless monstrous crushed with-throats serpents
infantem caudis involuisse manum,
infant with-tails to-have-wrapped hand,
ut Tegeaeus aper cupressifero Erymantho
how the-Tegean boar on-cypress-bearing Erymanthus
incubet et vasto pondere laedat humum.
lies and with-vast weight hurts ground.
Non tibi Threiciis adfixa penatibus ora,
Not by-you on-Thracian fixed houses faces,
non hominum pingues caede tacentur equae;
not of-men fat with-slaughter are-left-untold mares;
prodigiumque triplex, armenti dives Hiberi
and-the-portent threefold, in-herd rich Iberian
Geryones, quamvis in tribus unus erat;
Geryon, although in three one he-was;
inque canes totidem trunco digestus ab uno
and-into dogs as-many trunk divided from one
Cerberos inplicitis angue minante comis;
Cerberus with-entwined snake threatening hair;
quaeque redundabat fecundo vulnere serpens
and-which overflowed from-fertile wound the-serpent
fertilis et damnis dives ab ipsa suis;
fertile and losses rich from very its-own;
quique inter laevumque latus laevumque lacertum
and-he-who between both-left side and-left arm
praegrave conpressa fauce pependit onus;
very-heavy squeezed with-throat hung burden;
et male confisum pedibus formaque bimembri
and badly trusting in-feet and-in-form two-limbed

pulsum Thessalicis agmen equestre iugis.
driven from-Thessalian column horsed ridges.
Haec tu Sidonio potes insignitus amictu
These-things you in-Sidonian can marked-out cloak
dicere? non cultu lingua retenta silet?
to-tell? not by-dress tongue held-back is-silent?
Se quoque nympha tuis ornavit Iardanis armis
Herself too nymph with-your adorned daughter-of-Iardanus arms
et tulit a capto nota tropaea viro.
and carried-off from captured known trophies man.
I nunc, tolle animos et fortia gesta recense;
Go now, raise spirits and brave deeds recount;
quo tu non esses, iure vir illa fuit.
what you not were, rightly man she was.
Qua tanto minor es, quanto te, maxime rerum,
In-which so-much less you-are, as-much-as you, greatest of-things,
quam quos vicisti, vincere maius erat.
than whom you-conquered, to-conquer greater was.
Illi procedit rerum mensura tuarum —
To-her goes-forward of-affairs the-measure your
cede bonis; heres laudis amica tuae.
yield goods; heir of-praise mistress your.
O pudor! hirsuti costis exuta leonis
O shame! of-shaggy from-ribs stripped lion
aspera texerunt vellera molle latus!
rough have-covered fleeces soft side!
Falleris et nescis — non sunt spolia illa leonis,
You-are-deceived and do-not-know not are spoils those of-the-lion,
sed tua, tuque feri victor es, illa tui.
but yours, and-you of-beast victor are, she of-you.

Femina tela tulit Lernaeis atra venenis,
A-woman shafts carried with-Lernaean black poisons,
ferre gravem lana vix satis apta colum,
to-carry heavy with-wool hardly enough fit distaff,
instruxitque manum clava domitrice ferarum,
and-equipped hand with-club tamer of-beasts,
vidit et in speculo coniugis arma sui!
saw even in mirror of-husband arms her!
Haec tamen audieram; licuit non credere famae,
These-things still I-had-heard; it-was-allowed not to-believe report,
et venit ad sensus mollis ab aure dolor —
and came to senses soft from ear pain
ante meos oculos adducitur advena paelex,
before my eyes is-led foreign mistress,
nec mihi, quae patior, dissimulare licet!
nor for-me, what I-suffer, to-dissemble is-allowed!
Non sinis averti; mediam captiva per urbem
Not you-allow to-be-turned-away; mid captive through city
invitis oculis adspicienda venit.
with-unwilling eyes to-be-looked-at she-comes.
Nec venit incultis captarum more capillis,
Nor comes with-unkempt of-captives in-manner hair,
fortunam vultu fassa decente suam;
fortune with-face confessing becoming her;
ingreditur late lato spectabilis auro,
she-walks-in widely with-broad conspicuous gold,
qualiter in Phrygia tu quoque cultus eras.
as in Phrygia you too dressed were.
Dat vultum populo sublimis ut Hercule victo;
Gives face to-people lofty as-if with-Hercules conquered;

Oechaliam vivo stare parente putes.
Oechalia living to-stand with-father you-would-think.
Forsitan et pulsa Aetolide Deianira
Perhaps also driven-out Aetolian with-Deianira
nomine deposito paelicis uxor erit,
with-name laid-aside of-mistress wife she-will-be,
Eurytidosque Ioles atque Aonii Alcidae
and-of-the-daughter-of-Eurytus Iole and of-Aonian Alcides
turpia famosus corpora iunget Hymen.
shameful notorious bodies will-join Hymen.
Mens fugit admonitu, frigusque perambulat artus,
Mind flees at-the-reminder, and-chill walks-through limbs,
et iacet in gremio languida facta manus.
and lies in lap limp made hand.
Me quoque cum multis, sed me sine crimine amasti.
Me too with many, but me without crime you-loved.
Ne pigeat, pugnae bis tibi causa fui.
Lest it-irk, of-battle twice to-you cause I-was.
Cornua flens legit ripis Achelous in udis
Horns weeping gathers banks Achelous on wet
truncaque limosa tempora mersit aqua;
and-maimed in-muddy temples plunged water;
semivir occubuit in lotifero Eueno
half-man fell in lotus-bearing Evenus
Nessus, et infecit sanguis equinus aquas.
Nessus, and stained blood horse's waters.
Sed quid ego haec refero? scribenti nuntia venit
But why I these-things recount? to-me-writing messenger comes
fama, virum tunicae tabe perire meae.
report, husband of-tunic by-venom to-perish my.

Ei mihi! quid feci? quo me furor egit amantem?
Ah me! what have-I-done? where me madness drove loving?
Inpia quid dubitas Deianira mori?
Impious why do-you-hesitate Deianira to-die?
An tuus in media coniunx lacerabitur Oeta,
Or your on mid husband will-be-torn Oeta,
tu sceleris tanti causa superstes eris?
you of-crime so-great cause surviving will-be?
Siquid adhuc habeo facti, cur Herculis uxor
If-anything still I-have of-deed, why of-Hercules wife
credar, coniugii mors mea pignus erit!
I-be-believed, of-marriage death my pledge will-be!
Tu quoque cognosces in me, Meleagre, sororem!
You too will-recognize in me, Meleager, sister!
Inpia quid dubitas Deianira mori?
Impious why do-you-hesitate Deianira to-die?
Heu devota domus! solio sedet Agrios alto;
Alas accursed house! on-throne sits Agrius high;
Oenea desertum nuda senecta premit.
Oeneus deserted naked old-age presses.
Exulat ignotis Tydeus germanus in oris;
Is-in-exile unknown Tydeus brother on shores;
alter fatali vivus in igne fuit;
the-other fated alive in fire was;
exegit ferrum sua per praecordia mater.
drove sword her-own through heart mother.
Inpia quid dubitas Deianira mori?
Impious why do-you-hesitate Deianira to-die?
Deprecor hoc unum per iura sacerrima lecti,
I-beg this one by rights most-sacred of-bed,

ne videar fatis insidiata tuis.
lest I-seem fates to-have-plotted-against your.

Nessus, ut est avidum percussus harundine pectus,
Nessus, when was greedy struck with-reed breast,

'Hic,' dixit, 'vires sanguis amoris habet.'
'This,' he-said, 'power blood of-love has.'

Inlita Nesseo misi tibi texta veneno.
Smeared with-Nessean I-sent to-you weaving poison.

Inpia quid dubitas Deianira mori?
Impious why do-you-hesitate Deianira to-die?

Iamque vale, seniorque pater germanaque Gorge,
And-now farewell, and-aged father and-sister Gorge,

et patria et patriae frater adempte tuae,
and fatherland and from-fatherland brother taken-away your,

et tu lux oculis hodierna novissima nostris,
and you light to-eyes of-today last our,

virque — sed o possis! — et puer Hylle, vale!
and-husband but O may-you-be-able! and boy Hyllus, farewell!

Ariadne Theseo

X · ARIADNE TO THESEUS

Ariadne writes from the shore of the island where Theseus left her asleep. She woke to find the bed empty, ran along the beach calling his name, and climbed a crag to see his sails disappearing. She fears wild beasts and the sea, and has no home to return to, since she betrayed her father for him. She reminds him of the thread that saved him in the labyrinth and begs him to turn his ship back.

Mitius inveni quam te genus omne ferarum;
Milder I-have-found than you the-race every of-beasts;
credita non ulli quam tibi peius eram.
entrusted not to-anyone than to-you worse I-was.
Quae legis, ex illo, Theseu, tibi litore mitto
What you-read, from that, Theseus, to-you shore I-send
unde tuam sine me vela tulere ratem,
whence your without me sails carried ship,
in quo me somnusque meus male prodidit et tu,
on which me and-sleep my wickedly betrayed and you,
per facinus somnis insidiate meis.
through crime sleep who-plotted-against my.
Tempus erat, vitrea quo primum terra pruina
The-time it-was, with-glassy when first earth frost
spargitur et tectae fronde queruntur aves.
is-sprinkled and hidden by-foliage complain birds.
Incertum vigilans a somno languida movi
Uncertainly waking from sleep languid I-moved
Thesea prensuras semisupina manus —
Theseus about-to-grasp half-lying-back hands
nullus erat! referoque manus iterumque retempto,
no-one was! and-I-draw-back hands and-again I-try-again,

perque torum moveo bracchia — nullus erat!
and-across bed I-move arms no-one was!

Excussere metus somnum; conterrita surgo,
Shook-off fears sleep; terrified I-rise,

membraque sunt viduo praecipitata toro.
and-limbs are from-widowed flung bed.

Protinus adductis sonuerunt pectora palmis,
At-once with-drawn-back resounded breasts palms,

utque erat e somno turbida, rapta coma est.
and-as it-was from sleep disordered, torn hair is.

Luna fuit; specto, siquid nisi litora cernam.
Moon it-was; I-look, whether-anything except shores I-may-see.

Quod videant oculi, nil nisi litus habent.
What they-may-see eyes, nothing except shore they-have.

Nunc huc, nunc illuc, et utroque sine ordine, curro;
Now here, now there, and both-ways without order, I-run;

alta puellares tardat harena pedes.
deep girlish slows sand feet.

Interea toto clamanti litore 'Theseu!'
Meanwhile over-whole to-me-shouting shore 'Theseus!'

reddebant nomen concava saxa tuum,
were-giving-back name hollow rocks your,

et quotiens ego te, totiens locus ipse vocabat.
and as-often-as I you, so-often place itself called.

Ipse locus miserae ferre volebat opem.
Itself place to-wretched to-bring wanted help.

Mons fuit — apparent frutices in vertice rari;
A-mountain there-was appear bushes on top scattered;

hinc scopulus raucis pendet adesus aquis.
from-here a-crag by-hoarse hangs eaten-away waters.

Adscendo — vires animus dabat — atque ita late
I-climb strength spirit gave and so widely
aequora prospectu metior alta meo.
seas with-view I-measure deep my.
Inde ego — nam ventis quoque sum crudelibus usa —
Thence I for winds too I-have cruel experienced
vidi praecipiti carbasa tenta Noto.
I-saw by-headlong canvas stretched South-wind.
Ut vidi haut dignam quae me vidisse putarem,
When I-saw not worthy-sight which me to-have-seen I-should-think,
frigidior glacie semianimisque fui.
colder than-ice and-half-alive I-was.
Nec languere diu patitur dolor; excitor illo,
Nor to-languish long allows grief; I-am-roused by-it,
excitor et summa Thesea voce voco.
I-am-roused and with-highest Theseus voice I-call.
'Quo fugis?' exclamo; 'scelerate revertere Theseu!
'Where do-you-flee?' I-cry-out; 'wicked turn-back Theseus!
Flecte ratem! numerum non habet illa suum!'
Turn ship! number not has she her!'
Haec ego; quod voci deerat, plangore replebam;
These-things I; what to-voice was-lacking, with-beating I-filled-up;
verbera cum verbis mixta fuere meis.
blows with words mixed were my.
Si non audires, ut saltem cernere posses,
If not you-could-hear, that at-least to-see you-might-be-able,
iactatae late signa dedere manus;
waved widely signs gave hands;
candidaque inposui longae velamina virgae —
and-white I-put on-long veil pole

scilicet oblitos admonitura mei!
doubtless the-forgetful about-to-remind of-me!
Iamque oculis ereptus eras. tum denique flevi;
And-now from-eyes snatched you-were. then at-last I-wept;
torpuerant molles ante dolore genae.
had-been-numb soft before with-grief cheeks.
Quid potius facerent, quam me mea lumina flerent,
What rather should-they-do, than me my eyes should-weep,
postquam desieram vela videre tua?
after I-had-ceased sails to-see your?
Aut ego diffusis erravi sola capillis,
Either I with-spread I-wandered alone hair,
qualis ab Ogygio concita Baccha deo,
like by Ogygian roused Bacchant god,
aut mare prospiciens in saxo frigida sedi,
or sea looking-out-on on rock cold I-sat,
quamque lapis sedes, tam lapis ipsa fui.
and-as-much stone seat, so-much stone myself I-was.
Saepe torum repeto, qui nos acceperat ambos,
Often bed I-seek-again, which us had-received both,
sed non acceptos exhibiturus erat,
but not received about-to-show was,
et tua, quae possum pro te, vestigia tango
and your, which I-can instead-of you, traces I-touch
strataque quae membris intepuere tuis.
and-coverings which from-limbs grew-warm your.
Incumbo, lacrimisque toro manante profusis,
I-lie-upon, and-with-tears with-bed streaming poured-out,
'Pressimus,' exclamo, 'te duo — redde duos!
'We-pressed,' I-cry-out, 'you two give-back two!

Venimus huc ambo; cur non discedimus ambo?
We-came here both; why not do-we-depart both?
Perfide, pars nostri, lectule, maior ubi est?'
Faithless, part of-us, little-bed, greater where is?'
Quid faciam? quo sola ferar? vacat insula cultu.
What shall-I-do? where alone shall-I-be-borne? is-empty island of-tilling.
Non hominum video, non ego facta boum.
Not of-men I-see, not I works of-oxen.
Omne latus terrae cingit mare; navita nusquam,
Every side of-land surrounds sea; sailor nowhere,
nulla per ambiguas puppis itura vias.
no through doubtful ship about-to-go ways.
Finge dari comitesque mihi ventosque ratemque —
Suppose to-be-given and-companions to-me and-winds and-ship
quid sequar? accessus terra paterna negat.
what shall-I-follow? access land paternal denies.
Ut rate felici pacata per aequora labar,
Granted-that in-ship lucky calmed through seas I-glide,
temperet ut ventos Aeolus — exul ero!
may-temper granted-that winds Aeolus an-exile I-shall-be!
Non ego te, Crete centum digesta per urbes,
Not I you, Crete hundred spread-out among cities,
adspiciam, puero cognita terra Iovi!
shall-look-upon, to-the-boy known land Jupiter!
At pater et tellus iusto regnata parenti
But father and land by-just ruled parent
prodita sunt facto, nomina cara, meo,
betrayed are by-deed, names dear, my,
cum tibi, ne victor tecto morerere recurvo,
when to-you, lest victor in-a-house you-should-die curved-back,

quae regerent passus, pro duce fila dedi,
which might-guide steps, as guide threads I-gave,
cum mihi dicebas: 'per ego ipsa pericula iuro,
when to-me you-were-saying: 'by I the-very dangers swear,
te fore, dum nostrum vivet uterque, meam.'
you to-be, while of-us will-live each, mine.'
Vivimus, et non sum, Theseu, tua — si modo vivit
We-live, and not I-am, Theseus, yours if only lives
femina periuri fraude sepulta viri.
a-woman of-perjured by-fraud buried man.
Me quoque, qua fratrem, mactasses, inprobe, clava;
Me too, with-which brother, you-should-have-slain, shameless, club;
esset, quam dederas, morte soluta fides.
would-be, which you-had-given, by-death released faith.
Nunc ego non tantum, quae sum passura, recordor,
Now I not only, what I-am about-to-suffer, recall,
sed quaecumque potest ulla relicta pati.
but whatever can any abandoned-woman to-suffer.
Occurrunt animo pereundi mille figurae,
Meet to-mind of-perishing a-thousand shapes,
morsque minus poenae quam mora mortis habet.
and-death less of-pain than delay of-death has.
Iam iam venturos aut hac aut suspicor illac,
Now now about-to-come either this-way or I-suspect that-way,
qui lanient avido viscera dente, lupos.
who may-tear with-greedy flesh tooth, wolves.
Quis scit an et fulvos tellus alat ista leones?
Who knows whether also tawny land feeds that lions?
Forsitan et saevas tigridas insula habet.
Perhaps also savage tigers island has.

Et freta dicuntur magnas expellere phocas!
And seas are-said huge to-cast-out seals!
Quis vetat et gladios per latus ire meum?
Who forbids also swords through side to-go my?
Tantum ne religer dura captiva catena,
Only that-not I-be-bound with-hard captive chain,
neve traham serva grandia pensa manu,
nor-that I-draw slave's great tasks with-hand,
cui pater est Minos, cui mater filia Phoebi,
to-whom father is Minos, to-whom mother the-daughter of-Phoebus,
quodque magis memini, quae tibi pacta fui!
and-what more I-remember, who to-you betrothed was!
Si mare, si terras porrectaque litora vidi,
If sea, if lands and-outstretched shores I-saw,
multa mihi terrae, multa minantur aquae.
many-things to-me lands, many threaten waters.
Caelum restabat — timeo simulacra deorum!
Heaven remained I-fear the-images of-gods!
Destituor rapidis praeda cibusque feris;
I-am-abandoned for-ravening prey and-food beasts;
sive colunt habitantque viri, diffidimus illis —
or-if they-till and-dwell men, we-distrust them
externos didici laesa timere viros.
foreign I-have-learned wronged to-fear men.
Viveret Androgeos utinam! nec facta luisses
Would-live Androgeos would-that! nor deeds you-would-have-atoned
inpia funeribus, Cecropi terra, tuis;
impious by-deaths, Cecropian land, your;
nec tua mactasset nodoso stipite, Theseu,
nor your would-have-slain with-knotty stake, Theseus,

ardua parte virum dextera, parte bovem;
lofty in-part man right-hand, in-part bull;
nec tibi, quae reditus monstrarent, fila dedissem,
nor to-you, which returns might-show, threads I-would-have-given,
fila per adductas saepe recepta manus.
threads through drawn-in often taken-back hands.
Non equidem miror, si stat victoria tecum,
Not for-my-part I-wonder, if stands victory with-you,
strataque Cretaeam belua planxit humum.
and-laid-low Cretan monster beat ground.
Non poterant figi praecordia ferrea cornu;
Not could to-be-pierced heart iron by-horn;
ut te non tegeres, pectore tutus eras.
though you not you-covered, by-breast safe you-were.
Illic tu silices, illic adamanta tulisti,
There you flints, there adamant you-carried,
illic qui silices, Thesea, vincat, habes.
there who flints, Theseus, surpasses, you-have.
Crudeles somni, quid me tenuistis inertem?
Cruel sleep, why me did-you-hold idle?
Aut semel aeterna nocte premenda fui.
Or once by-eternal night to-be-pressed I-was.
Vos quoque crudeles, venti, nimiumque parati
You too cruel, winds, and-too ready
flaminaque in lacrimas officiosa meas.
and-blasts toward tears dutiful my.
Dextera crudelis, quae me fratremque necavit,
Right-hand cruel, which me and-brother killed,
et data poscenti, nomen inane, fides!
and given to-one-asking, name empty, faith!

In me iurarunt somnus ventusque fidesque;
Against me conspired sleep and-wind and-faith;
prodita sum causis una puella tribus!
betrayed I-am by-causes one girl three!
Ergo ego nec lacrimas matris moritura videbo,
So I neither tears of-mother about-to-die shall-see,
nec, mea qui digitis lumina condat, erit?
nor, my who with-fingers eyes may-close, will-there-be?
Spiritus infelix peregrinas ibit in auras,
Spirit unhappy foreign will-go into airs,
nec positos artus unguet amica manus?
nor laid-out limbs will-anoint friendly hand?
Ossa superstabunt volucres inhumata marinae?
Bones will-stand-upon birds unburied of-the-sea?
Haec sunt officiis digna sepulcra meis?
These are for-services worthy tombs my?
Ibis Cecropios portus patriaque receptus,
You-will-go Cecropian harbors and-by-fatherland received,
cum steteris turbae celsus in ore tuae
when you-have-stood of-throng high in face your
et bene narraris letum taurique virique
and well you-have-told the-death and-of-bull and-of-man
sectaque per dubias saxea tecta vias,
and-cut through doubtful rocky house ways,
me quoque narrato sola tellure relictam!
me too tell in-lonely land left!
Non ego sum titulis subripienda tuis.
Not I am from-honors to-be-filched your.
Nec pater est Aegeus, nec tu Pittheidos Aethrae
Nor father is Aegeus, nor you of-Pittheus'-daughter Aethra

filius; auctores saxa fretumque tui!
son; the-authors rocks and-sea your!
Di facerent, ut me summa de puppe videres;
Gods would-bring-it-about, that me highest from stern you-might-see;
movisset vultus maesta figura tuos!
would-have-moved face sad figure your!
Nunc quoque non oculis, sed, qua potes, adspice mente
Now too not with-eyes, but, where you-can, look with-mind
haerentem scopulo, quem vaga pulsat aqua.
clinging to-a-crag, which wandering beats water.
Adspice demissos lugentis more capillos
Look-at let-down of-one-mourning in-manner hair
et tunicas lacrimis sicut ab imbre gravis.
and tunic with-tears as from rain heavy.
Corpus, ut inpulsae segetes aquilonibus, horret,
Body, like struck crops by-north-winds, shivers,
litteraque articulo pressa tremente labat.
and-letter by-finger pressed trembling totters.
Non te per meritum, quoniam male cessit, adoro;
Not you by merit, since badly it-turned-out, I-entreat;
debita sit facto gratia nulla meo.
owed let-be to-deed thanks none my.
Sed ne poena quidem! si non ego causa salutis,
But not punishment even! if not I cause of-safety,
non tamen est, cur sis tu mihi causa necis.
not still is, why you-should-be you to-me cause of-death.
Has tibi plangendo lugubria pectora lassas
These to-you by-beating mournful breast weary
infelix tendo trans freta longa manus;
unhappy I-stretch across seas long hands;

hos tibi — qui superant — ostendo maesta capillos!
these to-you which remain I-show sad hair!
Per lacrimas oro, quas tua facta movent —
By tears I-pray, which your deeds move
flecte ratem, Theseu, versoque relabere vento!
turn ship, Theseus, and-turned glide-back with-wind!
Si prius occidero, tu tamen ossa feres!
If before I-shall-have-died, you still bones will-carry!

Canace Macareo

XI · CANACE TO MACAREUS

Canace, daughter of Aeolus, writes to her brother Macareus with a pen in one hand and a sword in the other. Their love made her pregnant; the nurse's herbs failed, and she bore the child in secret. When the nurse tried to smuggle the baby out, its crying betrayed it, and their father ordered it exposed to dogs and birds. He has sent her the sword. She asks Macareus to gather their child's remains and bury them with her.

Siqua tamen caecis errabunt scripta lituris,
If-any still with-blind will-stray writings blots,
oblitus a dominae caede libellus erit.
smeared by of-its-mistress blood the-little-book will-be.
Dextra tenet calamum, strictum tenet altera ferrum,
Right-hand holds pen, drawn holds the-other sword,
et iacet in gremio charta soluta meo.
and lies in lap paper unrolled my.
Haec est Aeolidos fratri scribentis imago;
This is of-Aeolus'-daughter to-brother writing the-image;
sic videor duro posse placere patri.
so I-seem harsh to-be-able to-please father.

Ipse necis cuperem nostrae spectator adesset,
He-himself of-death I-would-wish our as-spectator were-present,
auctorisque oculis exigeretur opus!
and-of-its-author before-the-eyes were-accomplished the-work!
Ut ferus est multoque suis truculentior Euris,
As fierce he-is and-by-far than-his-own more-savage East-winds,
spectasset siccis vulnera nostra genis.
he-would-have-watched with-dry wounds our cheeks.
Scilicet est aliquid, cum saevis vivere ventis;
Doubtless it-is something, with savage to-live winds;
ingenio populi convenit ille sui.
to-the-temper of-his-people suits he his-own.
Ille Noto Zephyroque et Sithonio Aquiloni
He the-South-wind and-the-West-wind and Sithonian North-wind
imperat et pinnis, Eure proterve, tuis.
commands and wings, East-wind wanton, your.
Imperat heu! ventis, tumidae non imperat irae,
He-commands alas! winds, swelling not he-commands wrath,
possidet et vitiis regna minora suis.
he-possesses even than-vices realms lesser his-own.
Quid iuvat admotam per avorum nomina caelo
What does-it-help brought-near through of-ancestors names to-heaven
inter cognatos posse referre Iovem?
among kinsmen to-be-able to-count Jupiter?
Num minus infestum, funebria munera, ferrum
Surely-not less deadly, funeral gifts, the-sword
feminea teneo, non mea tela, manu?
in-woman's I-hold, not my weapons, hand?
O utinam, Macareu, quae nos commisit in unum,
O would-that, Macareus, which us brought into one,

venisset leto serior hora meo!
had-come to-death later the-hour my!

Cur umquam plus me, frater, quam frater amasti,
Why ever more me, brother, than brother did-you-love,

et tibi, non debet quod soror esse, fui?
and to-you, not ought what a-sister to-be, was-I?

Ipsa quoque incalui, qualemque audire solebam,
I-myself too grew-warm, and-such-as to-hear I-used,

nescio quem sensi corde tepente deum.
I-know-not what I-felt in-heart warming god.

Fugerat ore color; macies adduxerat artus;
Had-fled from-face color; leanness had-drawn-in limbs;

sumebant minimos ora coacta cibos;
were-taking smallest mouth forced foods;

nec somni faciles et nox erat annua nobis,
nor sleeps easy and night was a-year to-us,

et gemitum nullo laesa dolore dabam.
and a-groan by-no hurt pain I-gave.

Nec, cur haec facerem, poteram mihi reddere causam
Nor, why these-things I-did, could-I to-myself to-render the-cause

nec noram, quid amans esset; at illud eram.
nor did-I-know, what loving was; but that I-was.

Prima malum nutrix animo praesensit anili;
First the-trouble the-nurse with-mind foresaw aged;

prima mihi nutrix 'Aeoli,' dixit, 'amas!'
first to-me the-nurse 'daughter-of-Aeolus,' said, 'you-love!'

Erubui, gremioque pudor deiecit ocellos;
I-blushed, and-to-lap shame cast-down little-eyes;

haec satis in tacita signa fatentis erant.
these enough in silent signs of-one-confessing were.

Iamque tumescebant vitiati pondera ventris,
And-now were-swelling of-the-violated the-weights womb,
aegraque furtivum membra gravabat onus.
and-sick secret limbs was-weighing-down burden.
Quas mihi non herbas, quae non medicamina nutrix
What to-me not herbs, what not drugs the-nurse
attulit audaci supposuitque manu,
brought with-bold and-applied hand,
ut penitus nostris — hoc te celavimus unum —
that deep from-our this from-you we-have-hidden alone
visceribus crescens excuteretur onus!
womb growing might-be-shaken-out the-burden!
A, nimium vivax admotis restitit infans
Ah, too tenacious-of-life to-applied withstood the-infant
artibus et tecto tutus ab hoste fuit!
arts and hidden safe from foe was!
Iam noviens erat orta soror pulcherrima Phoebi,
Already nine-times had risen the-sister most-beautiful of-Phoebus,
denaque luciferos Luna movebat equos.
and-for-the-tenth light-bearing the-Moon was-moving horses.
Nescia, quae faceret subitos mihi causa dolores,
Not-knowing, what might-make sudden for-me cause pains,
et rudis ad partus et nova miles eram.
both raw for birth and new recruit I-was.
Nec tenui vocem. 'quid,' ait, 'tua crimina prodis?'
Nor did-I-hold-in voice. 'why,' she-says, 'your crimes do-you-betray?'
Oraque clamantis conscia pressit anus.
And-mouth of-the-crying-one knowing pressed the-old-woman.
Quid faciam infelix? gemitus dolor edere cogit,
What am-I-to-do unhappy? groans pain to-utter compels,

sed timor et nutrix et pudor ipse vetant.
but fear and nurse and shame itself forbid.
Contineo gemitus elapsaque verba reprendo
I-hold-in groans and-slipped-out words I-catch-back
et cogor lacrimas conbibere ipsa meas.
and I-am-forced tears to-drink-down myself my.
Mors erat ante oculos, et opem Lucina negabat —
Death was before eyes, and help Lucina was-denying
et grave, si morerer, mors quoque crimen erat —
and grave, if I-should-die, death too a-crime was
cum super incumbens scissa tunicaque comaque
when over leaning with-torn and-tunic and-hair
pressa refovisti pectora nostra tuis,
pressed you-warmed breasts our with-yours,
et mihi 'vive, soror, soror o carissima,' aisti;
and to-me 'live, sister, sister O dearest,' you-said;
'vive nec unius corpore perde duos!
'live and-not of-one in-the-body destroy two!
Spes bona det vires; fratri nam nupta futura es.
Hope good may-give strength; to-a-brother for bride about-to-be you-are.
Illius, de quo mater, et uxor eris.'
Of-him, by whom mother, also wife you-will-be.'
Mortua, crede mihi, tamen ad tua verba revixi:
Dead, believe me, still at your words I-revived:
et positum est uteri crimen onusque mei.
and laid-down was of-the-womb the-crime and-burden my.
Quid tibi grataris? media sedet Aeolus aula;
Why yourself do-you-congratulate? in-mid sits Aeolus hall;
crimina sunt oculis subripienda patris.
crimes are from-the-eyes to-be-filched of-father.

Frugibus infantem ramisque albentis olivae
With-fruits the-infant and-with-branches of-whitening olive
et levibus vittis sedula celat anus,
and with-light fillets busily hides the-old-woman,
fictaque sacra facit dicitque precantia verba;
and-pretended sacred-rites performs and-says praying words;
dat populus sacris, dat pater ipse viam.
gives the-people to-the-rites, gives father himself way.
Iam prope limen erat — patrias vagitus ad auris
Now near the-threshold she-was paternal crying to ears
venit, et indicio proditur ille suo!
came, and by-evidence is-betrayed he his-own!
Eripit infantem mentitaque sacra revelat
He-snatches the-infant and-feigned rites lays-bare
Aeolus; insana regia voce sonat.
Aeolus; raving the-palace with-voice resounds.
Ut mare fit tremulum, tenui cum stringitur aura,
As the-sea becomes trembling, slight when it-is-grazed breeze,
ut quatitur tepido fraxina virga Noto,
as is-shaken by-warm ash-tree branch South-wind,
sic mea vibrari pallentia membra videres;
so my to-shake pale limbs you-would-have-seen;
quassus ab inposito corpore lectus erat.
shaken by laid-upon body the-bed was.
Inruit et nostrum vulgat clamore pudorem,
He-rushes-in and our proclaims with-shouting shame,
et vix a misero continet ore manus.
and hardly from wretched holds-back face hands.
Ipsa nihil praeter lacrimas pudibunda profudi;
Myself nothing except tears ashamed I-poured-out;

torpuerat gelido lingua retenta metu.
had-gone-numb with-chill tongue held-back fear.
Iamque dari parvum canibusque avibusque nepotem
And-now to-be-given the-little both-to-dogs and-to-birds grandson
iusserat, in solis destituique locis.
he-had-ordered, in lonely and-to-be-abandoned places.
Vagitus dedit ille miser — sensisse putares — 85
Cries gave he wretched to-have-understood you-would-think
quaque suum poterat voce rogabat avum.
and-with-what his-own he-could voice he-was-begging grandfather.
Quid mihi tunc animi credis, germane, fuisse —
What to-me then of-spirit do-you-think, brother, to-have-been
nam potes ex animo colligere ipse tuo —
for you-can from mind to-gather yourself your
cum mea me coram silvas inimicus in altas
when my me in-presence forests hostile into deep
viscera montanis ferret edenda lupis? 90
flesh to-mountain was-carrying to-be-eaten wolves?
Exierat thalamo; tunc demum pectora plangi
He-had-gone-out from-the-chamber; then at-last breast to-be-beaten
contigit inque meas unguibus ire genas.
befell and-into my with-nails to-go cheeks.
Interea patrius vultu maerente satelles
Meanwhile my-father's with-face grieving attendant
venit et indignos edidit ore sonos:
came and unworthy uttered from-mouth sounds:
'Aeolus hunc ensem mittit tibi' — tradidit ensem — 95
'Aeolus this sword sends you' he-handed-over sword
'et iubet ex merito scire, quid iste velit.'
'and bids from desert to-know, what that means.'

Scimus, et utemur violento fortiter ense;
We-know, and we-will-use violent bravely sword;
pectoribus condam dona paterna meis.
in-breast I-will-bury gifts paternal my.
His mea muneribus, genitor, conubia donas?
With-these my gifts, father, marriage do-you-endow?
Hac tua dote, pater, filia dives erit?
With-this your dowry, father, daughter rich will-be?
Tolle procul, decepte, faces, Hymenaee, maritas
Take far, deceived, torches, Hymenaeus, marital
et fuge turbato tecta nefanda pede!
and flee with-confused house abominable foot!
Ferte faces in me quas fertis, Erinyes atrae,
Bring torches against me which you-bring, Erinyes black,
et meus ex isto luceat igne rogus!
and my from that may-shine fire pyre!
Nubite felices Parca meliore sorores,
Marry happy with-a-Fate better sisters,
amissae memores sed tamen este mei!
lost mindful but still be of-me!
Quid puer admisit tam paucis editus horis?
What has-the-boy done-wrong so few born hours?
Quo laesit facto vix bene natus avum?
By-what has-he-hurt deed hardly well born grandfather?
Si potuit meruisse necem, meruisse putetur —
If he-could to-have-deserved death, to-have-deserved let-him-be-thought
a, miser admisso plectitur ille meo!
ah, wretched for-the-wrong is-punished he my!
Nate, dolor matris, rapidarum praeda ferarum,
Son, grief of-mother, of-ravening prey of-beasts,

ei mihi! natali dilacerate tuo;
ah me! on-birthday torn-apart your;
nate, parum fausti miserabile pignus amoris —
son, too-little of-fortunate pitiable pledge of-love
haec tibi prima dies, haec tibi summa fuit.
this to-you first day, this to-you last was.
Non mihi te licuit lacrimis perfundere iustis,
Not to-me you was-it-allowed with-tears to-bathe due,
in tua non tonsas ferre sepulcra comas;
to your not shorn to-bear tomb hair;
non super incubui, non oscula frigida carpsi.
not over-you I-leaned, not kisses cold I-plucked.
Diripiunt avidae viscera nostra ferae.
Tear-apart greedy flesh our beasts.
Ipsa quoque infantis cum vulnere prosequar umbras
Myself too of-the-infant with wound I-shall-follow shades
nec mater fuero dicta nec orba diu.
nor mother shall-I-have-been called nor bereaved long.
Tu tamen, o frustra miserae sperate sorori,
You still, O in-vain to-wretched hoped-for sister,
sparsa, precor, nati collige membra tui,
scattered, I-pray, of-son gather limbs your,
et refer ad matrem socioque inpone sepulcro,
and bring-back to mother and-on-shared place tomb,
urnaque nos habeat quamlibet arta duos!
and-urn us may-hold however narrow two!
Vive memor nostri, lacrimasque in vulnera funde,
Live mindful of-us, and-tears upon wounds pour,
neve reformida corpus amantis amans.
and-not shrink-from the-body of-one-loving loving.

Tu, rogo, dilectae nimium mandata sororis
You, I-ask, of-loved too-much the-commands sister
perfer; mandatum persequar ipsa patris!
carry-out; the-command I-shall-carry-out myself of-father!

Medea Iasoni

XII · MEDEA TO JASON

Medea writes to Jason, who has left her for the Corinthian king's daughter. She wishes he had never reached Colchis, and recalls their first meeting, the bulls, the sown men, and the dragon she put to sleep for him. She left father and country, and her brother's death lies on her. Now the wedding hymn reaches her ears, and their younger son reports the procession. She begs him to return; failing that, her anger plans something greater.

At tibi Colchorum, memini, regina vacavi,
But for-you of-the-Colchians, I-remember, the-queen I-had-time,
ars mea cum peteres ut tibi ferret opem.
art my when you-were-asking that to-you it-might-bring help.
Tunc quae dispensant mortalia fata sorores
Then who dispense mortal fates the-sisters
debuerant fusos evoluisse meos.
ought spindles to-have-unwound my.
Tum potui Medea mori bene! quidquid ab illo
Then I-could Medea to-die well! whatever from that
produxi vitam tempore, poena fuit.
I-prolonged life time, punishment was.
Ei mihi! cur umquam iuvenalibus acta lacertis
Ah me! why ever by-youthful driven arms
Phrixeam petiit Pelias arbor ovem?
the-Phrixean sought Pelian tree sheep?

Cur umquam Colchi Magnetida vidimus Argon,
Why ever Colchians Magnesian did-we-see Argo,
turbaque Phasiacam Graia bibistis aquam?
and-throng Phasian Greek did-you-drink water?
Cur mihi plus aequo flavi placuere capilli
Why to-me more than-right golden pleased hair
et decor et linguae gratia ficta tuae?
and grace and of-tongue charm false your?
Aut, semel in nostras quoniam nova puppis harenas
Or, once onto our since new ship sands
venerat audacis attuleratque viros,
had-come daring and-had-brought men,
isset anhelatos non praemedicatus in ignes
would-have-gone breathed-out not pre-drugged into fires
inmemor Aesonides oraque adusta boum;
unmindful the-son-of-Aeson and-mouths scorched of-oxen;
semina iecisset, totidemque et semina et hostes,
seeds he-should-have-cast, and-as-many both seeds and foes,
ut caderet cultu cultor ab ipse suo!
that might-fall tillage the-tiller by himself his-own!
Quantum perfidiae tecum, scelerate, perisset,
How-much of-treachery with-you, wicked-one, would-have-perished,
dempta forent capiti quam mala multa meo!
taken-away would-have-been from-head how evils many my!
Est aliqua ingrato meritum exprobrare voluptas.
There-is some to-the-ungrateful a-service to-reproach pleasure.
Hac fruar; haec de te gaudia sola feram.
This I-will-enjoy; these from you joys only I-will-bear.
Iussus inexpertam Colchos advertere puppim
Ordered untried to-Colchis to-turn ship

intrasti patriae regna beata meae.
you-entered of-fatherland the-realms blessed my.
Hoc illic Medea fui, nova nupta quod hic est;
This there Medea I-was, the-new bride what here is;
quam pater est illi, tam mihi dives erat.
as-much-as father is to-her, so to-me rich was.
Hic Ephyren bimarem, Scythia tenus ille nivosa
This-one Ephyre two-seaed, to-Scythia as-far-as that-one snowy
omne tenet, Ponti qua plaga laeva iacet.
all holds, of-Pontus where region left lies.
Accipit hospitio iuvenes Aeeta Pelasgos,
Receives as-guests the-young-men Aeetes Pelasgian,
et premitis pictos, corpora Graia, toros.
and you-press painted, bodies Greek, couches.
Tunc ego te vidi, tunc coepi scire, quis esses;
Then I you saw, then I-began to-know, who you-were;
illa fuit mentis prima ruina meae.
that was of-mind the-first ruin my.
Et vidi et perii; nec notis ignibus arsi,
Both I-saw and I-was-lost; nor with-known fires I-burned,
ardet ut ad magnos pinea taeda deos.
it-burns as before great pine torch gods.
Et formosus eras, et me mea fata trahebant;
Both handsome you-were, and me my fates were-dragging;
abstulerant oculi lumina nostra tui.
had-taken-away eyes the-light our your.
Perfide, sensisti — quis enim bene celat amorem?
Faithless-one, you-perceived who indeed well hides love?
Eminet indicio prodita flamma suo.
Stands-out by-evidence betrayed flame its-own.

Dicitur interea tibi lex ut dura ferorum
Is-told meanwhile to-you a-law that the-hard of-fierce
insolito premeres vomere colla boum.
with-unaccustomed you-should-press plowshare necks of-oxen.
Martis erant tauri plus quam per cornua saevi,
Of-Mars were the-bulls more than by horns savage,
quorum terribilis spiritus ignis erat;
whose terrible breath fire was;
aere pedes solidi praetentaque naribus aera,
with-bronze feet solid and-stretched-before nostrils bronze,
nigra per adflatus haec quoque facta suos.
black from breathings these too made their-own.
Semina praeterea populos genitura iuberis
Seeds besides peoples about-to-beget you-are-ordered
spargere devota lata per arva manu,
to-scatter with-accursed wide over fields hand,
qui peterent natis secum tua corpora telis;
who might-seek with-born with-them your body weapons;
illa est agricolae messis iniqua suo.
that is for-farmer harvest unjust its-own.
Lumina custodis succumbere nescia somno,
The-eyes of-the-guardian to-yield not-knowing to-sleep,
ultimus est aliqua decipere arte labor.
the-last is by-some to-deceive art labor.
Dixerat Aeetes; maesti consurgitis omnes,
Had-spoken Aeetes; sad you-rise all,
mensaque purpureos deserit alta toros.
and-table purple deserts high couches.
Quam tibi tunc longe regnum dotale Creusae
How to-you then far the-realm dowered of-Creusa

et socer et magni nata Creontis erat?
and father-in-law and of-great the-daughter Creon was?
Tristis abis; oculis abeuntem prosequor udis,
Sad you-go-away; with-eyes going I-follow wet,
et dixit tenui murmure lingua: 'vale!'
and said faint with-murmur tongue: 'farewell!'
Ut positum tetigi thalamo male saucia lectum,
When placed I-touched in-chamber badly wounded bed,
acta est per lacrimas nox mihi, quanta fuit;
spent was in tears the-night by-me, as-long-as it-was;
ante oculos taurique meos segetesque nefandae,
before eyes both-bulls my and-crops unspeakable,
ante meos oculos pervigil anguis erat.
before my eyes the-ever-watchful serpent was.
Hinc amor, hinc timor est; ipsum timor auget amorem.
On-this-side love, on-that fear is; itself fear increases love.
Mane erat, et thalamo cara recepta soror
Morning it-was, and into-chamber dear received sister
disiectamque comas adversaque in ora iacentem
and-dishevelled as-to-hair and-turned-to on face lying
invenit, et lacrimis omnia plena meis.
found, and with-tears everything full my.
Orat opem Minyis. alter petit, alter habebit;
She-begs help for-the-Minyans. one seeks, another will-have;
Aesonio iuveni quod rogat illa, damus.
to-the-Aesonian youth what asks she, we-give.
Est nemus et piceis et frondibus ilicis atrum;
There-is a-grove both with-pitch-pines and with-leaves of-ilex dark;
vix illuc radiis solis adire licet.
hardly there by-rays of-sun to-come is-allowed.

Sunt in eo — fuerant certe — delubra Dianae;
There-are in it there-had-been surely shrines of-Diana;
aurea barbarica stat dea facta manu.
golden by-barbarian stands goddess made hand.
Noscis? an exciderunt mecum loca? venimus illuc.
Do-you-know? or have-fallen-out with-me places? we-came there.
Orsus es infido sic prior ore loqui:
Begun you-have with-faithless so first mouth to-speak:
'Ius tibi et arbitrium nostrae fortuna salutis
'Right to-you and judgment of-our fortune safety
tradidit, inque tua est vitaque morsque manu.
has-handed-over, and-in your is and-life and-death hand.
Perdere posse sat est, siquem iuvet ipsa potestas;
To-destroy to-be-able enough is, if-anyone pleases itself power;
sed tibi servatus gloria maior ero.
but to-you preserved glory greater I-shall-be.
Per mala nostra precor, quorum potes esse levamen,
By misfortunes our I-pray, of-which you-can to-be relief,
per genus, et numen cuncta videntis avi,
by race, and divinity all seeing of-grandfather,
per triplicis vultus arcanaque sacra Dianae,
by of-triple face and-secret rites of-Diana,
et si forte aliquos gens habet ista deos —
and if perhaps any race has that gods
o virgo, miserere mei, miserere meorum;
O maiden, pity me, pity mine;
effice me meritis tempus in omne tuum!
make me by-merits time for all yours!
Quodsi forte virum non dedignare Pelasgum —
But-if perhaps a-husband not you-disdain Pelasgian

sed mihi tam faciles unde meosque deos? —
but to-me so ready whence and-my gods?
spiritus ante meus tenues vanescat in auras
breath sooner my thin may-vanish into airs
quam thalamo nisi tu nupta sit ulla meo!
than in-chamber unless you bride be any my!
Conscia sit Iuno sacris praefecta maritis,
Witness be Juno over-rites set marital,
et dea marmorea cuius in aede sumus!'
and the-goddess marble whose in shrine we-are!'
Haec animum — et quota pars haec sunt! — movere puellae
These the-mind and what a-part these are! moved of-a-girl
simplicis, et dextrae dextera iuncta meae.
simple, and to-right-hand right-hand joined my.
Vidi etiam lacrimas — an pars est fraudis in illis?
I-saw also tears or part is of-fraud in them?
Sic cito sum verbis capta puella tuis.
So quickly I-was by-words captured a-girl your.
Iungis et aeripedes inadusto corpore tauros
You-yoke both bronze-footed with-unscorched body bulls
et solidam iusso vomere findis humum.
and solid with-ordered plowshare you-cleave ground.
Arva venenatis pro semine dentibus inples;
Fields with-poisoned instead-of seed teeth you-fill;
nascitur et gladios scutaque miles habet.
is-born and swords and-shields a-soldier has.
Ipsa ego, quae dederam medicamina, pallida sedi,
Myself I, who had-given drugs, pale sat,
cum vidi subitos arma tenere viros;
when I-saw sudden arms to-hold men;

donec terrigenae, facinus mirabile, fratres
until earthborn, deed marvelous, brothers
inter se strictas conseruere manus.
among themselves drawn joined hands.
Insopor ecce vigil squamis crepitantibus horrens
Sleepless behold the-watchman with-scales rattling bristling
sibilat et torto pectore verrit humum!
hisses and with-twisted breast sweeps ground!
Illa ego, quae tibi sum nunc denique barbara facta,
That-same I, who to-you am now at-last barbarian made,
nunc tibi sum pauper, nunc tibi visa nocens,
now to-you I-am poor, now to-you seemed guilty,
flammea subduxi medicato lumina somno,
flaming I-drew-under with-drugged eyes sleep,
et tibi, quae raperes, vellera tuta dedi.
and to-you, which you-might-snatch, fleece safe I-gave.
Proditus est genitor, regnum patriamque reliqui;
Betrayed is my-father, realm and-fatherland I-left;
munus, in exilio quod licet esse, tuli!
the-reward, in exile which is-allowed to-be, I-have-borne!
Virginitas facta est peregrini praeda latronis;
Virginity made is of-a-foreign the-prey robber;
optima cum cara matre relicta soror.
best with dear mother left sister.
At non te fugiens sine me, germane, reliqui!
But not you fleeing without me, brother, I-left!
Deficit hoc uno littera nostra loco.
Fails at-this one letter our place.
Quod facere ausa mea est, non audet scribere dextra.
What to-do dared my has, not dares to-write right-hand.

Sic ego, sed tecum, dilaceranda fui.
So I, but with-you, to-be-torn-apart ought-to-have-been.
Nec tamen extimui — quid enim post illa timerem? —
Nor still did-I-fear what indeed after those-things should-I-fear?
credere me pelago, femina iamque nocens.
to-trust me to-the-sea, a-woman and-already guilty.
Numen ubi est? ubi di? meritas subeamus in alto,
The-divinity where is? where gods? deserved let-us-undergo on deep,
tu fraudis poenas, credulitatis ego!
you of-fraud penalties, of-credulity I!
Compressos utinam Symplegades elisissent,
Crushed would-that the-Symplegades had-dashed,
nostraque adhaererent ossibus ossa tuis;
and-our might-cling to-bones bones your;
aut nos Scylla rapax canibus mersisset edendos —
or us Scylla rapacious to-dogs had-sunk to-be-eaten
debuit ingratis Scylla nocere viris;
ought to-ungrateful Scylla to-harm men;
quaeque vomit totidem fluctus totidemque resorbet,
and-she-who vomits as-many waves and-as-many sucks-back,
nos quoque Trinacriae supposuisset aquae!
us too to-Trinacrian had-put-under water!
Sospes ad Haemonias victorque reverteris urbes;
Safe to Haemonian and-victor you-return cities;
ponitur ad patrios aurea lana deos.
is-placed before ancestral golden fleece gods.
Quid referam Peliae natas pietate nocentes
Why should-I-tell of-Pelias the-daughters by-duty guilty
caesaque virginea membra paterna manu?
and-cut-up by-maiden limbs paternal hand?

Ut culpent alii, tibi me laudare necesse est,
Though may-blame others, for-you me to-praise necessary is,
pro quo sum totiens esse coacta nocens.
for whom I-was so-often to-be compelled guilty.
Ausus es — o, iusto desunt sua verba dolori! —
Dared you-have O, to-just are-lacking its-own words grief!
ausus es 'Aesonia,' dicere, 'cede domo!'
dared you-have 'Aesonian,' to-say, 'leave house!'
Iussa domo cessi natis comitata duobus
Ordered from-house I-withdrew by-children accompanied two
et, qui me sequitur semper, amore tui.
and, which me follows always, by-love of-you.
Ut subito nostras Hymen cantatus ad aures
When suddenly our Hymen sung to ears
venit, et accenso lampades igne micant,
came, and kindled lamps with-fire flash,
tibiaque effundit socialia carmina vobis,
and-the-pipe pours-out nuptial songs for-you,
at mihi funerea flebiliora tuba,
but for-me than-funeral more-tearful trumpet,
pertimui, nec adhuc tantum scelus esse putabam;
I-was-terrified, nor yet so-great a-crime to-be I-thought;
sed tamen in toto pectore frigus erat.
but still in whole breast a-chill was.
Turba ruunt et 'Hymen,' clamant, 'Hymenaee!' frequenter —
The-throng rush and 'Hymen,' they-shout, 'Hymenaeus!' repeatedly
quo propior vox haec, hoc mihi peius erat.
by-what nearer voice this, by-this to-me worse it-was.
Diversi flebant servi lacrimasque tegebant —
Apart wept the-slaves and-tears were-hiding

quis vellet tanti nuntius esse mali?
who would-wish of-so-great messenger to-be evil?
Me quoque, quidquid erat, potius nescire iuvabat;
Me too, whatever it-was, rather not-to-know was-pleasing;
sed tamquam scirem, mens mea tristis erat,
but as-if I-knew, mind my sad was,
cum minor e pueris iussus studioque videndi
when the-younger of the-boys ordered and-with-eagerness of-seeing
constitit ad geminae limina prima foris.
stood at of-double threshold first door.
'Hinc' mihi 'mater, abi! pompam pater,' inquit, 'Iason
'From-here' to-me 'mother, go-away! procession father,' he-says, 'Jason
ducit et adiunctos aureus urget equos!'
leads and yoked golden urges horses!"
Protinus abscissa planxi mea pectora veste,
At-once with-torn I-beat my breast garment,
tuta nec a digitis ora fuere meis.
safe nor from fingers face were my.
Ire animus mediae suadebat in agmina turbae
To-go spirit middle was-urging into ranks of-the-throng
sertaque conpositis demere rapta comis;
and-garlands from-arranged to-pull snatched hair;
vix me continui, quin sic laniata capillos
hardly myself I-restrained, but-that so torn as-to-hair
clamarem 'meus est!' iniceremque manus.
I-should-cry 'mine he-is!' and-should-lay hands.
Laese pater, gaude! Colchi gaudete relicti!
Wronged father, rejoice! Colchians rejoice abandoned!
Inferias umbrae fratris habete mei;
As-offerings to-the-shade of-brother have my;

deseror amissis regno patriaque domoque
I-am-deserted with-lost realm and-fatherland and-home
coniuge, qui nobis omnia solus erat!
by-husband, who to-us all alone was!
Serpentis igitur potui taurosque furentes;
Serpents therefore I-could and-bulls raging;
unum non potui perdomuisse virum,
one not I-could to-have-subdued man,
quaeque feros pepuli doctis medicatibus ignes,
and-I-who fierce drove-back with-skilled drugs fires,
non valeo flammas effugere ipsa meas.
not I-am-able flames to-escape myself my.
Ipsi me cantus herbaeque artesque relinquunt;
Very me spells and-herbs and-arts abandon;
nil dea, nil Hecates sacra potentis agunt.
nothing goddess, nothing of-Hecate the-rites powerful do.
Non mihi grata dies; noctes vigilantur amarae,
Not to-me welcome day; nights are-kept-awake bitter,
et tener a misero pectore somnus abit.
and tender from wretched breast sleep departs.
Quae me non possum, potui sopire draconem;
I-who me not can, I-could to-put-to-sleep the-dragon;
utilior cuivis quam mihi cura mea est.
more-useful to-anyone than to-me care my is.
Quos ego servavi, paelex amplectitur artus,
Which I preserved, the-mistress embraces limbs,
et nostri fructus illa laboris habet.
and of-our the-fruits she labor has.
Forsitan et, stultae dum te iactare maritae
Perhaps also, to-foolish while you to-boast wife

quaeris et iniustis auribus apta loqui,
you-seek and to-unjust ears fitting-things to-say,
in faciem moresque meos nova crimina fingas.
against face and-character my new charges you-may-invent.
Rideat et vitiis laeta sit illa meis!
Let-her-laugh and at-faults glad let-be she my!
Rideat et Tyrio iaceat sublimis in ostro —
Let-her-laugh and Tyrian let-her-lie lofty on purple
flebit et ardores vincet adusta meos!
she-will-weep and fires will-surpass burnt my!
Dum ferrum flammaeque aderunt sucusque veneni,
While sword and-flames will-be-at-hand and-juice of-poison,
hostis Medeae nullus inultus erit!
foe of-Medea none unavenged will-be!
Quodsi forte preces praecordia ferrea tangunt,
But-if perhaps prayers heart iron touch,
nunc animis audi verba minora meis!
now than-spirit hear words lesser my!
Tam tibi sum supplex, quam tu mihi saepe fuisti,
So-much to-you I-am suppliant, as-much-as you to-me often were,
nec moror ante tuos procubuisse pedes.
nor do-I-delay before your to-have-fallen-down feet.
Si tibi sum vilis, communis respice natos;
If to-you I-am cheap, common look-at children;
saeviet in partus dira noverca meos.
will-rage against offspring dread stepmother my.
Et nimium similes tibi sunt, et imagine tangor,
Both too-much like you they-are, and by-the-likeness I-am-touched,
et quotiens video, lumina nostra madent.
and as-often-as I-see, eyes our are-wet.

Per superos oro, per avitae lumina flammae,
By the-gods-above I-pray, by of-ancestral the-light flame,
per meritum et natos, pignora nostra, duos —
by merit and children, pledges our, two
redde torum, pro quo tot res insana reliqui;
give-back the-bed, for which so-many things mad I-left;
adde fidem dictis auxiliumque refer!
add faith to-words and-help bring-back!
Non ego te inploro contra taurosque virosque,
Not I you implore against both-bulls and-men,
utque tua serpens victa quiescat ope;
and-that by-your serpent conquered may-rest help;
te peto, quem merui, quem nobis ipse dedisti,
you I-seek, whom I-earned, whom to-us yourself you-gave,
cum quo sum pariter facta parente parens.
with whom I-was equally made with-a-parent parent.
Dos ubi sit, quaeris? campo numeravimus illo,
The-dowry where is-it, do-you-ask? in-field we-counted-it that,
qui tibi laturo vellus arandus erat.
which for-you about-to-carry fleece to-be-plowed was.
Aureus ille aries villo spectabilis alto
Golden that ram for-fleece remarkable deep
dos mea, quam, dicam si tibi 'redde!' neges.
dowry my, which, should-I-say if to-you 'give-back!' you-would-refuse.
Dos mea tu sospes; dos est mea Graia iuventus!
Dowry my you safe; dowry is my Greek youth!
I nunc, Sisyphias, inprobe, confer opes!
Go now, Sisyphean, shameless, compare wealth!
Quod vivis, quod habes nuptam socerumque potentis,
That you-live, that you-have bride and-father-in-law powerful,

hoc ipsum, ingratus quod potes esse, meum est.
this itself, ungrateful that you-can to-be, mine is.
Quos equidem actutum — sed quid praedicere poenam
Whom indeed instantly but why to-foretell punishment
attinet? ingentis parturit ira minas.
does-it-concern? huge travails-with wrath threats.
Quo feret ira, sequar! facti fortasse pigebit —
Where will-bear wrath, I-shall-follow! the-deed perhaps will-irk
et piget infido consuluisse viro.
and it-irks faithless to-have-cared-for man.
Viderit ista deus, qui nunc mea pectora versat!
Let-see-to those-things god, who now my breast turns!
Nescio quid certe mens mea maius agit!
I-know-not what surely mind my greater is-plotting!

Laodamia Protesilao

XIII · LAODAMIA TO PROTESILAUS

Laodamia writes to her husband Protesilaus, held with the Greek fleet at Aulis by contrary winds. She fainted when his sails vanished from sight and has refused fine clothes while he is at war. She warns him to beware of Hector and to keep back from the fighting, since the oracle says the first Greek to land at Troy will die. She sleeps with a wax image of him and swears to follow him wherever he goes.

Mittit et optat amans, quo mittitur, ire salutem
Sends and wishes loving, where it-is-sent, to-go greeting
Haemonis Haemonio Laudamia viro.
Haemonian to-Haemonian Laodamia husband.
Aulide te fama est vento retinente morari.
At-Aulis you report is with-wind holding-back to-delay.

A, me cum fugeres, hic ubi ventus erat?
Ah, me when you-fled, here where the-wind was?
Tum freta debuerant vestris obsistere remis;
Then the-seas ought your to-have-resisted oars;
illud erat saevis utile tempus aquis.
that was for-savage useful the-time waters.
Oscula plura viro mandataque plura dedissem;
Kisses more to-husband and-commands more I-would-have-given;
et sunt quae volui dicere multa tibi.
and there-are which I-wished to-say many to-you.
Raptus es hinc praeceps, et qui tua vela vocaret,
Snatched you-were from-here headlong, and which your sails might-call,
quem cuperent nautae, non ego, ventus erat;
which might-desire sailors, not I, a-wind was;
ventus erat nautis aptus, non aptus amanti.
a-wind was for-sailors fit, not fit for-one-loving.
Solvor ab amplexu, Protesilae, tuo,
I-am-loosed from embrace, Protesilaus, your,
linguaque mandantis verba inperfecta reliquit;
and-the-tongue of-one-commanding words unfinished left;
vix illud potui dicere triste 'vale!'
hardly that I-could to-say sad 'farewell!'
Incubuit Boreas abreptaque vela tetendit,
Fell-upon Boreas and-snatched sails stretched,
iamque meus longe Protesilaus erat.
and-already my far-off Protesilaus was.
Dum potui spectare virum, spectare iuvabat,
While I-could to-watch husband, to-watch it-pleased,
sumque tuos oculos usque secuta meis;
and-I-have your eyes continually followed with-mine;

ut te non poteram, poteram tua vela videre,
when you not I-could, I-could your sails to-see,
vela diu vultus detinuere meos.
sails long face held my.
At postquam nec te nec vela fugacia vidi,
But after neither you nor sails fleeing I-saw,
et quod spectarem nil nisi pontus erat,
and what I-might-watch nothing except sea was,
lux quoque tecum abiit, tenebrisque exanguis obortis
light too with-you went-away, and-with-darkness bloodless arisen
succiduo dicor procubuisse genu.
with-giving-way I-am-said to-have-sunk knee.
Vix socer Iphiclus, vix me grandaevus Acastus,
Hardly father-in-law Iphiclus, hardly me aged Acastus,
vix mater gelida maesta refecit aqua;
hardly mother with-cold sad revived water;
officium fecere pium, sed inutile nobis.
duty they-did dutiful, but useless to-us.
Indignor miserae non licuisse mori!
I-resent for-wretched not to-have-been-allowed to-die!
Ut rediit animus, pariter rediere dolores.
When returned spirit, equally returned pains.
Pectora legitimus casta momordit amor.
Breast lawful chaste bit love.
Nec mihi pectendos cura est praebere capillos,
Nor to-me to-be-combed care is to-offer hair,
nec libet aurata corpora veste tegi.
nor does-it-please gilded body with-garment to-be-covered.
Ut quas pampinea tetigisse Bicorniger hasta,
As those-whom with-vine-leafed to-have-touched the-Two-Horned spear,

creditur, huc illuc, qua furor egit, eo.
are-believed, here there, where frenzy drove, I-go.
Conveniunt matres Phylaceides et mihi clamant:
Gather mothers Phylacean and to-me shout:
'Indue regales, Laudamia, sinus!'
'Put-on royal, Laodamia, robes!'
Scilicet ipsa geram saturatas murice vestes,
Doubtless I-myself shall-wear soaked with-purple garments,
bella sub Iliacis moenibus ille geret?
wars under Ilian walls he will-wage?
Ipsa comas pectar, galea caput ille premetur?
I-myself hair shall-comb, with-helmet head he will-be-pressed?
Ipsa novas vestes, dura vir arma feret?
I-myself new garments, hard husband arms will-bear?
Qua possum, squalore tuos imitata labores
Where I-can, by-squalor your having-imitated labors
dicar, et haec belli tempora tristis agam.
I-shall-be-said, and these of-war times sad I-shall-spend.
Dyspari Priamide, damno formose tuorum,
Ill-starred-Paris son-of-Priam, to-the-ruin handsome of-your-own,
tam sis hostis iners, quam malus hospes eras!
so may-you-be as-foe sluggish, as bad as-guest you-were!
Aut te Taenariae faciem culpasse maritae,
Either you of-the-Taenarian face to-have-faulted wife,
aut illi vellem displicuisse tuam!
or to-her I-would-wish to-have-displeased yours!
Tu, qui pro rapta nimium, Menelae, laboras,
You, who for snatched too-much, Menelaus, you-labor,
ei mihi, quam multis flebilis ultor eris!
ah me, how to-many tearful avenger you-will-be!

Di, precor, a nobis omen removete sinistrum,
Gods, I-pray, from us omen remove left,
et sua det Reduci vir meus arma Iovi!
and his-own may-give to-the-Bringer-Back husband my arms Jupiter!
Sed timeo, quotiens subiit miserabile bellum;
But I-fear, as-often-as has-come-to-mind pitiable war;
more nivis lacrimae sole madentis eunt.
in-manner of-snow tears in-sun melting go.
Ilion et Tenedos Simoisque et Xanthus et Ide
Ilium and Tenedos and-Simois and Xanthus and Ida
nomina sunt ipso paene timenda sono.
names are by-very almost to-be-feared sound.
Nec rapere ausurus, nisi se defendere posset,
Nor to-snatch about-to-dare, unless himself to-defend he-could,
hospes erat; vires noverat ille suas.
the-guest was; strength had-known he his-own.
Venerat, ut fama est, multo spectabilis auro
He-had-come, as report is, with-much conspicuous gold
quique suo Phrygias corpore ferret opes,
and-who on-his-own Phrygian body bore wealth,
classe virisque potens, per quae fera bella geruntur —
in-fleet and-men powerful, through which fierce wars are-waged
et sequitur regni pars quotacumque sui?
and follows of-realm part how-small-soever his-own?
His ego te victam, consors Ledaea gemellis,
By-these I you conquered, consort of-Leda twins,
suspicor; haec Danais posse nocere puto.
I-suspect; these to-Danaans to-be-able to-harm I-think.
Hectora, quisquis is est, si sum tibi cara, caveto;
Hector, whoever he is, if I-am to-you dear, beware;

signatum memori pectore nomen habe!
sealed in-mindful breast name have!
Hunc ubi vitaris, alios vitare memento
Him when you-have-avoided, others to-avoid remember
et multos illic Hectoras esse puta;
and many there Hectors to-be think;
et facito ut dicas, quotiens pugnare parabis:
and see-to-it that you-say, as-often-as to-fight you-prepare:
'parcere me iussit Laudamia sibi.'
'to-spare me ordered Laodamia herself.'
Si cadere Argolico fas est sub milite Troiam,
If to-fall by-Argive right is under soldiery Troy,
te quoque non ullum vulnus habente cadat!
with-you too not any wound having may-it-fall!
Pugnet et adversos tendat Menelaus in hostis;
Let-fight and opposing let-strive Menelaus against foes;
hostibus e mediis nupta petenda viro est.
foes from middle bride to-be-sought by-husband is.
Causa tua est dispar; tu tantum vivere pugna,
The-cause your is unlike; you only to-live fight,
inque pios dominae posse redire sinus.
and-into dutiful of-your-lady to-be-able to-return bosom.
Parcite, Dardanidae, de tot, precor, hostibus uni,
Spare, sons-of-Dardanus, from so-many, I-pray, foes one,
ne meus ex illo corpore sanguis eat!
lest my from that body blood may-go!
Non est quem deceat nudo concurrere ferro,
Not be-is whom it-befits with-bare to-clash sword,
saevaque in oppositos pectora ferre viros;
and-savage against opposed breast to-bear men;

fortius ille potest multo, quam pugnat, amare.
more-bravely he can by-much, than he-fights, to-love.
Bella gerant alii; Protesilaus amet!
Wars let-wage others; Protesilaus let-love!
Nunc fateor — volui revocare, animusque ferebat;
Now I-confess I-wished to-call-back, and-spirit was-prompting;
substitit auspicii lingua timore mali.
stopped of-omen tongue for-fear evil.
Cum foribus velles ad Troiam exire paternis,
When from-door you-wished to Troy to-go-out paternal,
pes tuus offenso limine signa dedit.
foot your by-stumbled threshold signs gave.
Ut vidi, ingemui, tacitoque in pectore dixi:
When I-saw, I-groaned, and-silent in breast I-said:
'Signa reversuri sint, precor, ista viri!'
'Signs of-one-about-to-return may-be, I-pray, these a-husband!'
Haec tibi nunc refero, ne sis animosus in armis;
These-things to-you now I-relate, lest you-be bold in arms;
fac, meus in ventos hic timor omnis eat!
see-to-it, my into winds this fear all may-go!
Sors quoque nescio quem fato designat iniquo,
Lot too I-know-not whom by-fate marks unjust,
qui primus Danaum Troada tangat humum.
who first of-the-Danaans Trojan may-touch ground.
Infelix, quae prima virum lugebit ademptum!
Unhappy, she-who first husband will-mourn taken-away!
Di faciant, ne tu strenuus esse velis!
Gods grant, lest you vigorous to-be wish!
Inter mille rates tua sit millensima puppis,
Among a-thousand ships your be thousandth ship,

iamque fatigatas ultima verset aquas!
and-now wearied last may-turn waters!
Hoc quoque praemoneo: de nave novissimus exi;
This too I-forewarn: from ship last go-out;
non est, quo properas, terra paterna tibi.
not is, where you-hasten, land paternal for-you.
Cum venies, remoque move veloque carinam
When you-come, both-with-oar move and-with-sail keel
inque tuo celerem litore siste gradum!
and-on your swift shore stop step!
Sive latet Phoebus seu terris altior exstat,
Whether hides Phoebus or above-the-earth higher stands,
tu mihi luce dolor, tu mihi nocte venis,
you to-me by-day grief, you to-me by-night come,
nocte tamen quam luce magis — nox grata puellis
by-night still than by-day more night welcome to-girls
quarum suppositus colla lacertus habet.
whose placed-beneath neck an-arm has.
Aucupor in lecto mendaces caelibe somnos;
I-hunt-for in bed lying unmarried sleep;
dum careo veris gaudia falsa iuvant.
while I-lack real joys false please.
Sed tua cur nobis pallens occurrit imago?
But your why to-us pale meets image?
Cur venit a labris multa querela tuis?
Why comes from lips much complaint your?
Excutior somno simulacraque noctis adoro;
I-am-shaken from-sleep and-images of-night I-worship;
nulla caret fumo Thessalis ara meo;
none lacks smoke Thessalian altar my;

tura damus lacrimamque super, qua sparsa relucet,
incense we-give and-a-tear on-it, by-which sprinkled it-shines-again,
ut solet adfuso surgere flamma mero.
as is-wont when-poured to-rise flame wine.
Quando ego, te reducem cupidis amplexa lacertis,
When I, you returned with-eager having-embraced arms,
languida laetitia solvar ab ipsa mea?
languid with-joy shall-I-be-loosed by very my?
Quando erit, ut lecto mecum bene iunctus in uno
When will-it-be, that bed with-me well joined in one
militiae referas splendida facta tuae?
of-warfare you-tell splendid deeds your?
Quae mihi dum referes, quamvis audire iuvabit,
Which to-me while you-tell, although to-hear will-please,
multa tamen capies oscula, multa dabis.
many still you-will-take kisses, many you-will-give.
Semper in his apte narrantia verba resistunt;
Always in these fittingly the-telling words pause;
promptior est dulci lingua referre mora.
readier is by-sweet tongue to-tell by-delay.
Sed cum Troia subit, subeunt ventique fretumque;
But when Troy comes-to-mind, come and-winds and-sea;
spes bona sollicito victa timore cadit.
hope good by-anxious conquered fear falls.
Hoc quoque, quod venti prohibent exire carinas,
This too, that winds forbid to-go-out the-ships,
me movet — invitis ire paratis aquis.
me moves against-their-will to-go you-prepare waters.
Quis velit in patriam vento prohibente reverti?
Who would-wish to fatherland with-wind forbidding to-return?

A patria pelago vela vetante datis!
From fatherland with-the-sea sails forbidding you-give!
Ipse suam non praebet iter Neptunus ad urbem.
Himself his-own not offers a-journey Neptune to city.
Quo ruitis? vestras quisque redite domos!
Where do-you-rush? your each return homes!
Quo ruitis, Danai? ventos audite vetantis!
Where do-you-rush, Danaans? winds hear forbidding!
Non subiti casus, numinis ista mora est.
Not of-sudden chance, of-divinity this delay is.
Quid petitur tanto nisi turpis adultera bello?
What is-sought by-so-great except shameful adulteress war?
Dum licet, Inachiae vertite vela rates!
While it-is-allowed, Inachian turn sails ships!
Sed quid ago? revoco? revocaminis omen abesto,
But what am-I-doing? do-I-call-back? of-calling-back the-omen be-absent,
blandaque conpositas aura secundet aquas!
and-gentle composed breeze favor waters!
Troasin invideo, quae sic lacrimosa suorum
Trojan-women I-envy, who so tearful of-their-own
funera conspicient, nec procul hostis erit.
deaths will-behold, nor far the-foe will-be.
Ipsa suis manibus forti nova nupta marito
Herself with-her-own hands brave new bride on-husband
inponet galeam Dardanaque arma dabit.
will-put helmet and-Dardan arms will-give.
Arma dabit, dumque arma dabit, simul oscula sumet —
Arms she-will-give, and-while arms she-will-give, at-once kisses will-take
hoc genus officii dulce duobus erit —
this kind of-duty sweet for-both will-be

producetque virum, dabit et mandata reverti
and-will-lead-forth husband, will-give and commands to-return
et dicet: 'referas ista fac arma Iovi!'
and will-say: 'bring-back these see-to-it arms to-Jupiter!'
Ille ferens dominae mandata recentia secum
He carrying of-his-lady commands fresh with-him
pugnabit caute respicietque domum.
will-fight cautiously and-will-look-back-at home.
Exuet haec reduci clipeum galeamque resolvet,
Will-take-off she from-the-returned shield and-helmet will-unfasten,
excipietque suo corpora lassa sinu.
and-will-receive in-her-own body weary bosom.
Nos sumus incertae; nos anxius omnia cogit,
We are uncertain; us anxious everything forces,
quae possunt fieri, facta putare timor.
which can to-happen, done to-think fear.
Dum tamen arma geres diverso miles in orbe,
While still arms you-will-bear a-distant soldier in world,
quae referat vultus est mihi cera tuos;
which may-recall face is to-me wax your;
illi blanditias, illi tibi debita verba
to-it endearments, to-it to-you owed words
dicimus, amplexus accipit illa meos.
we-say, embraces receives it my.
Crede mihi, plus est, quam quod videatur, imago;
Believe me, more it-is, than what may-seem, the-image;
adde sonum cerae, Protesilaus erit.
add voice to-the-wax, Protesilaus it-will-be.
Hanc specto teneoque sinu pro coniuge vero,
This I-look-at and-hold in-bosom instead-of husband real,

et, tamquam possit verba referre, queror.
and, as-if it-could words to-return, I-complain.
Per reditus corpusque tuum, mea numina, iuro,
By returns and-body your, my divinities, I-swear,
perque pares animi coniugiique faces,
and-by equal of-mind and-of-marriage torches,
me tibi venturam comitem, quocumque vocaris,
me to-you about-to-come as-companion, wherever you-are-called,
sive — quod heu! timeo — sive superstes eris.
whether what alas! I-fear or survivor you-will-be.
Ultima mandato claudetur epistula parvo:
The-last with-a-command will-be-closed letter small:
si tibi cura mei, sit tibi cura tui!
if to-you care of-me, be to-you care of-yourself!

Hypermestra Lynceo

XIV · HYPERMESTRA TO LYNCEUS

Hypermestra writes from prison to Lynceus, the one of her fifty cousins she spared. On their wedding night her father Danaus ordered each daughter to kill her husband; she lifted the sword three times and could not strike. She woke Lynceus and sent him into the night. Now she awaits punishment, and she recalls the sufferings of her ancestress Io. She asks Lynceus to rescue her, or to bury her with an epitaph.

Mittit Hypermestra de tot modo fratribus uni —
Sends Hypermestra of so-many just-now brothers to-one
cetera nuptarum crimine turba iacet.
the-rest by-the-brides' crime throng lies.
Clausa domo teneor gravibusque coercita vinclis;
Shut-in in-house I-am-held and-by-heavy restrained chains;

est mihi supplicii causa fuisse piam.
is for-me of-punishment the-cause to-have-been dutiful.
Quod manus extimuit iugulo demittere ferrum,
Because hand dreaded into-throat to-plunge sword,
sum rea; laudarer, si scelus ausa forem.
I-am accused; I-would-be-praised, if crime having-dared I-had-been.
Esse ream praestat, quam sic placuisse parenti;
To-be accused is-better, than so to-have-pleased father;
non piget inmunes caedis habere manus.
not it-irks free of-slaughter to-have hands.
Me pater igne licet, quem non violavimus, urat,
Me father with-fire though, which not we-have-violated, may-burn,
quaeque aderant sacris, tendat in ora faces;
and-which were-present at-rites, may-stretch toward face torches;
aut illo iugulet, quem non bene tradidit ensem,
or with-that may-slay, which not well he-handed-over sword,
ut, qua non cecidit vir nece, nupta cadam —
that, by-what not fell husband death, bride I-may-fall
non tamen, ut dicant morientia 'paenitet!' ora,
not still, that may-say dying 'it-repents!' mouth,
efficiet. non est, quam piget esse piam.
he-will-bring-about. not is, she-whom it-irks to-be dutiful.
Paeniteat sceleris Danaum saevasque sorores;
Let-repent of-crime Danaus and-savage sisters;
hic solet eventus facta nefanda sequi.
this is-wont outcome deeds abominable to-follow.
Cor pavet admonitu temeratae sanguine noctis,
Heart trembles at-the-reminder of-violated with-blood night,
et subitus dextrae praepedit ossa tremor.
and sudden of-right-hand hampers bones trembling.

Quam tu caede putes fungi potuisse mariti,
She-whom you by-slaughter would-think to-perform to-have-been-able of-husband,
scribere de facta non sibi caede timet!
to-write about done not by-herself slaughter fears!
Sed tamen experiar. modo facta crepuscula terris;
But still I-will-try. just-now made twilight on-lands;
ultima pars lucis primaque noctis erat.
the-last part of-light and-first of-night was.
Ducimur Inachides magni sub tecta Pelasgi,
We-are-led descendants-of-Inachus of-great under the-roof Pelasgus,
et socer armatas accipit ipse nurus.
and father-in-law armed receives himself daughters-in-law.
Undique conlucent praecinctae lampades auro;
On-all-sides shine girt lamps with-gold;
dantur in invitos inpia tura focos;
are-given onto unwilling impious incense hearths;
vulgus 'Hymen, Hymenaee!' vocant. fugit ille vocantis;
the-crowd 'Hymen, Hymenaeus!' call. flees he the-callers;
ipsa Iovis coniunx cessit ab urbe sua!
herself of-Jupiter the-wife withdrew from city her-own!
Ecce, mero dubii, comitum clamore frequentes,
Behold, with-wine unsteady, by-companions' shouting thronged,
flore novo madidas inpediente comas,
with-flower fresh soaked entangling hair,
in thalamos laeti — thalamos, sua busta! — feruntur
into the-chambers glad the-chambers, their tombs! are-borne
strataque corporibus funere digna premunt.
and-couches with-bodies of-death worthy press.
Iamque cibo vinoque graves somnoque iacebant,
And-now with-food and-wine heavy and-sleep they-were-lying,

securumque quies alta per Argos erat —
and-carefree rest deep through Argos was
circum me gemitus morientum audire videbar;
around me the-groans of-the-dying to-hear I-seemed;
et tamen audibam, quodque verebar erat.
and still I-was-hearing, and-what I-feared was.
Sanguis abit, mentemque calor corpusque relinquit,
Blood departs, and-mind warmth and-body leaves,
inque novo iacui frigida facta toro.
and-in new I-lay cold made bed.
Ut leni Zephyro graciles vibrantur aristae,
As by-gentle Zephyr slender are-shaken ears-of-grain,
frigida populeas ut quatit aura comas,
cold poplar as shakes breeze leaves,
aut sic, aut etiam tremui magis. ipse iacebas,
either so, or even I-trembled more. you-yourself were-lying,
quaeque tibi dederam, vina soporis erant.
and-what to-you I-had-given, wines of-sleep were.
Excussere metum violenti iussa parentis;
Shook-off fear of-violent the-commands father;
erigor et capio tela tremente manu.
I-rise-up and I-take weapon with-trembling hand.
Non ego falsa loquar: ter acutum sustulit ensem,
Not I false-things will-speak: three-times sharp raised sword,
ter male sublato reccidit ense manus.
three-times badly raised fell-back with-sword hand.
Admovi iugulo — sine me tibi vera fateri! —
I-moved-it to-throat allow me to-you true-things to-confess!
admovi iugulo tela paterna tuo;
I-moved to-throat weapon paternal your;

sed timor et pietas crudelibus obstitit ausis,
but fear and duty to-cruel stood-against daring,
castaque mandatum dextra refugit opus.
and-chaste the-commanded right-hand recoiled-from deed.
Purpureos laniata sinus, laniata capillos
Purple having-torn bosom, having-torn hair
exiguo dixi talia verba sono:
with-small I-said such words sound:
'Saevus, Hypermestra, pater est tibi; iussa parentis
'Savage, Hypermestra, father is to-you; the-commands of-father
effice; germanis sit comes iste suis!
carry-out; to-brothers let-be companion that-one his-own!
Femina sum et virgo, natura mitis et annis;
A-woman I-am and a-maiden, by-nature gentle and by-years;
non faciunt molles ad fera tela manus.
not are-fit soft for fierce weapons hands.
Quin age, dumque iacet, fortis imitare sorores —
Come then, and-while he-lies, brave imitate sisters
credibile est caesos omnibus esse viros!
believable it-is slain by-all to-be husbands!
Si manus haec aliquam posset committere caedem,
If hand this any could to-commit slaughter,
morte foret dominae sanguinolenta suae.
by-death it-would-be of-its-mistress bloody its-own.
Hanc meruere necem patruelia regna tenendo;
This they-have-deserved death uncle's realms by-holding;
cum sene nos inopi turba vagamur inops.
with old-man we needy throng we-wander needy.
Finge viros meruisse mori — quid fecimus ipsae?
Suppose husbands to-have-deserved to-die what have-we-done ourselves?

Quo mihi commisso non licet esse piae?
For-what to-me committed not is-it-allowed to-be dutiful?
Quid mihi cum ferro? quo bellica tela puellae?
What to-me with sword? wherefore warlike weapons for-a-girl?
Aptior est digitis lana colusque meis.'
Fitter is for-fingers wool and-distaff my.'
Haec ego; dumque queror, lacrimae sua verba sequuntur
These-things I; and-while I-complain, tears their-own words follow
deque meis oculis in tua membra cadunt.
and-from my eyes onto your limbs fall.
Dum petis amplexus sopitaque bracchia iactas,
While you-seek embraces and-sleepy arms toss,
paene manus telo saucia facta tua est.
almost hand by-weapon wounded made your was.
Iamque patrem famulosque patris lucemque timebam
And-now father and-servants of-father and-daylight I-was-fearing
expulerunt somnos haec mea dicta tuos:
drove-out sleep these my words your:
'Surge age, Belide, de tot modo fratribus unus!
'Rise come, descendant-of-Belus, of so-many just-now brothers one!
Nox tibi, ni properas, ista perennis erit!'
Night for-you, unless you-hasten, that everlasting will-be!'
Territus exsurgis; fugit omnis inertia somni;
Terrified you-rise; flees all sluggishness of-sleep;
adspicis in timida fortia tela manu.
you-see in timid brave weapons hand.
Quaerenti causam 'dum nox sinit, effuge!' dixi.
To-you-asking the-cause 'while night allows, flee!' I-said.
Dum nox atra sinit, tu fugis, ipsa moror.
While night black allows, you flee, I stay.

Mane erat, et Danaus generos ex caede iacentis
Morning it-was, and Danaus sons-in-law from slaughter lying
dinumerat. summae criminis unus abes.
counts-off. from-the-sum of-the-crime one you-are-absent.
Fert male cognatae iacturam mortis in uno
He-bears badly of-kindred the-loss death in one
et queritur facti sanguinis esse parum.
and complains of-done blood to-be too-little.
Abstrahor a patriis pedibus, raptamque capillis —
I-am-dragged from paternal feet, and-seized by-hair
haec meruit pietas praemia! — carcer habet.
these has-earned duty rewards! prison holds.
Scilicet ex illo Iunonia permanet ira
Doubtless from that-time Junonian persists wrath
cum bos ex homine est, ex bove facta dea.
when cow from human was, from cow made goddess.
At satis est poenae teneram mugisse puellam
But enough is of-punishment tender to-have-lowed a-girl
nec, modo formosam, posse placere Iovi.
nor, just-now beautiful, to-be-able to-please Jupiter.
Adstitit in ripa liquidi nova vacca parentis,
Stood on bank of-liquid new heifer parent,
cornuaque in patriis non sua vidit aquis,
and-horns in father's not her-own saw waters,
conatoque queri mugitus edidit ore
and-with-attempted to-complain lowings uttered mouth
territaque est forma, territa voce sua.
and-frightened was by-form, frightened by-voice her-own.
Quid furis, infelix? quid te miraris in umbra?
Why do-you-rage, unhappy? why yourself do-you-wonder-at in shadow?

Quid numeras factos ad nova membra pedes?
Why do-you-count made for new limbs feet?
Illa Iovis magni paelex metuenda sorori
That of-Jupiter great mistress to-be-feared by-sister
fronde levas nimiam caespitibusque famem,
with-leaves you-relieve excessive and-with-turf hunger,
fonte bibis spectasque tuam stupefacta figuram
from-spring you-drink and-gaze-at your stunned shape
et, te ne feriant, quae geris, arma, times,
and, you lest may-strike, which you-carry, arms, you-fear,
quaeque modo, ut posses etiam Iove digna videri,
and-who just-now, that you-might-be-able even of-Jupiter worthy to-seem,
dives eras, nuda nuda recumbis humo.
rich were, naked on-bare you-lie ground.
Per mare, per terras cognataque flumina curris;
Through sea, through lands and-kindred rivers you-run;
dat mare, dant amnes, dat tibi terra viam.
gives sea, give streams, gives to-you land way.
Quae tibi causa fugae? quid tu freta longa pererras?
What to-you cause of-flight? why you seas long do-you-wander?
Non poteris vultus effugere ipsa tuos.
Not you-will-be-able face to-escape yourself your.
Inachi, quo properas? eadem sequerisque fugisque;
Daughter-of-Inachus, where do-you-hasten? the-same and-you-follow and-flee;
tu tibi dux comiti, tu comes ipsa duci.
you to-yourself guide to-companion, you companion yourself to-guide.
Per septem Nilus portus emissus in aequor
Through seven the-Nile mouths sent-out into sea
exuit insana paelicis ora bove.
strips-off from-mad of-the-mistress face cow.

Ultima quid referam, quorum mihi cana senectus
The-last-things why should-I-tell, of-which to-me hoary old-age
auctor? dant anni, quod querar, ecce, mei.
is-author? give years, what I-may-lament, behold, my.
Bella pater patruusque gerunt; regnoque domoque
Wars father and-uncle wage; both-from-realm and-from-home
pellimur; eiectos ultimus orbis habet.
we-are-driven; cast-out the-farthest world holds.
De fratrum populo pars exiguissima restat.
Of brothers' people a-part very-small remains.
Quique dati leto, quaeque dedere, fleo;
Both-those-who were-given to-death, and-those-who gave, I-weep;
nam mihi quot fratres, totidem periere sorores.
for to-me as-many brothers, so-many perished sisters.
Accipiat lacrimas utraque turba meas!
Let-receive tears each throng my!
En, ego, quod vivis, poenae crucianda reservor;
Behold, I, because you-live, for-punishment to-be-tortured am-kept;
quid fiet sonti, cum rea laudis agar
what will-become of-the-guilty, when accused of-praise I-am-brought
et consanguineae quondam centensima turbae
and of-a-kindred once hundredth throng
infelix uno fratre manente cadam?
unhappy one with-brother remaining I-shall-fall?
At tu, siqua piae, Lynceu, tibi cura sororis,
But you, if-any dutiful, Lynceus, to-you care for-sister,
quaeque tibi tribui munera, dignus habes,
and-what to-you I-bestowed gifts, worthy you-hold,
vel fer opem, vel dede neci defunctaque vita
either bring help, or give-up to-death and-finished with-life

corpora furtivis insuper adde rogis,
body by-stealthy besides add pyres,
et sepeli lacrimis perfusa fidelibus ossa,
and bury with-tears bathed faithful bones,
sculptaque sint titulo nostra sepulcra brevi:
and-carved be with-inscription our tomb brief:
'Exul Hypermestra, pretium pietatis iniquum,
'Exile Hypermestra, as-reward of-duty unjust,
quam mortem fratri depulit, ipsa tulit.'
which death from-brother she-warded-off, herself bore.'
Scribere plura libet, sed pondere lapsa catenae
To-write more it-pleases, but by-the-weight slipped of-chain
est manus, et vires subtrahit ipse timor.
has hand, and strength takes-away very fear.

Sappho Phaoni

XV · SAPPHO TO PHAON

Sappho writes in elegiacs, since love demands tears. Phaon has gone to Sicily; she has lost all pleasure in her poetry and her Lesbian girls. She is short and dark, but famous, and she recalls their nights together and her grief when he left without farewell. She dreams of him and wanders their old haunts. A Naiad tells her to leap from the Leucadian rock to cure her love, and she resolves to do it unless he returns.

Ecquid, ut adspecta est studiosae littera dextrae,
Whether, as looked-at was of-eager the-letter right-hand,
protinus est oculis cognita nostra tuis —
at-once is by-eyes recognized our your
an, nisi legisses auctoris nomina Sapphus,
or, unless you-had-read of-the-author the-name Sappho,

hoc breve nescires unde movetur opus?
this brief you-would-not-know whence is-set-in-motion work?
Forsitan et quare mea sint alterna requiras
Perhaps also why my be alternating you-may-ask
carmina, cum lyricis sim magis apta modis.
songs, when for-lyric I-am more suited measures.
Flendus amor meus est — elegiae flebile carmen;
To-be-wept love my is of-elegy tearful song;
non facit ad lacrimas barbitos ulla meas.
not is-fit for tears lyre any my.
Uror, ut indomitis ignem exercentibus Euris
I-burn, as untamed fire driving with-East-winds
fertilis accensis messibus ardet ager.
fertile kindled with-harvests burns a-field.
Arva, Phaon, celebras diversa Typhoidos Aetnae;
Fields, Phaon, you-frequent far-off of-Typhoeus' Etna;
me calor Aetnaeo non minor igne tenet.
me heat than-Etna's not less fire holds.
Nec mihi, dispositis quae iungam carmina nervis,
Nor to-me, arranged which I-may-join songs to-strings,
proveniunt; vacuae carmina mentis opus!
come-forth; of-empty songs mind work!
Nec me Pyrrhiades Methymniadesve puellae,
Nor me of-Pyrrha or-of-Methymna girls,
nec me Lesbiadum cetera turba iuvant.
nor me of-the-Lesbian-women the-rest throng please.
Vilis Anactorie, vilis mihi candida Cydro;
Cheap Anactorie, cheap to-me fair Cydro;
non oculis grata est Atthis, ut ante, meis,
not to-eyes pleasing is Atthis, as before, my,

atque aliae centum, quas hic sine crimine amavi;
and others a-hundred, whom here without reproach I-loved;
inprobe, multarum quod fuit, unus habes.
shameless, of-many what was, one you-have.
Est in te facies, sunt apti lusibus anni —
There-is in you beauty, are fit for-games years
o facies oculis insidiosa meis!
O beauty to-eyes treacherous my!
Sume fidem et pharetram — fies manifestus Apollo;
Take lyre and quiver you-will-be manifest Apollo;
accedant capiti cornua — Bacchus eris!
let-be-added to-head horns Bacchus you-will-be!
Et Phoebus Daphnen, et Gnosida Bacchus amavit,
Both Phoebus Daphne, and the-Cnossian Bacchus loved,
nec norat lyricos illa vel illa modos;
nor knew lyric that-one or that-one measures;
at mihi Pegasides blandissima carmina dictant;
but to-me the-Pegasids most-charming songs dictate;
iam canitur toto nomen in orbe meum.
already is-sung whole name in world my.
Nec plus Alcaeus, consors patriaeque lyraeque,
Nor more Alcaeus, sharer both-of-fatherland and-of-lyre,
laudis habet, quamvis grandius ille sonet.
of-praise has, although more-grandly he sounds.
Si mihi difficilis formam natura negavit,
If to-me hard beauty nature has-denied,
ingenio formae damna repende meae.
with-genius of-beauty the-losses repay my.
Sum brevis, at nomen, quod terras inpleat omnes,
I-am short, but a-name, which lands may-fill all,

est mihi; mensuram nominis ipsa fero.
is to-me; the-measure of-name myself I-bear.
Candida si non sum, placuit Cepheia Perseo
Fair if not I-am, pleased Cepheus' to-Perseus
Andromede, patriae fusca colore suae.
Andromeda, of-fatherland dark in-color her-own.
Et variis albae iunguntur saepe columbae,
And to-varied white are-joined often doves,
et niger a viridi turtur amatur ave.
and black by green turtle-dove is-loved bird.
Si, nisi quae facie poterit te digna videri,
If, unless who in-beauty will-be-able of-you worthy to-seem,
nulla futura tua est, nulla futura tua est.
none going-to-be yours is, none going-to-be yours is.
At mea cum legerem, sat iam formosa videbar;
But my when I-read, enough already beautiful I-seemed;
unam iurabas usque decere loqui.
alone you-swore always to-befit to-speak.
Cantabam, memini — meminerunt omnia amantes —
I-was-singing, I-remember remember all lovers
oscula cantanti tu mihi rapta dabas.
kisses to-me-singing you to-me snatched were-giving.
Haec quoque laudabas, omnique a parte placebam —
These too you-praised, and-every from side I-pleased
sed tum praecipue, cum fit amoris opus.
but then especially, when is-done of-love work.
Tunc te plus solito lascivia nostra iuvabat,
Then you more than-usual wantonness our pleased,
crebraque mobilitas aptaque verba ioco,
and-frequent movement and-fitting words for-play,

et quod, ubi amborum fuerat confusa voluptas,
and that, when of-both had-been mingled pleasure,
plurimus in lasso corpore languor erat.
very-much in weary body languor was.
Nunc tibi Sicelides veniunt nova praeda puellae.
Now to-you Sicilian come new prey girls.
Quid mihi cum Lesbo? Sicelis esse volo.
What to-me with Lesbos? Sicilian to-be I-wish.
O vos erronem tellure remittite vestra,
O you the-wanderer from-land send-back your,
Nisiades matres Nisiadesque nurus,
Nisaean mothers and-Nisaean daughters-in-law,
nec vos decipiant blandae mendacia linguae!
nor you let-deceive of-the-charming lies tongue!
Quae dicit vobis, dixerat ante mihi.
What he-says to-you, he-had-said before to-me.
Tu quoque, quae montes celebras, Erycina, Sicanos —
You too, who mountains frequent, Erycina, Sicanian
nam tua sum — vati consule, diva, tuae!
for yours I-am to-poet look-to, goddess, your!
An gravis inceptum peragit fortuna tenorem
Or heavy the-begun accomplishes fortune course
et manet in cursu semper acerba suo?
and remains in course always bitter its-own?
Sex mihi natales ierant, cum lecta parentis
Six to-me birthdays had-gone, when gathered of-parent
ante diem lacrimas ossa bibere meas.
before the-day tears bones drank my.
Arsit iners frater meretricis captus amore
Burned idle brother of-a-harlot taken by-love

mixtaque cum turpi damna pudore tulit;
and-mingled with base losses shame bore;
factus inops agili peragit freta caerula remo,
made needy with-nimble he-traverses seas blue oar,
quasque male amisit, nunc male quaerit opes.
and-which badly he-lost, now badly he-seeks wealth.
Me quoque, quod monui bene multa fideliter, odit;
Me too, because I-warned well many-things faithfully, he-hates;
hoc mihi libertas, hoc pia lingua dedit.
this to-me frankness, this dutiful tongue gave.
Et tamquam desint, quae me sine fine fatigent,
And as-if were-lacking, things-which me without end may-weary,
accumulat curas filia parva meas.
heaps-up cares a-daughter small my.
Ultima tu nostris accedis causa querelis.
The-last you to-our are-added cause complaints.
Non agitur vento nostra carina suo.
Not is-driven by-wind our keel its-own.
Ecce, iacent collo sparsi sine lege capilli,
Behold, lie on-neck scattered without law hair,
nec premit articulos lucida gemma meos;
nor presses joints bright gem my;
veste tegor vili, nullum est in crinibus aurum,
with-garment I-am-covered cheap, no is in hair gold,
non Arabum noster dona capillus habet.
not of-Arabians our gifts hair has.
Cui colar infelix, aut cui placuisse laborem?
For-whom shall-I-be-adorned unhappy, or for-whom to-have-pleased shall-I-labor?
Ille mei cultus unicus auctor abest.
He of-my adornment the-sole author is-absent.

Molle meum levibusque cor est violabile telis,
Soft my and-by-light heart is violable shafts,
et semper causa est, cur ego semper amem —
and always cause there-is, why I always should-love
sive ita nascenti legem dixere Sorores
whether thus to-me-being-born the-law pronounced the-Sisters
nec data sunt vitae fila severa meae,
nor given are to-life threads stern my,
sive abeunt studia in mores, artisque magistra
or pass studies into character, and-of-art the-mistress
ingenium nobis molle Thalia facit.
the-genius for-us soft Thalia makes.
Quid mirum, si me primae lanuginis aetas
What wonder, if me of-first down the-age
abstulit, atque anni quos vir amare potest?
carried-off, and years which a-man to-love can?
Hunc ne pro Cephalo raperes, Aurora, timebam —
Him lest instead-of Cephalus you-might-snatch, Aurora, I-feared
et faceres, sed te prima rapina tenet!
and you-would-do, but you the-first prey holds!
Hunc si conspiciat quae conspicit omnia Phoebe,
Him if may-behold who beholds all Phoebe,
iussus erit somnos continuare Phaon;
ordered will-be sleep to-continue Phaon;
hunc Venus in caelum curru vexisset eburno,
him Venus into heaven in-chariot would-have-carried ivory,
sed videt et Marti posse placere suo.
but she-sees also to-Mars to-be-able to-please her-own.
O nec adhuc iuvenis, nec iam puer, utilis aetas,
O nor yet a-youth, nor now a-boy, useful age,

o decus atque aevi gloria magna tui,
O ornament and of-age glory great your,
huc ades inque sinus, formose, relabere nostros!
here be-present and-into bosom, handsome-one, glide-back our!
Non ut ames oro, verum ut amere sinas.
Not that you-love I-pray, but that you-be-loved you-allow.
Scribimus, et lacrimis oculi rorantur obortis;
We-write, and with-tears eyes are-bedewed welling;
adspice, quam sit in hoc multa litura loco!
look, how is in this much blotting place!
Si tam certus eras hinc ire, modestius isses,
If so resolved you-were from-here to-go, more-modestly you-would-have-gone,
et modo dixisses 'Lesbi puella, vale!'
and only you-would-have-said 'Lesbian girl, farewell!'
Non tecum lacrimas, non oscula nostra tulisti;
Not with-you tears, not kisses our you-took;
denique non timui, quod dolitura fui.
then not I-feared, what about-to-grieve I-was.
Nil de te mecum est nisi tantum iniuria; nec tu,
Nothing from you with-me is except only wrong; nor you,
admoneat quod te, pignus amantis habes.
might-remind which you, a-pledge of-the-lover have.
Non mandata dedi, neque enim mandata dedissem
Not commands I-gave, nor indeed commands I-would-have-given
ulla, nisi ut nolles inmemor esse mei.
any, except that you-should-not-wish unmindful to-be of-me.
Per tibi — qui numquam longe discedat! — amorem,
By to-you which never far may-depart! love,
perque novem iuro, numina nostra, deas,
and-by the-nine I-swear, divinities our, goddesses,

cum mihi nescio quis ‘fugiunt tua gaudia’ dixit,
when to-me I-know-not who ‘fly your joys’ said,
nec me flere diu, nec potuisse loqui!
nor me to-weep long, nor to-have-been-able to-speak!
Et lacrimae deerant oculis et verba palato,
Both tears were-lacking to-eyes and words to-palate,
adstrictum gelido frigore pectus erat.
bound with-icy cold breast was.
Postquam se dolor invenit, nec pectora plangi
After itself pain found, nor breast to-be-beaten
nec puduit scissis exululare comis,
nor did-it-shame with-torn to-howl hair,
non aliter, quam si nati pia mater adempti
not otherwise, than if of-a-son dutiful mother taken-away
portet ad exstructos corpus inane rogos.
should-carry to piled-up body lifeless pyres.
Gaudet et e nostro crescit maerore Charaxus
Rejoices and from our grows grief Charaxus
frater, et ante oculos itque reditque meos,
brother, and before eyes both-goes and-returns my,
utque pudenda mei videatur causa doloris,
and-that shameful of-my may-seem cause pain,
‘Quid dolet haec? certe filia vivit!’ ait.
‘Why does-she-grieve this-one? surely daughter lives!’ he-says.
Non veniunt in idem pudor atque amor. omne videbat
Not come into the-same shame and love. all saw
vulgus; eram lacero pectus aperta sinu.
the-crowd; I-was with-torn as-to-breast open bosom.
Tu mihi cura, Phaon; te somnia nostra reducunt —
You to-me care, Phaon; you dreams our bring-back

somnia formoso candidiora die.
dreams than-beautiful brighter day.
Illic te invenio, quamvis regionibus absis;
There you I-find, although in-regions you-are-absent;
sed non longa satis gaudia somnus habet
but not long enough joys sleep has
saepe tuos nostra cervice onerare lacertos,
often your on-my neck to-load arms,
saepe tuae videor supposuisse meos;
often to-yours I-seem to-have-placed-beneath mine;
oscula cognosco, quae tu committere linguae
kisses I-recognize, which you to-join tongue
aptaque consueras accipere, apta dare.
and-fitting you-used to-receive, fitting to-give.
Blandior interdum verisque simillima verba
I-caress sometimes and-to-true most-like words
eloquor, et vigilant sensibus ora meis.
I-speak-out, and keep-awake for-senses lips my.
Ulteriora pudet narrare, sed omnia fiunt,
Further-things it-shames to-tell, but all happen,
et iuvat, et siccae non licet esse mihi.
and it-pleases, and dry not it-is-allowed to-be for-me.
At cum se Titan ostendit et omnia secum,
But when himself Titan shows and all with-himself,
tam cito me somnos destituisse queror;
so quickly me sleep to-have-abandoned I-complain;
antra nemusque peto, tamquam nemus antraque prosint —
caves and-grove I-seek, as-if grove and-caves might-help
conscia deliciis illa fuere meis.
witnesses to-delights they were my.

Illuc mentis inops, ut quam furialis Enyo
Thither of-mind bereft, as-one whom raging Enyo
attigit, in collo crine iacente feror.
has-touched, on neck with-hair lying I-am-borne.
Antra vident oculi scabro pendentia tofo,
Caves see eyes with-rough hanging tufa,
quae mihi Mygdonii marmoris instar erant;
which to-me of-Mygdonian marble like were;
invenio silvam, quae saepe cubilia nobis
I-find the-wood, which often couches for-us
praebuit et multa texit opaca coma —
offered and with-much covered shady foliage
sed non invenio dominum silvaeque meumque.
but not I-find the-master both-of-wood and-mine.
Vile solum locus est; dos erat ille loci.
Cheap ground the-place is; the-dowry was he of-place.
Cognovi pressas noti mihi caespitis herbas;
I-recognized pressed of-known to-me turf the-grass;
de nostro curvum pondere gramen erat.
from our curved weight the-grass was.
Incubui tetigique locum, qua parte fuisti;
I-lay-upon and-touched the-place, in-which part you-were;
grata prius lacrimas conbibit herba meas.
welcome before tears drank-in grass my.
Quin etiam rami positis lugere videntur
Nay even branches with-laid-aside to-mourn seem
frondibus, et nullae dulce queruntur aves;
leaves, and no sweetly complain birds;
sola virum non ulta pie maestissima mater
alone her-husband not having-avenged dutifully most-sorrowful mother

concinit Ismarium Daulias ales Ityn.
sings Ismarian the-Daulian bird Itys.

Ales Ityn, Sappho desertos cantat amores —
The-bird Itys, Sappho deserted sings loves

hactenus; ut media cetera nocte silent.
thus-far; as in-mid the-rest night are-silent.

Est nitidus vitroque magis perlucidus omni
There-is bright and-than-glass more transparent any

fons sacer — hunc multi numen habere putant —
a-spring sacred this many divinity to-have think

quem supra ramos expandit aquatica lotos,
which over branches spreads the-water lotus,

una nemus; tenero caespite terra viret.
in-itself a-grove; with-tender turf the-earth is-green.

Hic ego cum lassos posuissem flebilis artus,
Here I when weary I-had-laid tearful limbs,

constitit ante oculos Naias una meos.
stood before eyes Naiad one my.

Constitit et dixit: 'quoniam non ignibus aequis
She-stood and said: 'since not with-fires equal

ureris, Ambracia est terra petenda tibi.
you-burn, Ambracian is the-land to-be-sought by-you.

Phoebus ab excelso, quantum patet, adspicit aequor —
Phoebus from on-high, as-far-as it-lies-open, looks-upon the-sea

Actiacum populi Leucadiumque vocant.
Actian the-peoples and-Leucadian call.

Hinc se Deucalion Pyrrhae succensus amore
From-here himself Deucalion for-Pyrrha inflamed by-love

misit, et inlaeso corpore pressit aquas.
cast, and with-unhurt body pressed waters.

Nec mora, versus amor fugit lentissima Pyrrhae
Nor delay, turned love fled most-unmoved of-Pyrrha
pectora, Deucalion igne levatus erat.
breast, Deucalion of-fire relieved was.
Hanc legem locus ille tenet. pete protinus altam
This law place that holds. seek at-once high
Leucada nec saxo desiluisse time!'
Leucas nor from-the-rock to-have-leapt fear!'
Ut monuit, cum voce abiit; ego territa surgo,
When she-warned, with voice she-went-away; I frightened rise,
nec lacrimas oculi continuere mei.
nor tears eyes held-in my.
Ibimus, o nymphe, monstrataque saxa petemus;
We-will-go, O nymph, and-pointed-out rocks we-will-seek;
sit procul insano victus amore timor!
be far by-mad conquered love fear!
Quidquid erit, melius quam nunc erit! aura, subito;
Whatever will-be, better than now it-will-be! breeze, come-beneath;
et mea non magnum corpora pondus habent.
and my not great body weight has.
Tu quoque, mollis Amor, pennas suppone cadenti,
You too, soft Love, wings place-beneath me-falling,
ne sim Leucadiae mortua crimen aquae!
lest I-be of-Leucadian dead the-reproach water!
Inde chelyn Phoebo, communia munera, ponam,
Then the-lyre to-Phoebus, common gift, I-will-set-up,
et sub ea versus unus et alter erunt:
and under it verse one and another will-be:
grata lyram posui tibi, Phoebe, poetria Sappho:
grateful lyre I-set-up to-you, Phoebus, the-poetess Sappho:

convenit illa mihi, convenit illa tibi.
it-suits it me, it-suits it you.
Cur tamen Actiacas miseram me mittis ad oras,
Why still to-Actian wretched me do-you-send to shores,
cum profugum possis ipse referre pedem?
when fugitive you-could yourself to-bring-back foot?
Tu mihi Leucadia potes esse salubrior unda;
You to-me than-Leucadian can be more-healing wave;
et forma et meritis tu mihi Phoebus eris.
both in-beauty and in-merits you to-me Phoebus will-be.
An potes, o scopulis undaque ferocior omni,
Or can-you, O than-rocks and-wave fiercer any,
si moriar, titulum mortis habere meae?
if I-die, the-title of-death to-have my?
At quanto melius iungi mea pectora tecum
But how-much better to-be-joined my breast with-you
quam poterant saxis praecipitanda dari!
than could to-rocks to-be-cast-headlong to-be-given!
Haec sunt illa, Phaon, quae tu laudare solebas,
These are those, Phaon, which you to-praise used,
visaque sunt totiens ingeniosa tibi.
and-seemed have so-often talented to-you.
Nunc vellem facunda forem! dolor artibus obstat,
Now I-would-wish eloquent I-were! grief to-arts stands-in-the-way,
ingeniumque meis substitit omne malis.
and-genius by-my has-stopped all misfortunes.
Non mihi respondent veteres in carmina vires;
Not to-me answer old for songs strength;
plectra dolore tacent, muta dolore lyra est.
plectrums with-grief are-silent, mute with-grief lyre is.

Lesbides aequoreae, nupturaque nuptaque proles,
Lesbian-women of-the-sea, and-about-to-wed and-wed offspring,
Lesbides, Aeolia nomina dicta lyra,
Lesbian-women, by-Aeolian names spoken lyre,
Lesbides, infamem quae me fecistis amatae,
Lesbian-women, infamous who me have-made loved,
desinite ad citharas turba venire meas!
cease to lyre throng to-come my!
Abstulit omne Phaon, quod vobis ante placebat,
Has-taken-away all Phaon, what you before pleased,
me miseram, dixi quam modo paene 'meus!'
me wretched, I-have-called whom just-now almost 'mine!'
Efficite ut redeat; vates quoque vestra redibit.
Bring-it-about that he-return; the-poet too your will-return.
Ingenio vires ille dat, ille rapit.
To-genius strength he gives, he snatches-away.
Ecquid ago precibus, pectusve agreste movetur?
Whether do-I-achieve by-prayers, or-breast rustic is-moved?
An riget, et Zephyri verba caduca ferunt?
Or is-it-stiff, and of-Zephyr words fleeting carry?
Qui mea verba ferunt, vellem tua vela referrent;
Which my words carry, I-would-wish your sails might-bring-back;
hoc te, si saperes, lente, decebat opus.
this you, if you-were-wise, slow-one, befitted work.
Sive redis, puppique tuae votiva parantur
Whether you-return, and-for-stern your votive are-prepared
munera, quid laceras pectora nostra mora?
gifts, why do-you-tear breast our by-delay?
Solve ratem! Venus orta mari mare praestat amanti.
Loose ship! Venus sprung from-the-sea the-sea provides for-the-lover.

Aura dabit cursum; tu modo solve ratem!
Breeze will-give course; you only loose ship!
Ipse gubernabit residens in puppe Cupido;
Himself will-steer sitting on stern Cupid;
ipse dabit tenera vela legetque manu.
himself will-give with-tender sails and-will-furl hand.
Sive iuvat longe fugisse Pelasgida Sapphon —
Whether it-pleases far-off to-have-fled Pelasgian Sappho
non tamen invenies, cur ego digna fugi —
not still you-will-find, why I worthy to-be-fled
hoc saltem miserae crudelis epistula dicat,
this at-least of-wretched cruel letter may-say,
ut mihi Leucadiae fata petantur aquae!
that by-me of-Leucadian the-fate be-sought water!

Paris Helenae

XVI · PARIS TO HELEN

Paris writes to Helen as Menelaus' guest in Sparta. Venus promised him Helen when he judged the goddesses on Ida, and he tells the story of the judgment and of his mother's dream of a firebrand. He praises her beauty, which surpasses its fame, and complains of watching Menelaus' embraces at dinner. Menelaus has sailed for Crete; Paris urges her to come to Troy, where she will be honored. He argues that earlier abductions brought no war, and that if Greece does fight, he and Hector will meet it.

Hanc tibi Priamides mitto, Ledaea, salutem,
This to-you the-son-of-Priam I-send, daughter-of-Leda, greeting,
quae tribui sola te mihi dante potest.
which to-be-bestowed alone with-you to-me giving can.

Eloquar, an flammae non est opus indice notae,
Shall-I-speak-out, or of-flame not is need of-informer known,
et plus quam vellem iam meus extat amor?
and more than I-would-wish already my stands-out love?
Ille quidem lateat malim, dum tempora dentur
It indeed may-lie-hidden I-would-prefer, until times be-given
laetitiae mixtos non habitura metus,
to-joy mixed not about-to-have fears,
sed male dissimulo; quis enim celaverit ignem,
but badly I-dissemble; who indeed could-hide fire,
lumine qui semper proditur ipse suo?
by-light which always is-betrayed itself its-own?
Si tamen expectas, vocem quoque rebus ut addam —
If still you-expect, voice too to-things that I-add
uror! habes animi nuntia verba mei.
I-burn! you-have of-mind messenger words my.
Parce, precor, fasso nec vultu cetera duro
Spare, I-pray, me-having-confessed nor with-face the-rest hard
perlege, sed formae conveniente tuae.
read-through, but to-beauty suiting your.
Iamdudum gratum est, quod epistula nostra recepta
Long-since pleasing it-is, that letter our received
spem facit, hoc recipi me quoque posse modo.
hope makes, in-this to-be-received me too to-be-able way.
Quae rata sit, nec te frustra promiserit, opto,
Which ratified may-be, nor you in-vain may-have-promised, I-pray,
hoc mihi quae suasit, mater Amoris, iter;
this to-me who urged, the-mother of-Love, journey;
namque ego divino monitu — ne nescia pecces —
for I by-divine warning lest unknowing you-err

advehor, et coepto non leve numen adest.
am-borne, and to-the-undertaking not light divinity is-here.
Praemia magna quidem, sed non indebita, posco;
Rewards great indeed, but not undue, I-ask;
pollicita est thalamo te Cytherea meo.
promised has to-chamber you Cytherea my.
Hac duce Sigeo dubias a litore feci
With-her as-guide Sigean doubtful from shore I-made
longa Phereclea per freta puppe vias.
long Phereclean through seas in-ship ways.
Illa dedit faciles auras ventosque secundos —
She gave easy breezes and-winds favoring
in mare nimirum ius habet orta mari.
over sea no-doubt right she-has sprung from-sea.
Perstet et ut pelagi, sic pectoris adiuvet aestum;
May-she-persist and as of-the-sea, so of-breast may-she-help the-surge;
deferat in portus et mea vota suos.
may-she-bring into harbors also my vows her-own.
Attulimus flammas, non hic invenimus, illas.
We-have-brought flames, not here we-found, them.
Hae mihi tam longae causa fuere viae,
These to-me so long the-cause were of-journey,
nam neque tristis hiemps neque nos huc appulit error;
for neither grim winter nor us here drove straying;
Taenaris est classi terra petita meae.
the-Taenarian is by-fleet land sought my.
Nec me crede fretum merces portante carina
Nor me believe the-sea goods carrying in-a-keel
findere — quas habeo, di tueantur opes!
to-cleave which I-have, gods may-guard wealth!

Nec venio Graias veluti spectator ad urbes —
Nor do-I-come Greek like a-sightseer to cities
oppida sunt regni divitiora mei.
the-towns are of-realm richer my.
Te peto, quam pepigit lecto Venus aurea nostro;
You I-seek, whom pledged to-bed Venus golden our;
te prius optavi, quam mihi nota fores.
you before I-desired, than to-me known you-were.
Ante tuos animo vidi quam lumine vultus;
Before your with-mind I-saw than with-eye face;
prima tulit vulnus nuntia fama tui.
first bore the-wound messenger report of-you.
Nec tamen est mirum, si, sicut oportet, ab arcu
Nor still is-it wonderful, if, as is-fitting, from bow
missilibus telis eminus ictus amo.
with-missile shafts from-afar struck I-love.
Sic placuit fatis; quae ne convellere temptes,
So it-pleased the-fates; which lest to-pluck-up you-try,
accipe cum vera dicta relata fide.
accept with true words related faith.
Matris adhuc utero partu remorante tenebar;
Of-mother still in-womb with-birth delaying I-was-held;
iam gravidus iusto pondere venter erat.
already pregnant with-due weight belly was.
Illa sibi ingentem visa est sub imagine somni
She to-herself huge seemed she-was under the-image of-sleep
flammiferam pleno reddere ventre facem.
flame-bearing from-full to-give-forth womb torch.
Territa consurgit metuendaque noctis opacae
Terrified she-rises and-to-be-feared of-night dark

visa seni Priamo; vatibus ille refert.
visions to-old Priam; to-the-seers he refers.
Arsurum Paridis vates canit Ilion igni —
About-to-burn with-Paris' the-seer sings Ilium fire
pectoris, ut nunc est, fax fuit illa mei!
of-breast, as now it-is, torch was that my!
Forma vigorque animi, quamvis de plebe videbar,
Beauty and-vigor of-mind, although from the-common-people I-seemed,
indicium tectae nobilitatis erat.
a-sign of-hidden nobility was.
Est locus in mediis nemorosae vallibus Idae
There-is a-place in mid of-wooded valleys Ida
devius et piceis ilicibusque frequens,
remote and with-pitch-pines and-ilexes thronged,
qui nec ovis placidae nec amantis saxa capellae
which neither of-sheep placid nor of-loving rocks goat
nec patulo tardae carpitur ore bovis.
nor by-wide of-slow is-cropped mouth cow.
Hinc ego Dardaniae muros excelsaque tecta
From-here I of-Dardania the-walls and-lofty roofs
et freta prospiciens arbore nixus eram —
and seas looking-out-on on-a-tree leaning was
ecce! pedum pulsu visa est mihi terra moveri —
behold! of-feet by-the-beat seemed it-was to-me the-earth to-be-moved
vera loquar veri vix habitura fidem —
true-things I-will-speak of-truth hardly about-to-have belief
constitit ante oculos actus velocibus alis
stood before eyes driven by-swift wings
Atlantis magni Pleionesque nepos —
of-Atlas great and-of-Pleione the-grandson

fas vidisse fuit, fas sit mihi visa referre! —
right to-have-seen it-was, right be for-me things-seen to-relate!
inque dei digitis aurea virga fuit;
and-in of-the-god fingers golden wand was;
tresque simul divae, Venus et cum Pallade Iuno,
and-three together goddesses, Venus and with Pallas Juno,
graminibus teneros inposuere pedes.
on-the-grasses tender set feet.
Obstipui, gelidusque comas erexerat horror,
I-was-stunned, and-icy hair had-raised horror,
cum mihi 'pone metum!' nuntius ales ait,
when to-me 'lay-aside fear!' the-messenger winged says,
'arbiter es formae; certamina siste dearum;
'judge you-are of-beauty; the-contests settle of-goddesses;
vincere quae forma digna sit una duas!'
to-conquer which in-beauty worthy be one two!'
Neve recusarem, verbis Iovis imperat et se
And-lest I-should-refuse, in-words of-Jupiter he-commands and himself
protinus aetheria tollit in astra via.
at-once by-ethereal raises into stars way.
Mens mea convaluit, subitoque audacia venit,
Mind my grew-strong, and-suddenly daring came,
nec timui vultu quamque notare meo.
nor did-I-fear with-face each to-mark my.
Vincere erant omnes dignae iudexque querebar
To-conquer were all worthy and-judge I-complained
non omnes causam vincere posse suam.
not all the-cause to-win to-be-able their-own.
Sed tamen ex illis iam tunc magis una placebat,
But still of them already then more one pleased,

hanc esse ut scires, unde movetur amor.
this to-be that you-may-know, whence is-set-in-motion love.
Tantaque vincendi cura est; ingentibus ardent
And-so-great of-conquering care is; with-huge they-burn
iudicium donis sollicitare meum.
judgment with-gifts to-tempt my.
Regna Iovis coniunx, virtutem filia iactat;
Realms of-Jupiter the-wife, valor the-daughter boasts;
ipse potens dubito fortis an esse velim.
myself powerful I-doubt brave whether to-be I-would-wish.
Dulce Venus risit; 'nec te, Pari, munera tangant
Sweetly Venus smiled; 'nor you, Paris, gifts let-touch
utraque suspensi plena timoris!' ait;
both of-suspended full fear!' she-says;
'nos dabimus, quod ames, et pulchrae filia Ledae
'we will-give, what you-may-love, and of-beautiful the-daughter Leda
ibit in amplexus pulchrior illa tuos!'
will-go into embraces more-beautiful she your!'
Dixit, et ex aequo donis formaque probata
She-spoke, and on equal for-gifts and-beauty approved
victorem caelo rettulit illa pedem.
victorious to-heaven brought-back she foot.
Interea — credo versis ad prospera fatis —
Meanwhile I-believe turned to prosperity with-fates
regius adgnoscor per rata signa puer.
royal I-am-recognized by sure signs a-boy.
Laeta domus nato post tempora longa recepto est,
Glad the-house with-son after times long received is,
addit et ad festos hunc quoque Troia diem.
adds also to festal this too Troy day.

Utque ego te cupio, sic me cupiere puellae;
And-as I you desire, so me desired girls;
multarum votum sola tenere potes!
of-many the-wish alone to-hold you-can!
Nec tantum regum natae petiere ducumque,
Nor only of-kings daughters sought and-of-chiefs,
sed nymphis etiam curaque amorque fui.
but to-nymphs even both-care and-love I-was.
Quam super Oenones faciem mirarer? in orbe
Whom above Oenone's beauty should-I-admire? in world
nec Priamo est a te dignior ulla nurus.
nor to-Priam is than you more-worthy any daughter-in-law.
Sed mihi cunctarum subeunt fastidia, postquam
But to-me of-all come disgust, after
coniugii spes est, Tyndari, facta tui.
of-marriage hope is, daughter-of-Tyndareus, made your.
Te vigilans oculis, animo te nocte videbam,
You waking with-eyes, with-mind you at-night I-was-seeing,
lumina cum placido victa sopore iacent.
eyes when by-placid conquered sleep lie.
Quid facies praesens, quae nondum visa placebas?
What will-you-do present, who not-yet seen you-pleased?
Ardebam, quamvis hic procul ignis erat,
I-was-burning, although here far the-fire was,
nec potui debere mihi spem longius istam,
nor could-I to-owe to-myself hope longer that,
caerulea peterem quin mea vota via.
by-blue I-should-seek but-that my vows way.
Troia caeduntur Phrygia pineta securi
Trojan are-felled with-Phrygian pine-woods axe

quaeque erat aequoreis utilis arbor aquis;
and-whatever was for-sea useful tree waters;
ardua proceris spoliantur Gargara silvis,
lofty of-tall are-stripped Gargara forests,
innumerasque mihi longa dat Ida trabes.
and-countless to-me long gives Ida beams.
Fundatura citas flectuntur robora naves,
About-to-found swift are-bent oak-timbers ships,
texitur et costis panda carina suis.
is-woven and with-ribs curved keel its-own.
Addimus antennas et vela sequentia malo;
We-add yards and sails following to-mast;
accipit et pictos puppis adunca deos;
receives also painted stern hooked gods;
qua tamen ipse vehor, comitata Cupidine parvo
in-which still I-myself am-carried, accompanied by-Cupid little
sponsor coniugii stat dea picta tui.
guarantor of-marriage stands goddess painted your.
Inposita est factae postquam manus ultima classi,
Put was on-the-made after hand last fleet,
protinus Aegaeis ire lubebat aquis —
at-once Aegean to-go it-pleased waters
at pater et genetrix inhibent mea vota rogando
but father and mother restrain my vows by-asking
propositumque pia voce morantur iter;
and-the-proposed with-dutiful voice delay journey;
et soror, effusis ut erat, Cassandra, capillis,
and sister, with-loosened as she-was, Cassandra, hair,
cum vellent nostrae iam dare vela rates,
when wished our already to-give sails ships,

‘Quo ruis?’ exclamat, ‘referes incendia tecum!
‘Where do-you-rush?’ she-cries, ‘you-will-bring-back conflagrations with-you!
Quanta per has nescis flamma petatur aquas!’
How-great through these you-do-not-know flame is-sought waters!’
Vera fuit vates; dictos invenimus ignes,
True was the-seer; the-foretold we-found fires,
et ferus in molli pectore flagrat amor!
and fierce in soft breast blazes love!
Portubus egredior, ventisque ferentibus usus
From-harbors I-go-out, and-with-winds carrying having-used
applicor in terras, Oebali nympha, tuas.
I-put-in to lands, Oebalian nymph, your.
Excipit hospitio vir me tuus — hoc quoque factum
Receives as-guest husband me your this too done
non sine consilio numinibusque deum!
not without counsel and-will of-gods!
Ille quidem ostendit, quidquid Lacedaemone tota
He indeed showed, whatever in-Lacedaemon whole
ostendi dignum conspicuumque fuit;
to-be-shown worthy and-conspicuous was;
sed mihi laudatam cupienti cernere formam
but to-me praised desiring to-see beauty
lumina nil aliud quo caperentur erat.
eyes nothing other by-which they-might-be-caught was.
Ut vidi, obstipui praecordiaque intima sensi
When I-saw, I-was-stunned and-heart inmost I-felt
attonitus curis intumuisse novis.
astonished with-cares to-have-swelled new.
His similes vultus, quantum reminiscor, habebat
To-these like face, as-far-as I-remember, had

venit in arbitrium cum Cytherea meum.
came to judgment when Cytherea my.
Si tu venisses pariter certamen in illud,
If you had-come equally contest into that,
in dubium Veneris palma futura fuit!
into doubt of-Venus the-palm going-to-be was!
Magna quidem de te rumor praeconia fecit,
Great indeed about you rumor proclamations made,
nullaque de facie nescia terra tua est;
and-no of face unknowing land your is;
nec tibi par usquam Phrygia nec solis ab ortu
nor to-you equal anywhere Phrygian nor of-the-sun from rising
inter formosas altera nomen habet!
among beauties another name has!
Credis et hoc nobis? — minor est tua gloria vero,
Do-you-believe also this to-us? less is your glory than-truth,
famaque de forma paene maligna tua est;
and-report about beauty almost grudging your is;
plus hic invenio, quam quod promiserat illa,
more here I-find, than what had-promised it,
et tua materia gloria victa sua est.
and your by-matter glory conquered its-own is.
Ergo arsit merito, qui noverat omnia, Theseus,
So burned rightly, who had-known all, Theseus,
et visa es tanto digna rapina viro,
and seemed you-were of-so-great worthy prey man,
more tuae gentis nitida dum nuda palaestra
in-manner of-your race in-gleaming while naked wrestling-ground
ludis et es nudis femina mixta viris.
you-play and are with-naked woman mingled men.

Quod rapuit, laudo; miror, quod reddidit umquam.
That he-carried-off, I-praise; I-wonder, that he-gave-back ever.
Tam bona constanter praeda tenenda fuit.
So good steadfastly prey to-be-kept was.
Ante recessisset caput hoc cervice cruenta,
Sooner would-have-gone-away head this from-neck bloody,
quam tu de thalamis abstraherere meis.
than you from chamber should-be-dragged my.
Tene manus umquam nostrae dimittere vellent?
You-whether hands ever our to-let-go would-wish?
Tene meo paterer vivus abire sinu?
You-whether from-my should-I-allow alive to-go bosom?
Si reddenda fores, aliquid tamen ante tulissem,
If to-be-given-back you-were, something still before I-would-have-taken,
nec Venus ex toto nostra fuisset iners.
nor Venus from whole our would-have-been idle.
Vel mihi virginitas esset libata, vel illud
Either by-me virginity would-have-been sipped, or that
quod poterat salva virginitate rapi.
which could with-safe virginity to-be-snatched.
Da modo te, quae sit Paridis constantia, nosces;
Give only yourself, what be of-Paris the-constancy, you-will-know;
flamma rogi flammas finiet una meas.
the-flame of-pyre flames will-end alone my.
Praeposui regnis ego te, quae maxima quondam
I-preferred to-realms I you, which greatest once
pollicita est nobis nupta sororque Iovis;
promised has to-us the-bride and-sister of-Jupiter;
dumque tuo possem circumdare bracchia collo,
and-while your I-might-be-able to-put-around arms neck,

contempta est virtus Pallade dante mihi.
scorned was valor with-Pallas giving to-me.
Nec piget, aut umquam stulte legisse videbor;
Nor does-it-irk, or ever foolishly to-have-chosen shall-I-seem;
permanet in voto mens mea firma suo.
remains in wish mind my firm its-own.
Spem modo ne nostram fieri patiare caducam,
Hope only not our to-become you-allow fleeting,
deprecor, o tanto digna labore peti!
I-beg, O so-great worthy by-labor to-be-sought!
Non ego coniugium generosae degener opto,
Not I marriage with-a-noble-woman degenerate desire,
nec mea, crede mihi, turpiter uxor eris.
nor my, believe me, shamefully wife you-will-be.
Pliada, si quaeres, in nostra gente Iovemque
A-Pleiad, if you-seek, in our race and-Jupiter
invenies, medios ut taceamus avos;
you-will-find, the-middle that we-may-be-silent-about ancestors;
sceptra parens Asiae, qua nulla beatior ora est,
scepter my-parent of-Asia, than-which no more-blessed shore is,
finibus inmensis vix obeunda, tenet.
with-boundaries immense hardly to-be-gone-round, holds.
Innumeras urbes atque aurea tecta videbis,
Countless cities and golden roofs you-will-see,
quaeque suos dicas templa decere deos.
and-which their-own you-would-say temples to-befit gods.
Ilion adspicies firmataque turribus altis
Ilium you-will-behold and-strengthened with-towers high
moenia, Phoebeae structa canore lyrae.
walls, of-Phoebean built by-the-music lyre.

Quid tibi de turba narrem numeroque virorum?
What to-you about the-throng should-I-tell and-the-number of-men?
Vix populum tellus sustinet illa suum.
Hardly the-people land supports that its-own.
Occurrent denso tibi Troades agmine matres,
Will-meet in-dense you Trojan column mothers,
nec capient Phrygias atria nostra nurus.
nor will-hold Phrygian halls our daughters-in-law.
O quotiens dices: 'quam pauper Achaia nostra est!'
O how-often you-will-say: 'how poor Achaea our is!'
Una domus quaevis urbis habebit opes.
One house any of-a-city will-have wealth.
Nec mihi fas fuerit Sparten contemnere vestram;
Nor to-me right would-it-be Sparta to-despise your;
in qua tu nata es, terra beata mihi est.
in which you born were, land blessed to-me is.
Parca sed est Sparte, tu cultu divite digna;
Frugal but is Sparta, you of-dress rich worthy;
ad talem formam non facit iste locus.
for such beauty not is-fit that place.
Hanc faciem largis sine fine paratibus uti
This face with-lavish without end appointments to-use
deliciisque decet luxuriare novis.
and-in-delights befits to-luxuriate new.
Cum videas cultus nostra de gente virorum,
When you-see the-dress our of race men,
qualem Dardanias credis habere nurus?
what-kind Dardanian do-you-believe to-have daughters-in-law?
Da modo te facilem, nec dedignare maritum,
Give only yourself easy, nor disdain husband,

rure Therapnaeo nata puella, Phrygem.
in-country Therapnaean born girl, a-Phrygian.
Phryx erat et nostro genitus de sanguine, qui nunc
A-Phrygian was and our sprung from blood, who now
cum dis potando nectare miscet aquas.
with gods for-drinking with-nectar mixes waters.
Phryx erat Aurorae coniunx, tamen abstulit illum
A-Phrygian was of-Aurora husband, still carried-off him
extremum noctis quae dea finit iter.
the-last of-night who goddess ends journey.
Phryx etiam Anchises, volucrum cui mater Amorum
A-Phrygian also Anchises, of-winged with-whom the-mother Loves
gaudet in Idaeis concubuisse iugis.
rejoices on Idaean to-have-lain ridges.
Nec, puto, conlatis forma Menelaus et annis
Nor, I-think, compared in-beauty Menelaus and years
iudice te nobis anteferendus erit.
judge you to-us to-be-preferred will-be.
Non dabimus certe socerum tibi clara fugantem
Not we-will-give surely a-father-in-law to-you bright putting-to-flight
lumina, qui trepidos a dape vertat equos;
lights, who frightened from feast may-turn horses;
nec Priamo pater est soceri de caede cruentus
nor to-Priam father is of-father-in-law from slaughter bloody
et qui Myrtoas crimine signat aquas;
and who Myrtoan with-crime marks waters;
nec proavo Stygia nostro captantur in unda
nor by-great-grandfather Stygian our are-snatched-at in wave
poma, nec in mediis quaeritur umor aquis.
fruits, nor in middle is-sought moisture waters.

Quid tamen hoc refert, si te tenet ortus ab illis,
What still this matters, if you holds sprung from those,
cogitur huic domui Iuppiter esse socer?
is-forced to-this house Jupiter to-be father-in-law?
Heu facinus! totis indignus noctibus ille
Alas crime! through-whole unworthy nights he
te tenet amplexu perfruiturque tuo;
you holds in-embrace and-enjoys your;
at mihi conspiceris posita vix denique mensa,
but by-me you-are-seen set hardly at-last with-table,
multaque quae laedant hoc quoque tempus habet.
and-many-things which may-hurt this too time has.
Hostibus eveniant convivia talia nostris,
For-foes may-happen banquets such our,
experior posito qualia saepe mero!
I-experience set what-kind often with-wine!
Paenitet hospitii, cum me spectante lacertos
It-irks of-hospitality, when with-me watching arms
inponit collo rusticus iste tuo.
puts on-neck boor that your.
Rumpor et invideo — quidni tamen omnia narrem? —
I-burst and I-envy why-not still all should-I-tell?
membra superiecta cum tua veste fovet.
limbs thrown-over with your garment he-warms.
Oscula cum vero coram non dura daretis,
Kisses when indeed openly not hard you-gave,
ante oculos posui pocula sumpta meos;
before eyes I-put cups taken-up my;
lumina demitto cum te tenet artius ille,
eyes I-lower when you holds closer he,

crescit et invito lentus in ore cibus.
grows and unwilling slow in mouth food.
Saepe dedi gemitus; et te — lasciva! — notavi
Often I-gave groans; and you wanton! I-noticed
in gemitu risum non tenuisse meo.
at groan laughter not to-have-held-in my.
Saepe mero volui flammam compescere, at illa
Often with-wine I-wished flame to-quench, but it
crevit, et ebrietas ignis in igne fuit,
grew, and drunkenness fire on fire was,
multaque ne videam, versa cervice recumbo;
and-many-things lest I-see, with-turned neck I-recline;
sed revocas oculos protinus ipsa meos.
but you-call-back eyes at-once yourself my.
Quid faciam, dubito; dolor est meus illa videre,
What I-should-do, I-doubt; pain is my those-things to-see,
sed dolor a facie maior abesse tua.
but pain from face greater to-be-away your.
Qua licet et possum, luctor celare furorem;
Where it-is-allowed and I-can, I-struggle to-hide madness;
sed tamen apparet dissimulatus amor.
but still appears dissembled love.
Nec tibi verba damus; sentis mea vulnera, sentis!
Nor to-you words do-we-give; you-feel my wounds, you-feel!
Atque utinam soli sint ea nota tibi!
And would-that alone may-be they known to-you!
A, quotiens lacrimis venientibus ora reflexi,
Ah, how-often with-tears coming face I-turned-away,
ne causam fletus quaereret ille mei!
lest the-cause of-weeping might-seek he my!

A, quotiens aliquem narravi potus amorem,
Ah, how-often some I-told having-drunk love,
ad vultus referens singula verba tuos,
to face referring each words your,
indiciumque mei ficto sub nomine feci!
and-a-disclosure of-myself a-feigned under name I-made!
Ille ego, si nescis, verus amator eram.
That-same I, if you-do-not-know, true lover was.
Quin etiam, ut possem verbis petulantius uti,
Nay even, that I-might-be-able words more-wantonly to-use,
non semel ebrietas est simulata mihi.
not once drunkenness was feigned by-me.
Prodita sunt, memini, tunica tua pectora laxa
Betrayed were, I-remember, by-tunic your breast loose
atque oculis aditum nuda dedere meis —
and to-eyes access bare gave my
pectora vel puris nivibus vel lacte tuamque
breast than-either pure snows or than-milk and-your
complexo matrem candidiora Iove.
having-embraced mother whiter than-Jupiter.
Dum stupeo visis — nam pocula forte tenebam —
While I-am-dazed by-sights for cups by-chance I-was-holding
tortilis a digitis excidit ansa meis.
twisted from fingers fell handle my.
Oscula si natae dederas, ego protinus illa
Kisses if to-daughter you-had-given, I at-once those
Hermiones tenero laetus ab ore tuli.
of-Hermione tender glad from mouth took.
Et modo cantabam veteres resupinus amores,
And now I-was-singing old leaning-back loves,

et modo per nutum signa tegenda dabam.
and now by nod signs to-be-hidden I-was-giving.
Et comitum primas, Clymenen Aethramque, tuarum
And of-companions the-first, Clymene and-Aethra, your
ausus sum blandis nuper adire sonis,
dared I-have with-coaxing lately to-approach sounds,
quae mihi non aliud, quam formidare, locutae
who to-me nothing other, than to-fear, having-spoken
orantis medias deseruere preces.
of-me-begging midway deserted prayers.
Di facerent, pretium magni certaminis esses,
Gods would-grant, the-prize of-great contest you-might-be,
teque suo posset victor habere toro! —
and-you on-his-own could the-victor to-have bed!
ut tulit Hippomenes Schoeneida praemia cursus,
as carried-off Hippomenes Schoeneus'-daughter as-prize of-the-race,
venit ut in Phrygios Hippodamia sinus,
came as into Phrygian Hippodamia bosom,
ut ferus Alcides Acheloia cornua fregit,
as fierce Alcides of-Achelous horns broke,
dum petit amplexus, Deianira, tuos.
while he-seeks embraces, Deianira, your.
Nostra per has leges audacia fortiter isset,
Our through these terms daring bravely would-have-gone,
teque mei scires esse laboris opus.
and-you of-my you-would-know to-be labor the-work.
Nunc mihi nil superest nisi te, formosa, precari,
Now to-me nothing remains except you, beautiful-one, to-entreat,
amplectique tuos, si patiare, pedes.
and-to-embrace your, if you-allow, feet.

O decus, o praesens geminorum gloria fratrum,
O glory, O present of-twin glory brothers,
o Iove digna viro, ni Iove nata fores,
O of-Jupiter worthy as-husband, if-not from-Jupiter born you-were,
aut ego Sigeos repetam te coniuge portus,
either I the-Sigean shall-seek-again with-you as-wife harbors,
aut hic Taenaria contegar exul humo!
or here in-Taenarian shall-be-covered an-exile ground!
Non mea sunt summa leviter destricta sagitta
Not my are with-highest lightly grazed arrow
pectora; descendit vulnus ad ossa meum!
breast; went-down the-wound to bones my!
Hoc mihi — nam repeto — fore, ut a caeleste sagitta
This to-me for I-recall would-be, that by heavenly arrow
figar, erat verax vaticinata soror.
I-should-be-pierced, was truthful having-prophesied sister.
Parce datum fatis, Helene, contemnere amorem —
Forbear given by-fates, Helen, to-scorn love
sic habeas faciles in tua vota deos!
so may-you-have favorable toward your vows gods!
Multa quidem subeunt; sed coram ut plura loquamur,
Many-things indeed come-to-mind; but face-to-face that more we-may-speak,
excipe me lecto nocte silente tuo.
receive me in-bed by-night silent your.
An pudet et metuis Venerem temerare maritam
Or does-it-shame and do-you-fear Venus to-violate marital
castaque legitimi fallere iura tori?
and-chaste of-lawful to-cheat the-rights bed?
A, nimium simplex Helene, ne rustica dicam,
Ah, too simple Helen, lest boorish I-say,

hanc faciem culpa posse carere putas?
this face of-fault to-be-able to-be-free do-you-think?
Aut faciem mutes aut sis non dura, necesse est;
Either your-face you-must-change or be not hard, necessary it-is;
lis est cum forma magna pudicitiae.
strife is with beauty great of-chastity.
Iuppiter his gaudet, gaudet Venus aurea furtis;
Jupiter in-these rejoices, rejoices Venus golden in-thefts;
haec tibi nempe patrem furta dedere Iovem.
these to-you surely as-father thefts gave Jupiter.
Vix fieri, si sunt vires in semine morum,
Hardly to-be, if are forces in seed of-character,
et Iovis et Ledae filia, casta potes.
both of-Jupiter and of-Leda daughter, chaste can-you.
Casta tamen tum sis, cum te mea Troia tenebit,
Chaste still then be, when you my Troy will-hold,
et tua sim, quaeso, crimina solus ego.
and your may-I-be, I-pray, sins alone I.
Nunc ea peccemus quae corriget hora iugalis,
Now those-things let-us-sin which will-correct the-hour nuptial,
si modo promisit non mihi vana Venus!
if only promised not to-me empty Venus!
Sed tibi et hoc suadet rebus, non voce, maritus,
But you also this urges by-deeds, not by-voice, husband,
neve sui furtis hospitis obstet, abest.
and-lest of-his-own the-thefts guest be-hinder, be-is-away.
Non habuit tempus, quo Cresia regna videret,
Not be-had time, in-which Cretan realms be-might-see,
aptius — o mira calliditate virum!
more-fitting O with-wonderful shrewdness man!

‘Res, et ut Idaei mando tibi,’ dixit iturus,
‘The-affairs, and that the-Idaean I-commit to-you,’ he-said about-to-go,
‘curam pro nobis hospitis, uxor, agas.’
‘the-care for us of-the-guest, wife, may-you-take.’
Neclegis absentis, testor, mandata mariti!
You-neglect of-the-absent, I-call-to-witness, the-commands husband!
Cura tibi non est hospitis ulla tui.
Care to-you not is of-guest any your.
Huncine tu speras hominem sine pectore dotes
This-whether you hope man without heart the-endowments
posse satis formae, Tyndari, nosse tuae?
to-be-able enough of-beauty, daughter-of-Tyndareus, to-know your?
Falleris — ignorat; nec, si bona magna putaret,
You-are-deceived he-does-not-know; nor, if goods great he-thought,
quae tenet, externo crederet illa viro.
which he-holds, to-a-foreign would-he-trust them man.
Ut te nec mea vox nec te meus incitet ardor,
Though you neither my voice nor you my may-rouse ardor,
cogimur ipsius commoditate frui —
we-are-compelled by-his-own convenience to-profit
aut erimus stulti, sic ut superemus et ipsum,
or we-shall-be foolish, so that we-surpass even him,
si tam securum tempus abibit iners.
if so carefree time will-go-by idle.
Paene suis ad te manibus deducit amantem;
Almost with-his-own to you hands he-leads the-lover;
utere mandatis simplicitate viri!
use the-commands the-simplicity of-the-man!
Sola iaces viduo tam longa nocte cubili;
Alone you-lie in-widowed so long night bed;

in viduo iaceo solus et ipse toro.
in widowed lie alone also I-myself bed.
Te mihi meque tibi communia gaudia iungant;
You to-me and-me to-you shared joys may-join;
candidior medio nox erit illa die.
brighter than-mid night will-be that day.
Tunc ego iurabo quaevis tibi numina meque
Then I will-swear any to-you divinities and-myself
adstringam verbis in sacra vestra meis;
will-bind with-words to rites your my;
tunc ego, si non est fallax fiducia nostra,
then I, if not is deceitful confidence our,
efficiam praesens, ut mea regna petas.
will-bring-about present, that my realms you-seek.
Si pudet et metuis ne me videare secuta,
If it-shames and you-fear lest me you-seem having-followed,
ipse reus sine te criminis huius ero;
myself defendant without you of-crime this will-be;
nam sequar Aegidae factum fratrumque tuorum.
for I-shall-follow of-the-son-of-Aegeus the-deed and-of-brothers your.
Exemplo tangi non propiore potes.
By-example to-be-touched not nearer can-you.
Te rapuit Theseus, geminas Leucippidas illi;
You carried-off Theseus, twin daughters-of-Leucippus they;
quartus in exemplis adnumerabor ego.
fourth in examples shall-be-counted I.
Troia classis adest armis instructa virisque;
Trojan fleet is-at-hand with-arms equipped and-men;
iam facient celeres remus et aura vias.
soon will-make swift oar and breeze ways.

Ibis Dardanias ingens regina per urbes,
You-will-go Dardanian a-mighty queen through cities,
teque novam credet vulgus adesse deam,
and-you new will-believe the-crowd to-be-present goddess,
quaque feres gressus, adolebunt cinnama flammae,
and-wherever you-will-bear steps, will-burn cinnamon flames,
caesaque sanguineam victima planget humum.
and-slain bloody victim will-strike ground.
Dona pater fratresque et cum genetrice sorores
Gifts father and-brothers and with mother sisters
Iliadesque omnes totaque Troia dabit.
and-the-Trojan-women all and-whole Troy will-give.
Ei mihi! pars a me vix dicitur ulla futuri.
Ah me! part by me hardly is-told any of-what-is-to-be.
Plura feres, quam quae littera nostra refert.
More you-will-receive, than what letter our reports.
Nec tu rapta time, ne nos fera bella sequantur,
Nor you carried-off fear, lest us fierce wars follow,
concitet et vires Graecia magna suas.
may-rouse also forces Greece great her-own.
Tot prius abductis ecqua est repetita per arma?
Of-so-many before carried-off whether-any was reclaimed by arms?
Crede mihi, vanos res habet ista metus.
Believe me, empty matter has that fears.
Nomine ceperunt Aquilonis Erechthida Thraces,
In-the-name took of-Aquilo Erechtheus'-daughter the-Thracians,
et tuta a bello Bistonis ora fuit;
and safe from war Bistonian shore was;
Phasida puppe nova vexit Pagasaeus Iason,
the-Phasian-woman in-ship new carried Pagasaean Jason,

laesa neque est Colcha Thessala terra manu.
harmed nor was by-Colchian Thessalian land hand.
Te quoque qui rapuit, rapuit Minoida Theseus;
You too who carried-off, carried-off Minos'-daughter Theseus;
nulla tamen Minos Cretas ad arma vocat.
none still Minos Cretans to arms calls.
Terror in his ipso maior solet esse periclo,
Terror in these than-very greater is-wont to-be danger,
quaque timere libet, pertimuisse pudet.
and-where to-fear it-pleases, to-have-been-terrified shames.
Finge tamen, si vis, ingens consurgere bellum —
Suppose still, if you-wish, huge to-rise war
et mihi sunt vires, et mea tela nocent.
both to-me are strength, and my weapons harm.
Nec minor est Asiae quam vestrae copia terrae;
Nor less is of-Asia than of-your the-wealth land;
illa viris dives, dives abundat equis.
she in-men rich, rich abounds in-horses.
Nec plus Atrides animi Menelaus habebit
Nor more the-son-of-Atreus of-spirit Menelaus will-have
quam Paris aut armis anteferendus erit.
than Paris or in-arms to-be-preferred will-be.
Paene puer caesis abducta armenta recepi,
Almost a-boy slain carried-off herds I-recovered,
hostibus et causam nominis inde tuli;
with-foes and the-cause of-name thence took;
paene puer iuvenes vario certamine vici,
almost a-boy young-men in-varied contest I-conquered,
in quibus Ilioneus Deiphobusque fuit;
among whom Ilioneus and-Deiphobus were;

neve putes, non me nisi comminus esse timendum,
and-lest you-think, not me except at-close-quarters to-be to-be-feared,
figitur in iusso nostra sagitta loco.
is-fixed in ordered our arrow place.
Num potes haec illi primae dare facta iuventae?
Surely-not can-you these to-him of-first to-give deeds youth?
Instruere Atriden num potes arte mea?
To-equip the-son-of-Atreus surely-not can-you with-art my?
Omnia si dederis, numquid dabis Hectora fratrem?
All if you-give, surely-not will-you-give Hector brother?
Unus is innumeri militis instar erit!
One he of-countless soldiery the-equal will-be!
Quid valeam nescis, et te mea robora fallunt;
What I-am-worth you-do-not-know, and you my strength escape;
ignoras, cui sis nupta futura viro.
you-do-not-know, to-whom you-are wed about-to-be man.
Aut igitur nullo belli repetere tumultu,
Either therefore by-no of-war you-will-be-reclaimed tumult,
aut cedent Marti Dorica castra meo.
or will-yield to-Mars Dorian camps my.
Nec tamen indigner pro tanta sumere ferrum
Nor still would-I-be-indignant for so-great to-take-up sword
coniuge. certamen praemia magna movent.
a-wife. contest rewards great move.
Tu quoque, si de te totus contenderit orbis,
You too, if over you whole contend world,
nomen ab aeterna posteritate feres
a-name from eternal posterity will-bear
spe modo non timida dis hinc egressa secundis;
with-hope only not timid with-gods from-here having-gone-out favorable;

exige cum plena munera pacta fide.
exact with full gifts promised faith.

Helene Paridi

XVII · HELEN TO PARIS

Helen answers Paris with indignation that he dares to tempt a guest's wife. Her reputation is unstained; Theseus once carried her off by force but gave her back untouched. Yet she admits she has noticed his signals at table, and that his letter moves her. She doubts the story of the goddesses, fears that a foreign lover will prove fickle, as Jason was to Medea, and foresees war. She ends by proposing to continue through her maids Clymene and Aethra.

Nunc oculos tua cum violarit epistula nostros,
Now eyes your since has-violated letter our,
non rescribendi gloria visa levis.
not of-writing-back the-glory seemed slight.
Ausus es hospitii temeratis, advena, sacris
Dared you-have of-hospitality violated, stranger, with-rites
legitimam nuptae sollicitare fidem!
the-lawful of-a-bride to-tempt faith!
Scilicet idcirco ventosa per aequora vectum
Doubtless for-this-reason windy over seas carried
excepit portu Taenaris ora suo,
received in-harbor the-Taenarian shore its-own,
nec tibi, diversa quamvis e gente venires,
nor to-you, different although from race you-came,
oppositas habuit regia nostra fores,
opposed had palace our doors,
esset ut officii merces iniuria tanti!
might-be that of-service the-reward wrong so-great!

Qui sic intrabas, hospes an hostis eras?
You-who so were-entering, guest or enemy were-you?
Nec dubito, quin haec, cum sit tam iusta, vocetur
Nor do-I-doubt, but-that this, though it-be so just, be-called
rustica iudicio nostra querela tuo.
boorish in-judgment our complaint your.
Rustica sim sane, dum non oblita pudoris,
Boorish let-me-be indeed, provided not forgetful of-shame,
dumque tenor vitae sit sine labe meae.
and-provided-that the-course of-life be without stain my.
Si non est ficto tristis mihi vultus in ore,
If not is feigned grim on-me face on mouth,
nec sedeo duris torva superciliis,
nor do-I-sit with-hard grim brows,
fama tamen clara est, et adhuc sine crimine vixi,
reputation still bright is, and still without reproach I-have-lived,
et laudem de me nullus adulter habet.
and praise from me no adulterer has.
Quo magis admiror, quae sit fiducia coepti,
By-which more I-wonder, what be the-confidence of-the-undertaking,
spemque tori dederit quae tibi causa mei.
and-hope of-bed has-given what to-you cause my.
An, quia vim nobis Neptunius attulit heros,
Or, because force on-us the-Neptunian brought hero,
rapta semel videor bis quoque digna rapi?
seized once do-I-seem twice too worthy to-be-seized?
Crimen erat nostrum, si delinita fuissem;
The-crime was our, if won-over I-had-been;
cum sim rapta, meum quid nisi nolle fuit?
since I-was seized, mine what except to-be-unwilling was?

Non tamen e facto fructum tulit ille petitum;
Not still from the-deed fruit bore he sought;
excepto redii passa timore nihil.
except-for I-returned having-suffered fear nothing.
Oscula luctanti tantummodo pauca protervus
Kisses from-me-struggling only few wanton
abstulit; ulterius nil habet ille mei.
took; further nothing has he of-me.
Quae tua nequitia est, non his contenta fuisset —
Which your wickedness is, not with-these content would-have-been
di melius! similis non fuit ille tui.
gods better! like not was he of-you.
Reddidit intactam, minuitque modestia crimen,
He-returned-me untouched, and-lessened restraint the-crime,
et iuvenem facti paenituisse patet;
and the-youth of-the-deed to-have-repented is-plain;
Thesea paenituit, Paris ut succederet illi,
Theseus repented, Paris that might-succeed him,
ne quando nomen non sit in ore meum?
lest ever name not be in mouth mine?
Nec tamen irascor — quis enim succenset amanti? —
Nor still am-I-angry who indeed is-incensed-at a-lover?
si modo, quem praefers, non simulatur amor.
if only, which you-profess, not is-feigned love.
Hoc quoque enim dubito — non quod fiducia desit,
This too indeed I-doubt not that confidence be-lacking,
aut mea sit facies non bene nota mihi;
or my be face not well known to-me;
sed quia credulitas damno solet esse puellis,
but because credulity to-loss is-wont to-be for-girls,

verbaque dicuntur vestra carere fide.
and-words are-said your to-lack faith.

At peccant aliae, matronaque rara pudica est.
But sin others, and-a-matron rare chaste is.

Quis prohibet raris nomen inesse meum?
Who forbids among-the-rare name to-be my?

Nam mea quod visa est tibi mater idonea, cuius
For my because seemed she-was to-you mother suitable, by-whose

exemplo flecti me quoque posse putes,
example to-be-bent me too to-be-able you-think,

matris in admisso falsa sub imagine lusae
of-the-mother in the-misdeed false under likeness deceived

error inest; pluma tectus adulter erat.
error is-present; in-feathers covered the-adulterer was.

Nil ego, si peccem, possum nescisse, nec ullus
Nothing I, if I-should-sin, can to-have-been-ignorant, nor any

error qui facti crimen obumbret erit.
error which of-the-deed the-crime may-overshadow will-be.

Illa bene erravit vitiumque auctore redemit.
She well erred and-fault by-author redeemed.

Felix in culpa quo Iove dicar ego?
Happy in fault by-what Jupiter shall-I-be-called I?

Sed genus et proavos et regia nomina iactas.
But race and great-grandfathers and royal names you-boast.

Clara satis domus haec nobilitate sua est.
Famous enough house this in-nobility its-own is.

Iuppiter ut soceri proavus taceatur et omne
Jupiter though of-father-in-law the-great-grandfather be-passed-over and all

Tantalidae Pelopis Tyndareique decus,
of-Tantalus'-son of-Pelops and-of-Tyndareus the-glory,

dat mihi Leda Iovem cygno decepta parentem,
gives to-me Leda Jupiter by-swan deceived as-parent,
quae falsam gremio credula fovit avem.
who false in-lap credulous warmed bird.
I nunc et Phrygiae late primordia gentis
Go now and of-Phrygian widely the-origins race
cumque suo Priamum Laumedonte refer!
and-with his-own Priam Laomedon recount!
Quos ego suspicio; sed qui tibi gloria magna est
Whom I respect; but who to-you glory great is
quintus, is a nostro nomine primus erit.
fifth, he from our name first will-be.
Sceptra tuae quamvis rear esse potentia terrae,
The-scepter of-your although I-think to-be powerful land,
non tamen haec illis esse minora puto.
not still this than-that to-be lesser I-think.
Si iam divitiis locus hic numeroque virorum
If now in-riches place this and-in-number of-men
vincitur, at certe barbara terra tua est.
is-surpassed, yet surely barbarian land yours is.
Munera tanta quidem promittit epistula dives
Gifts so-great indeed promises letter rich
ut possint ipsas illa movere deas;
that might-be-able very they to-move goddesses;
sed si iam vellem fines transire pudoris,
but if now I-wished the-bounds to-cross of-shame,
tu melior culpae causa futurus eras.
you better of-fault the-cause going-to-be were.
Aut ego perpetuo famam sine labe tenebo,
Either I perpetually reputation without stain shall-hold,

aut ego te potius quam tua dona sequar;
or I you rather than your gifts shall-follow;
utque ea non sperno, sic acceptissima semper
and-as those not I-spurn, so most-acceptable always
munera sunt, auctor quae pretiosa facit.
gifts are, author which precious makes.
Plus multo est, quod amas, quod sum tibi causa laboris,
More by-far it-is, that you-love, that I-am to-you cause of-labor,
quod tam per longas spes tua venit aquas.
that so over long hope your came waters.
Illa quoque, adposita quae nunc facis, inprobe, mensa,
Those too, at-the-set which now you-do, shameless, table,
quamvis experiar dissimulare, noto —
although I-try to-dissemble, I-notice
cum modo me spectas oculis, lascive, protervis,
when now me you-watch with-eyes, wanton, bold,
quos vix instantes lumina nostra ferunt,
which hardly pressing eyes our bear,
et modo suspiras, modo pocula proxima nobis
and now you-sigh, now cups nearest to-us
sumis, quaque bibi, tu quoque parte bibis.
you-take, and-at-what I-drank, you too part drink.
A, quotiens digitis, quotiens ego tecta notavi
Ah, how-often by-fingers, how-often I hidden noticed
signa supercilio paene loquente dari!
signs with-brow almost speaking to-be-given!
Et saepe extimui ne vir meus illa videret,
And often I-dreaded lest husband my those-things might-see,
non satis occultis erubuique notis!
not enough hidden and-I-blushed at-signs!

Saepe vel exiguo vel nullo murmure dixi:
Often either with-slight or with-no murmur I-said:
'Nil pudet hunc.' nec vox haec mea falsa fuit.
'Nothing shames this-one.' nor voice this my false was.
Orbe quoque in mensae legi sub nomine nostro,
The-round too on of-the-table I-read under name our,
quod deducta mero littera fecit, amo.
which drawn with-wine letter made, I-love.
Credere me tamen hoc oculo renuente negavi —
To-believe me still this with-eye refusing I-denied
ei mihi, iam didici sic ego posse loqui!
ah me, already I-have-learned so I to-be-able to-speak!
His ego blanditiis, si peccatura fuissem,
By-these I blandishments, if about-to-sin I-had-been,
flecterer; his poterant pectora nostra capi.
would-be-bent; by-these could breast our to-be-captured.
Est quoque, confiteor, facies tibi rara, potestque
There-is too, I-confess, beauty to-you rare, and-can
velle sub amplexus ire puella tuos;
to-wish under embraces to-go a-girl your;
altera vel potius felix sine crimine fiat,
another or rather happy without crime may-become,
quam cadat externo noster amore pudor.
than may-fall by-foreign our love shame.
Disce meo exemplo formosis posse carere;
Learn by-my example beautiful-things to-be-able to-lack;
est virtus placitis abstinuisse bonis.
it-is virtue from-pleasing to-have-abstained goods.
Quam multos credis iuvenes optare quod optas,
How many do-you-think young-men to-desire what you-desire,

qui sapiant? oculos an Paris unus habes?
who have-sense? eyes or Paris alone have-you?
Non tu plus cernis, sed plus temerarius audes;
Not you more see, but more rashly you-dare;
nec tibi plus cordis, sed minus oris, adest.
nor to-you more of-heart, but less of-face, is-here.
Tunc ego te vellem celeri venisse carina,
Then I you would-wish with-swift to-have-come keel,
cum mea virginitas mille petita procis;
when my maidenhood by-a-thousand was-sought suitors;
si te vidissem, primus de mille fuisses.
if you I-had-seen, first of thousand you-would-have-been.
Iudicio veniam vir dabit ipse meo.
To-judgment pardon husband will-give himself my.
Ad possessa venis praeceptaque gaudia, serus;
To possessed you-come and-forestalled joys, late;
spes tua lenta fuit; quod petis, alter habet.
hope your slow was; what you-seek, another has.
Ut tamen optarem fieri tua Troica coniunx,
Though still I-should-desire to-become your Trojan wife,
invitam sic me nec Menelaus habet.
unwilling so me not-even Menelaus has.
Desine molle, precor, verbis convellere pectus,
Cease soft, I-pray, with-words to-uproot breast,
neve mihi, quam te dicis amare, noce;
and-not me, whom you you-say to-love, harm;
sed sine quam tribuit sortem fortuna tueri,
but allow which has-assigned lot fortune to-guard,
nec spolium nostri turpe pudoris ave!
nor the-spoil of-our base shame desire!

At Venus hoc pacta est, et in altae vallibus Idae
But Venus this promised has, and in of-lofty valleys Ida
tres tibi se nudas exhibuere deae,
three to-you themselves naked showed goddesses,
unaque cum regnum, belli daret altera laudem,
and-one when realm, of-war should-give the-other praise,
'Tyndaridis coniunx,' tertia dixit, 'eris!'
'of-Tyndareus'-daughter the-husband,' the-third said, 'you-will-be!'
Credere vix equidem caelestia corpora possum
To-believe hardly for-my-part heavenly bodies I-can
arbitrio formam supposuisse tuo,
to-judgment beauty to-have-submitted your,
utque sit hoc verum, certe pars altera ficta est,
and-though be this true, surely part the-other made-up is,
iudicii pretium qua data dicor ego.
of-judgment the-prize in-which given am-said I.
Non est tanta mihi fiducia corporis, ut me
Not is so-great to-me confidence of-body, that me
maxima teste dea dona fuisse putem.
the-greatest witness goddess gift to-have-been I-should-think.
Contenta est oculis hominum mea forma probari;
Content is by-eyes of-men my beauty to-be-approved;
laudatrix Venus est invidiosa mihi.
a-praiser Venus is bringing-envy to-me.
Sed nihil infirmo; faveo quoque laudibus istis —
But nothing I-weaken; I-favor too praises those
nam mea vox quare, quod cupit, esse neget?
for my voice why, what it-desires, to-be should-deny?
Nec tu succense, nimium mihi creditus aegre;
Nor you be-angry, too-much by-me believed reluctantly;

tarda solet magnis rebus inesse fides.
slow is-wont in-great things to-be faith.

Prima mea est igitur Veneri placuisse voluptas;
First my is therefore to-Venus to-have-pleased pleasure;

proxima, me visam praemia summa tibi,
next, me seen-as reward highest by-you,

nec te Palladios nec te Iunonis honores
nor you of-Pallas nor you of-Juno honors

auditis Helenae praeposuisse bonis.
heard to-Helen's to-have-preferred goods.

Ergo ego sum virtus, ego sum tibi nobile regnum!
So I am valor, I am to-you noble realm!

Ferrea sim, si non hoc ego pectus amem.
Iron may-I-be, if not this I breast should-love.

Ferrea, crede mihi, non sum; sed amare repugno
Iron, believe me, not I-am; but to-love I-resist

illum, quem fieri vix puto posse meum.
him, whom to-become hardly I-think to-be-able mine.

Quid bibulum curvo proscindere litus aratro,
Why thirsty with-curved to-cleave shore plow,

spemque sequi coner quam locus ipse negat?
and-hope to-follow should-I-try which place itself denies?

Sum rudis ad Veneris furtum, nullaque fidelem —
I-am unskilled for of-Venus theft, and-by-no faithful

di mihi sunt testes — lusimus arte virum.
gods to-me are witnesses have-we-mocked art husband.

Nunc quoque, quod tacito mando mea verba libello,
Now too, that to-silent I-entrust my words page,

fungitur officio littera nostra novo.
performs duty letter our new.

Felices, quibus usus adest! ego nescia rerum
Happy, those-to-whom experience is-here! I unknowing of-things
difficilem culpae suspicor esse viam.
difficult of-guilt I-suspect to-be the-way.
Ipse malo metus est; iam nunc confundor, et omnes
Itself for-an-evil fear is; already now I-am-confounded, and all
in nostris oculos vultibus esse reor.
on our eyes face to-be I-think.
Nec reor hoc falso; sensi mala murmura vulgi,
Nor do-I-think this falsely; I-have-sensed evil murmurs of-the-crowd,
et quasdam voces rettulit Aethra mihi.
and certain words brought-back Aethra to-me.
At tu dissimula, nisi si desistere mavis!
But you dissemble, unless if to-desist you-prefer!
Sed cur desistas? dissimulare potes.
But why should-you-desist? to-dissemble you-can.
Lude, sed occulte! maior, non maxima, nobis
Play, but secretly! greater, not greatest, to-us
est data libertas, quod Menelaus abest.
is given freedom, because Menelaus is-away.
Ille quidem procul est, ita re cogente, profectus;
He indeed far is, so with-the-matter compelling, set-out;
magna fuit subitae iustaque causa viae —
great was of-sudden and-just cause journey
aut mihi sic visum est. ego, cum dubitaret an iret,
or to-me so seemed it-was. I, when he-doubted whether he-should-go,
'Quam primum,' dixi, 'fac rediturus eas!'
'As-soon as-possible,' I-said, 'see-to-it about-to-return you-go!'
Omine laetatus dedit oscula, 'res'que 'domusque
At-the-omen pleased he-gave kisses, 'both-the-affairs' 'and-the-house

et tibi sit curae Troicus hospes,' ait.
and by-you let-be for-care the-Trojan guest,' he-says.

Vix tenui risum, quem dum conpescere luctor,
Hardly I-held-in laughter, which while to-check I-struggle,

nil illi potui dicere praeter 'erit.'
nothing to-him I-could to-say except 'it-will-be.'

Vela quidem Creten ventis dedit ille secundis;
Sails indeed to-Crete to-winds gave he favoring;

sed tu non ideo cuncta licere puta!
but you not therefore all to-be-allowed think!

Sic meus hinc vir abest ut me custodiat absens —
So my from-here husband is-away that me he-may-guard absent

an nescis longas regibus esse manus?
or do-you-not-know long to-kings to-be hands?

Fama quoque est oneri; nam quo constantius ore
Reputation too is for-a-burden; for by-what more-constantly mouth

laudamur vestro, iustius ille timet.
we-are-praised your, more-justly he fears.

Quae iuvat, ut nunc est, eadem mihi gloria damno est,
Which pleases, as now it-is, the-same to-me glory for-loss is,

et melius famae verba dedisse fuit.
and better to-reputation words to-have-given would-have-been.

Nec quod abest hic me tecum mirare relictam;
Nor that he-is-away here me with-you wonder left;

moribus et vitae credidit ille meae.
to-character and life trusted he my.

De facie metuit, vitae confidit, et illum
Of face he-fears, life he-trusts, and him

securum probitas, forma timere facit.
carefree honesty, beauty to-fear makes.

Tempora ne pereant ultro data praecipis, utque
The-times lest be-lost freely given you-advise, and-that
simplicis utamur commoditate viri.
of-simple we-may-use the-convenience man.
Et libet et timeo, nec adhuc exacta voluntas
Both it-pleases and I-fear, nor yet decided will
est satis; in dubio pectora nostra labant.
is enough; in doubt breast our totters.
Et vir abest nobis, et tu sine coniuge dormis,
Both husband is-away from-us, and you without wife sleep,
inque vicem tua me, te mea forma capit;
and-into turn your me, you my beauty takes;
et longae noctes, et iam sermone coimus,
and long nights, and already in-talk we-meet,
et tu, me miseram! blandus, et una domus.
and you, me wretched! charming, and one house.
Et peream, si non invitant omnia culpam;
And may-I-perish, if not invite everything fault;
nescio quo tardor sed tamen ipsa metu!
I-know-not by-what I-am-slowed but still myself fear!
Quod male persuades, utinam bene cogere posses!
What badly you-persuade, would-that well to-compel you-could!
Vi mea rusticitas excutienda fuit.
By-force my rusticity to-be-shaken-off was.
Utilis interdum est ipsis iniuria passis.
Useful sometimes is to-those-very wrong having-suffered.
Sic certe felix esse coacta forem.
So surely happy to-be compelled I-would-be.
Dum novus est, potius coepto pugnemus amori!
While new it-is, rather begun let-us-fight love!

Flamma recens parva sparsa resedit aqua.
A-flame fresh by-little sprinkled has-subsided water.
Certus in hospitibus non est amor; errat, ut ipsi,
Sure among guests not is love; it-wanders, as they,
cumque nihil speres firmius esse, fuit.
and-when nothing you-would-hope firmer to-be, it-is-gone.
Hypsipyle testis, testis Minoia virgo est,
Hypsipyle witness, witness the-Minoan maiden is,
in non exhibitis utraque lusa toris.
in not displayed each mocked bed.
Tu quoque dilectam multos, infide, per annos
You too beloved many, faithless-one, through years
diceris Oenonen destituisse tuam.
are-said Oenone to-have-abandoned your.
Nec tamen ipse negas; et nobis omnia de te
Nor still yourself do-you-deny; and to-us all about you
quaerere, si nescis, maxima cura fuit.
to-ask, if you-do-not-know, greatest care was.
Adde, quod, ut cupias constans in amore manere,
Add, that, though you-may-desire constant in love to-remain,
non potes. expediunt iam tua vela Phryges;
not you-can. are-making-ready already your sails Phrygians;
dum loqueris mecum, dum nox sperata paratur,
while you-speak with-me, while night hoped-for is-prepared,
qui ferat in patriam, iam tibi ventus erit.
which may-carry to fatherland, already for-you wind will-be.
Cursibus in mediis novitatis plena relinques
Course in mid of-novelty full you-will-leave
gaudia; cum ventis noster abibit amor.
joys; with winds our will-go-away love.

An sequar, ut suades, laudataque Pergama visam
Or shall-I-follow, as you-urge, and-praised Pergamum see
pronurus et magni Laumedontis ero?
granddaughter-in-law also of-great Laomedon shall-I-be?
Non ita contemno volucris praeconia famae,
Not so do-I-despise of-winged the-proclamations report,
ut probris terras inpleat illa meis.
that with-reproaches lands may-fill it my.
Quid de me poterit Sparte, quid Achaia tota,
What about me will-be-able Sparta, what Achaea whole,
quid gentes aliae, quid tua Troia loqui?
what peoples other, what your Troy say?
Quid Priamus de me, Priami quid sentiet uxor,
What Priam about me, of-Priam what will-feel the-wife,
totque tui fratres Dardanidesque nurus?
and-so-many your brothers and-Dardanian daughters-in-law?
Tu quoque, qui poteris fore me sperare fidelem,
You too, how will-you-be-able to-be me to-hope faithful,
et non exemplis anxius esse tuis?
and not by-examples anxious to-be your?
Quicumque Iliacos intraverit advena portus,
Whoever Ilian has-entered stranger harbors,
is tibi solliciti causa timoris erit.
he to-you of-anxious cause fear will-be.
Ipse mihi quotiens iratus 'adultera!' dices,
Yourself to-me how-often angry 'adulteress!' you-will-say,
oblitus nostro crimen inesse tuum!
forgetting in-our crime to-be-present yours!
Delicti fies idem reprehensor et auctor.
Of-the-offense you-will-be-made the-same censurer and author.

Terra, precor, vultus obruat ante meos!
Earth, I-pray, face may-cover before my!
At fruar Iliacis opibus cultuque beato,
But I-shall-enjoy Ilian wealth and-dress blessed,
donaque promissis uberiora feram;
and-gifts than-promises richer shall-receive;
purpura nempe mihi pretiosaque texta dabuntur,
purple of-course to-me and-precious weavings will-be-given,
congestoque auri pondere dives ero!
and-with-heaped-up of-gold weight rich I-shall-be!
Da veniam fassae — non sunt tua munera tanti;
Give pardon to-me-confessing not are your gifts of-such-worth;
nescio quo tellus me tenet ipsa modo.
I-know-not in-what land me holds itself way.
Quis mihi, si laedar, Phrygiis succurret in oris?
Who to-me, if I-am-hurt, Phrygian will-help on shores?
Unde petam fratres, unde parentis opem?
Whence shall-I-seek brothers, whence of-parent help?
Omnia Medeae fallax promisit Iason —
Everything to-Medea deceitful promised Jason
pulsa est Aesonia num minus illa domo?
driven was from-Aesonian surely-not less she house?
Non erat Aeetes, ad quem despecta rediret,
Not was Aeetes, to whom despised she-might-return,
non Idyia parens Chalciopeque soror.
not Idyia mother or-Chalciope sister.
Tale nihil timeo — sed nec Medea timebat!
Such nothing I-fear but nor Medea feared!
Fallitur augurio spes bona saepe suo.
Is-deceived by-augury hope good often its-own.

Omnibus invenies, quae nunc iactantur in alto,
For-all you-will-find, which now are-tossed on deep,
navibus a portu lene fuisse fretum.
ships from harbor gentle to-have-been the-sea.
Fax quoque me terret, quam se peperisse cruentam
The-torch too me frightens, which herself to-have-borne bloody
ante diem partus est tua visa parens;
before the-day of-birth was your seemed parent;
et vatum timeo monitus, quos igne Pelasgo
and of-seers I-fear the-warnings, who by-fire Pelasgian
Ilion arsurum praemonuisse ferunt.
Ilium about-to-burn to-have-foretold they-say.
Utque favet Cytherea tibi, quia vicit habetque
And-as favors Cytherea you, because she-won and-has
parta per arbitrium bina tropaea tuum,
gained through judgment two trophies your,
sic illas vereor, quae, si tua gloria vera est,
so them I-fear, who, if your glory true is,
iudice te causam non tenuere duae;
judge with-you the-cause not held two;
nec dubito, quin, te si prosequar, arma parentur.
nor do-I-doubt, but-that, you if I-follow, arms be-prepared.
Ibit per gladios, ei mihi! noster amor.
Will-go through swords, ah me! our love.
An fera Centauris indicere bella coegit
Or fierce on-Centaurs to-declare wars compelled
Atracis Haemonios Hippodamia viros —
Atracian Haemonian Hippodamia men
tu fore tam iusta lentum Menelaon in ira
you to-be-going-to-be so just slow Menelaus in wrath

et geminos fratres Tyndareumque putas?
and twin brothers and-Tyndareus do-you-think?

Quod bene te iactes et fortia facta loquaris,
Whereas well you you-boast and brave deeds speak,

a verbis facies dissidet ista tuis.
from words face disagrees that your.

Apta magis Veneri, quam sunt tua corpora Marti.
Fit more for-Venus, than are your body for-Mars.

Bella gerant fortes, tu, Pari, semper ama!
Wars let-wage the-brave, you, Paris, always love!

Hectora, quem laudas, pro te pugnare iubeto;
Hector, whom you-praise, for you to-fight order;

militia est operis altera digna tuis.
warfare is for-tasks the-other fit your.

His ego, si saperem pauloque audacior essem,
These I, if I-were-wise and-a-little bolder were,

uterer; utetur, siqua puella sapit —
would-use; will-use, if-any girl is-wise

aut ego deposito sapiam fortasse pudore
or I having-laid-aside will-be-wise perhaps shame

et dabo cunctatas tempore victa manus.
and will-give hesitating by-time conquered hands.

Quod petis, ut furtim praesentes ista loquamur,
As-to-what you-seek, that secretly face-to-face these-things we-may-speak,

scimus, quid captes conloquiumque voces;
we-know, what you-aim-at and-meeting you-call;

sed nimium properas, et adhuc tua messis in herba est.
but too-much you-hasten, and still your harvest in the-blade is.

Haec mora sit voto forsan amica tuo.
This delay may-be to-wish perhaps friendly your.

Hactenus; arcanum furtivae conscia mentis
Thus-far; the-secret of-stealthy sharer mind
littera iam lasso pollice sistat opus.
letter now with-weary thumb may-stop work.
Cetera per socias Clymenen Aethramque loquamur,
The-rest through companions Clymene and-Aethra let-us-speak,
quae mihi sunt comites consiliumque duae.
who to-me are companions and-counsel two.

Leander Heroni

XVIII · LEANDER TO HERO

Leander writes from Abydos, kept from swimming the Hellespont by seven nights of storm. He recalls his first crossing by moonlight toward the light in Hero's tower, their nights together, and his reluctant swims home at dawn. He envies Phrixus, carried over these waters on the golden ram. If the sea stays rough a few more nights, he vows, he will swim it anyway, though it cost his life.

Mittit Abydenus, quam mallet ferre, salutem,
Sends the-man-of-Abydos, which he-would-prefer to-bring, greeting,
si cadat unda maris, Sesta puella, tibi.
if may-fall the-wave of-the-sea, Sestian girl, to-you.
Si mihi di faciles, si sunt in amore secundi,
If to-me the-gods favorable, if they-are in love propitious,
invitis oculis haec mea verba leges.
with-unwilling eyes these my words you-will-read.
Sed non sunt faciles; nam cur mea vota morantur
But not they-are favorable; for why my vows do-they-delay
currere me nota nec patiuntur aqua?
to-run me in-known nor allow water?

Ipsa vides caelum pice nigrius et freta ventis
Yourself you-see the-sky than-pitch blacker and the-seas by-winds
turbida perque cavas vix adeunda rates.
turbid and-through hollow hardly to-be-approached ships.
Unus, et hic audax, a quo tibi littera nostra
One, and he bold, by whom to-you letter our
redditur, e portu navita movit iter;
is-delivered, from harbor sailor set-in-motion journey;
adscensurus eram, nisi quod, cum vincula prorae
about-to-embark I-was, except that, when the-cables of-the-prow
solveret, in speculis omnis Abydos erat.
he-was-loosing, on watchtowers all Abydos was.
Non poteram celare meos, velut ante, parentes,
Not I-could to-hide from-my, as before, parents,
quemque tegi volumus, non latuisset amor.
and-which to-be-hidden we-wish, not would-have-lain-bid love.
Protinus haec scribens, 'felix, i, littera!' dixi,
At-once this writing, 'happy, go, letter!' I-said,
'iam tibi formosam porriget illa manum.
'soon to-you beautiful will-stretch-out she hand.
Forsitan admotis etiam tangere labellis,
Perhaps moved even to-touch with-lips,
rumpere dum niveo vincula dente volet.'
to-break while with-snowy the-seals tooth she-will-wish.'
Talibus exiguo dictis mihi murmure verbis,
Such with-slight spoken by-me murmur with-words,
cetera cum charta dextra locuta mea est.
the-rest with paper right-hand spoken my has.
At quanto mallem, quam scriberet, illa nataret,
But how-much I-would-prefer, than it-should-write, that it-should-swim,

meque per adsuetas sedula ferret aquas!
and-me through accustomed busy should-bear waters!
Aptior illa quidem placido dare verbera ponto;
Fitter it indeed to-calm to-give strokes sea;
est tamen et sensus apta ministra mei.
it-is still also of-feeling fit servant my.
Septima nox agitur, spatium mihi longius anno,
The-seventh night is-passed, a-space for-me longer than-a-year,
sollicitum raucis ut mare fervet aquis.
troubled with-hoarse since sea boils waters.
His ego si vidi mulcentem pectora somnum
On-these I if I-have-seen soothing breast sleep
noctibus, insani sit mora longa freti!
nights, of-the-mad may-be the-delay long sea!
Rupe sedens aliqua specto tua litora tristis
On-rock sitting some I-watch your shores sad
et, quo non possum corpore, mente feror.
and, where not I-can with-body, in-mind I-am-borne.
Lumina quin etiam summa vigilantia turre
The-lights nay even on-highest watchful tower
aut videt aut acies nostra videre putat.
either sees or the-gaze our to-see thinks.
Ter mihi deposita est in sicca vestis harena;
Three-times by-me laid-down was on dry clothing sand;
ter grave temptavi carpere nudus iter —
three-times heavy I-tried to-take naked journey
obstitit inceptis tumidum iuvenalibus aequor,
withstood the-attempts swollen youthful sea,
mersit et inversis ora natantis aquis.
sank and with-overturned the-face of-me-swimming waters.

At tu, de rapidis inmansuetissime ventis,
But you, of ravening most-savage winds,
quid mecum certa proelia mente geris?
why with-me resolved battles with-mind do-you-wage?
In me, si nescis, Borea, non aequora, saevis!
Against me, if you-do-not-know, Boreas, not seas, you-rage!
Quid faceres, esset ni tibi notus amor?
What would-you-do, were not to-you known love?
Tam gelidus quod sis, num te tamen, inprobe, quondam
So cold although you-are, surely-not you still, shameless, once
ignibus Actaeis incaluisse negas?
with-fires Actaean to-have-grown-warm do-you-deny?
Gaudia rapturo siquis tibi claudere vellet
Joys about-to-snatch if-anyone for-you to-close wished
aerios aditus, quo paterere modo?
airy approaches, in-what would-you-bear-it way?
Parce, precor, facilemque move moderatius auram —
Spare, I-pray, and-easy stir more-moderately breeze
imperet Hippotades sic tibi triste nihil!
may-command Hippotades so to-you grim nothing!
Vana peto; precibusque meis obmurmurat ipse
Empty-things I-seek; and-at-prayers my grumbles he-himself
quasque quatit, nulla parte coercet aquas.
and-what he-shakes, in-no part restrains waters.
Nunc daret audaces utinam mihi Daedalus alas —
Now would-give daring would-that to-me Daedalus wings
Icarium quamvis hinc prope litus abest!
Icarian although from-here near shore is-away!
Quidquid erit, patiar, liceat modo corpus in auras
Whatever will-be, I-shall-endure, may-it-be-allowed only body into airs

tollere, quod dubia saepe pependit aqua.
to-raise, which doubtful often has-hung in-water.
Interea, dum cuncta negant ventique fretumque,
Meanwhile, while all-things deny both-winds and-sea,
mente agito furti tempora prima mei.
in-mind I-turn-over of-theft times first my.
Nox erat incipiens — namque est meminisse voluptas —
Night was beginning for it-is to-remember a-pleasure
cum foribus patriis egrediebar amans.
when from-door paternal I-was-going-out loving.
Nec mora, deposito pariter cum veste timore
Nor delay, laid-down equally with garment fear
iactabam liquido bracchia lenta mari.
I-was-tossing in-liquid arms pliant sea.
Luna fere tremulum praebebat lumen eunti
The-moon nearly trembling was-offering light to-me-going
ut comes in nostras officiosa vias.
as companion on our dutiful ways.
Hanc ego suspiciens, 'faveas, dea candida,' dixi,
Her I looking-up-at, 'favor, goddess bright,' I-said,
'et subeant animo Latmia saxa tuo!
'and may-come-up to-mind Latmian rocks your!
Non sinit Endymion te pectoris esse severi.
Not allows Endymion you of-breast to-be stern.
Flecte, precor, vultus ad mea furta tuos!
Turn, I-pray, face toward my thefts your!
Tu dea mortalem caelo delapsa petebas;
You goddess a-mortal from-heaven slipping-down sought;
vera loqui liceat! — quam sequor ipsa dea est.
true-things to-speak may-it-be-allowed! whom I-follow herself a-goddess is.

Neu referam mores caelesti pectore dignos,
Lest I-tell character of-heavenly breast worthy,
forma nisi in veras non cadit illa deas.
beauty except on true not falls that goddesses.
A Veneris facie non est prior ulla tuaque;
After of-Venus face not is prior any and-yours;
neve meis credas vocibus, ipsa vide!
and-lest my you-trust words, yourself see!
Quantum, cum fulges radiis argentea puris,
As-much-as, when you-shine with-rays silver pure,
concedunt flammis sidera cuncta tuis,
yield to-flames stars all your,
tanto formosis formosior omnibus illa est.
so-much than-beauties more-beautiful all she is.
Si dubitas, caecum, Cynthia, lumen habes.'
If you-doubt, blind, Cynthia, light you-have.'
Haec ego, vel certe non his diversa, locutus
These-things I, or surely not from-these different, having-spoken
per mihi cedentes nocte ferebar aquas.
through for-me yielding by-night was-borne waters.
Unda repercussae radiabat imagine lunae,
The-wave of-reflected was-gleaming with-image moon,
et nitor in tacita nocte diurnus erat;
and brightness in silent night of-day was;
nullaque vox usquam, nullum veniebat ad aures
and-no voice anywhere, no was-coming to ears
praeter dimotae corpore murmur aquae.
except of-parted by-body the-murmur water.
Alcyones solae, memores Ceycis amati,
The-halcyons alone, mindful of-Ceyx beloved,

nescio quid visae sunt mihi dulce queri.
I-know-not what seemed were to-me sweetly to-lament.
Iamque fatigatis umero sub utroque lacertis
And-now with-wearied shoulder beneath both arms
fortiter in summas erigor altus aquas.
strongly onto highest I-raise-myself high waters.
Ut procul aspexi lumen, 'meus ignis in illo est:
When afar I-saw the-light, 'my fire in that is:
illa meum,' dixi, 'litora lumen habent!'
that my,' I-said, 'shores light have!'
Et subito lassis vires rediere lacertis,
And suddenly to-weary strength returned arms,
visaque, quam fuerat, mollior unda mihi.
and-seemed, than it-had-been, softer the-wave to-me.
Frigora ne possim gelidi sentire profundi,
The-chill lest I-be-able of-icy to-feel deep,
qui calet in cupido pectore, praestat amor.
which is-warm in eager breast, ensures love.
Quo magis accedo propioraque litora fiunt,
By-which more I-approach and-nearer the-shores become,
quoque minus restat, plus libet ire mihi.
and-by-which less remains, more it-pleases to-go to-me.
Cum vero possum cerni quoque, protinus addis
When indeed I-can to-be-seen too, at-once you-add
spectatrix animos, ut valeamque facis.
as-onlooker courage, that and-I-may-be-strong you-make.
Nunc etiam nando dominae placuisse laboro,
Now even by-swimming to-my-lady to-have-pleased I-labor,
atque oculis iacto bracchia nostra tuis.
and before-eyes I-toss arms our your.

Te tua vix prohibet nutrix descendere in altum —
You your hardly forbids nurse to-go-down into the-deep
hoc quoque enim vidi, nec mihi verba dabas.
this too indeed I-saw, nor to-me words were-you-giving.
Nec tamen effecit, quamvis retinebat euntem,
Nor still did-she-bring-about, although she-was-holding-back you-going,
ne fieret prima pes tuus udus aqua.
that-not should-become in-first foot your wet water.
Excipis amplexu feliciaque oscula iungis —
You-receive-me in-embrace and-happy kisses you-join
oscula, di magni, trans mare digna peti! —
kisses, gods great, across sea worthy to-be-sought!
eque tuis demptos umeris mihi tradis amictus,
and-from your taken shoulders to-me you-hand cloak,
et madidam siccas aequoris imbre comam.
and wet you-dry of-the-sea with-shower hair.
Cetera nox et nos et turris conscia novit,
The-rest the-night and we and the-tower conscious knows,
quodque mihi lumen per vada monstrat iter.
and-what to-me the-light through shallows shows way.
Non magis illius numerari gaudia noctis
Not more of-that to-be-counted the-joys night
Hellespontiaci quam maris alga potest;
of-the-Hellespont than of-the-sea the-seaweed can;
quo brevius spatium nobis ad furta dabatur,
by-what shorter the-space to-us for thefts was-given,
hoc magis est cautum, ne foret illud iners.
by-this more is care-taken, lest should-be it idle.
Iamque fugatura Tithoni coniuge noctem
And-now about-to-put-to-flight Tithonus' with-wife night

praevius Aurorae Lucifer ortus erat;
going-before Aurora Lucifer risen was;
oscula congerimus properata sine ordine raptim
kisses we-heap-up hurried without order hastily
et querimur parvas noctibus esse moras.
and we-complain small to-nights to-be the-delays.
Atque ita cunctatus monitu nutricis amaro
And so having-lingered at-the-warning of-the-nurse bitter
frigida deserta litora turre peto.
cold deserted shores with-tower I-seek.
Digredimur flentes, repetoque ego virginis aequor
We-part weeping, and-I-seek-again I of-the-maiden the-sea
respiciens dominam, dum licet, usque meam.
looking-back-at mistress, while it-is-allowed, continually my.
Siqua fides vero est, veniens hinc esse natator,
If-any faith in-truth is, coming from-here to-be a-swimmer,
cum redeo, videor naufragus esse mihi.
when I-return, I-seem shipwrecked to-be to-myself.
Hoc quoque, si credes: ad te via prona videtur;
This too, if you-will-believe: to you way downhill seems;
a te cum redeo, clivus inertis aquae.
from you when I-return, a-slope of-sluggish water.
Invitus repeto patriam — quis credere possit?
Unwilling I-seek-again fatherland who to-believe could?
Invitus certe nunc moror urbe mea.
Unwilling surely now I-stay in-city my.
Ei mihi! cur animis iuncti secernimur undis,
Ah me! why in-spirits joined are-we-parted by-waves,
unaque mens, tellus non habet una duos?
and-one mind, land not holds one two?

Vel tua me Sestus, vel te mea sumat Abydos;
Either your me Sestos, or you my may-take Abydos;
tam tua terra mihi, quam tibi nostra placet.
as-much your land to-me, as to-you our pleases.
Cur ego confundor, quotiens confunditur aequor?
Why I am-I-confounded, as-often-as is-confounded the-sea?
Cur mihi causa levis, ventus, obesse potest?
Why to-me a-cause slight, the-wind, to-be-against can?
Iam nostros curvi norunt delphines amores,
Already our curved know dolphins loves,
ignotum nec me piscibus esse reor.
unknown nor me to-fish to-be I-think.
Iam patet attritus solitarum limes aquarum,
Already lies-open worn of-accustomed the-path waters,
non aliter multa quam via pressa rota.
not otherwise much than a-way pressed by-wheel.
Quod mihi non esset nisi sic iter, ante querebar;
That to-me not there-was except so a-way, before I-complained;
at nunc per ventos hoc quoque deesse queror.
but now through winds this too to-be-lacking I-complain.
Fluctibus inmodicis Athamantidos aequora canent,
With-waves immoderate of-Athamas'-daughter the-seas whiten,
vixque manet portu tuta carina suo;
and-scarcely remains in-harbor safe a-keel its-own;
hoc mare, cum primum de virgine nomina mersa,
this sea, when first from the-maiden name drowned,
quae tenet, est nanctum, tale fuisse puto.
which it-holds, was obtained, such to-have-been I-think.
Et satis amissa locus hic infamis ab Helle est,
And enough lost place this infamous from Helle is,

utque mihi parcat, nomine crimen habet.
and-though me it-spare, by-name crime it-has.
Invideo Phrixo, quem per freta tristia tutum
I-envy Phrixus, whom through seas grim safe
aurea lanigero vellere vexit ovis;
golden with-wool-bearing fleece carried sheep;
nec tamen officium pecoris navisve requiro,
nor still the-service of-beast or-of-ship do-I-seek,
dummodo, quas findam corpore, dentur aquae.
provided-that, which I-may-cleave with-body, be-given waters.
Arte egeo nulla; fiat modo copia nandi,
Of-art I-need none; let-be only the-opportunity of-swimming,
idem navigium, navita, vector ero!
the-same ship, sailor, passenger I-shall-be!
Nec sequor aut Helicen, aut, qua Tyros utitur, Arcton;
Nor do-I-follow either Helice, or, which Tyre uses, the-Bear;
publica non curat sidera noster amor.
public not cares-for stars our love.
Andromedan alius spectet claramque Coronam,
Andromeda another may-watch and-bright the-Crown,
quaeque micat gelido Parrhasis Ursa polo;
and-which glitters at-icy Parrhasian Bear pole;
at mihi, quod Perseus et cum Iove Liber amarunt,
but for-me, which Perseus and with Jupiter Liber loved,
indicium dubiae non placet esse viae.
a-sign of-doubtful not pleases to-be way.
Est aliud lumen, multo mihi certius istis,
There-is another light, by-far to-me surer than-those,
non errat tenebris quo duce noster amor;
not wanders in-darkness by-whose guidance our love;

hoc ego dum spectem, Colchos et in ultima Ponti,
this I while I-watch, to-Colchis and to the-farthest of-Pontus,
quaque viam fecit Thessala pinus, eam,
and-where a-way made Thessalian pine, I-might-go,
et iuvenem possim superare Palaemona nando
and the-youth I-could to-surpass Palaemon in-swimming
miraque quem subito reddidit herba deum.
and-wondrous whom suddenly made herb a-god.
Saepe per adsiduos languent mea bracchia motus,
Often from constant grow-weary my arms motions,
vixque per inmensas fessa trahuntur aquas.
and-scarcely through immense weary are-dragged waters.
His ego cum dixi: 'pretium non vile laboris,
To-these I when I-said: 'a-prize not cheap of-labor,
iam dominae vobis colla tenenda dabo,'
soon of-my-lady to-you neck to-be-held I-will-give,'
protinus illa valent, atque ad sua praemia tendunt,
at-once they are-strong, and toward their-own rewards strain,
ut celer Eleo carcere missus equus.
as swift from-Elean starting-gate let-loose horse.
Ipse meos igitur servo, quibus uror, amores
Myself my therefore I-keep, by-which I-burn, loves
teque, magis caelo digna puella, sequor.
and-you, more of-heaven worthy girl, I-follow.
Digna quidem caelo es — sed adhuc tellure morare,
Worthy indeed of-heaven you-are but still on-earth stay,
aut dic, ad superos et mihi qua sit iter!
or tell, to the-gods-above also for-me where be the-way!
Hic es, et exigue misero contingis amanti,
Here you-are, and scantily for-wretched you-touch lover,

cumque mea fiunt turbida mente freta.
and-with my become troubled mind seas.
Quid mihi, quod lato non separor aequore, prodest?
What to-me, that by-wide not I-am-separated sea, profits?
Num minus haec nobis tam brevis obstat aqua?
Surely-not less this to-us so short is-in-the-way water?
An malim, dubito, toto procul orbe remotus
Or would-I-prefer, I-doubt, by-whole far world removed
cum domina longe spem quoque habere meam.
with mistress far-off hope too to-have my.
Quo propius nunc es, flamma propiore calesco,
By-what nearer now you-are, with-flame nearer I-grow-warm,
et res non semper, spes mihi semper adest.
and the-thing not always, hope to-me always is-here.
Paene manu quod amo, tanta est vicinia, tango;
Almost with-hand what I-love, so-great is the-nearness, I-touch;
saepe sed, heu, lacrimas hoc mihi 'paene' movet!
often but, alas, tears this to-me 'almost' moves!
Velle quid est aliud fugientia prendere poma
To-wish what is-it else fleeing to-grasp fruits
spemque suo refugi fluminis ore sequi?
and-hope with-his-own of-receding river mouth to-follow?
Ergo ego te numquam, nisi cum volet unda, tenebo,
So I you never, except when will-wish the-wave, shall-hold,
et me felicem nulla videbit hiemps,
and me happy no will-see winter,
cumque minus firmum nil sit quam ventus et unda,
and-since less firm nothing is than wind and wave,
in ventis et aqua spes mea semper erit?
in winds and water hope my always will-be?

Aestus adhuc tamen est. quid, cum mihi laeserit aequor
Summer still yet it-is. what, when for-me has-harmed the-sea
Plias et Arctophylax Oleniumque pecus?
the-Pleiad and the-Bear-keeper and-the-Olenian goat?
Aut ego non novi, quam sim temerarius, aut me
Either I not I-know, how I-am rash, or me
in freta non cautus tum quoque mittet amor;
into seas not cautious then too will-send love;
neve putes id me, quod abest, promittere, tempus,
and-lest you-think it me, which is-away, to-promise, the-time,
pignora polliciti non tibi tarda dabo.
pledges of-the-promise not to-you slow I-will-give.
Sit tumidum paucis etiamnunc noctibus aequor,
Be swollen a-few even-now nights the-sea,
ire per invitas experiemur aquas;
to-go through unwilling we-will-try waters;
aut mihi continget felix audacia salvo,
either to-me will-fall happy daring safe,
aut mors solliciti finis amoris erit!
or death of-anxious the-end love will-be!
Optabo tamen ut partis expellar in illas,
I-will-wish still that parts I-may-be-cast-out onto those,
et teneant portus naufraga membra tuos;
and may-reach harbors shipwrecked limbs your;
flebis enim tactuque meum dignabere corpus
you-will-weep indeed and-with-touch my will-honor body
et 'mortis,' dices, 'huic ego causa fui!'
and 'of-death,' you-will-say, 'for-this I the-cause was!'
Scilicet interitus offenderis omine nostri,
Doubtless of-destruction you-are-offended by-the-omen of-mine,

litteraque invisa est hac mea parte tibi.
and-letter hateful is in-this my part to-you.
Desino — parce queri! sed ut et mare finiat iram,
I-cease spare to-complain! but that also the-sea may-end wrath,
accedant, quaeso, fac tua vota meis.
may-be-added, I-pray, see-to-it your vows to-mine.
Pace brevi nobis opus est, dum transferor isto;
Of-peace brief to-us need is, while I-am-carried-across there;
cum tua contigero litora, perstet hiemps!
when your I-have-reached shores, may-last winter!
Istic est aptum nostrae navale carinae,
There is fit for-our dockyard keel,
et melius nulla stat mea puppis aqua.
and better in-no stands my ship water.
Illic me claudat Boreas, ubi dulce morari est!
There me may-shut-in Boreas, where sweet to-stay is!
Tunc piger ad nandum, tunc ego cautus ero,
Then slow for swimming, then I cautious shall-be,
nec faciam surdis convicia fluctibus ulla
nor shall-I-make to-deaf reproaches waves any
triste nataturo nec querar esse fretum.
grim to-one-about-to-swim nor complain to-be the-sea.
Me pariter venti teneant tenerique lacerti,
Me equally winds may-hold and-tender arms,
per causas istic inpediarque duas!
through causes there and-may-I-be-hindered two!
Cum patietur hiemps, remis ego corporis utar;
When will-allow winter, oars I of-body shall-use;
lumen in adspectu tu modo semper habe!
the-light in sight you only always have!

Interea pro me pernoctet epistula tecum,
Meanwhile for me may-spend-the-night letter with-you,
quam precor ut minima prosequar ipse mora!
which I-pray that with-least I-may-follow myself delay!

Hero Leandro

XIX · HERO TO LEANDER

Hero answers from Sestos, impatient at his absence. A woman, she has nothing to do but love; she watches the sea, questions every traveler from Abydos, and keeps the lamp burning while her nurse dozes. She fears that another woman, not the weather, keeps him away. She prays to Neptune, recalling his own loves, and trusts that Venus, born from the sea, will favor the daring. A dream of a dolphin cast up dead frightens her, and she begs him to wait for calm.

Quam mihi misisti verbis, Leandre, salutem
Which to-me you-sent in-words, Leander, greeting
ut possim missam rebus habere, veni!
that I-may-be-able sent in-deeds to-have, come!
Longa mora est nobis omnis, quae gaudia differt.
Long delay is to-us every, which joys puts-off.
Da veniam fassae; non patienter amo!
Give pardon to-me-confessing; not patiently I-love!
Urimur igne pari, sed sum tibi viribus inpar:
We-burn with-fire equal, but I-am to-you in-strength unequal:
fortius ingenium suspicor esse viris.
stronger the-nature I-suspect to-be in-men.
Ut corpus, teneris ita mens infirma puellis —
As body, to-tender so mind weak girls
deficiam, parvi temporis adde moram!
I-shall-fail, of-little time add delay!

Vos modo venando, modo rus geniale colendo
You now by-hunting, now country fruitful by-tilling
ponitis in varia tempora longa mora.
spend in varied times long delay.
Aut fora vos retinent aut unctae dona palaestrae,
Either forums you hold-back or of-the-oiled gifts wrestling-ground,
flectitis aut freno colla sequacis equi;
you-bend or with-bridle the-neck of-the-following horse;
nunc volucrem laqueo, nunc piscem ducitis hamo;
now a-bird with-snare, now a-fish you-draw with-hook;
diluitur posito serior hora mero.
is-diluted with-set later hour wine.
His mihi summotae, vel si minus acriter urar,
From-these to-me shut-off, even if less keenly I-should-burn,
quod faciam, superest praeter amare nihil.
what I-may-do, remains except to-love nothing.
Quod superest facio, teque, o mea sola voluptas,
What remains I-do, and-you, O my only pleasure,
plus quoque, quam reddi quod mihi possit, amo!
more too, than to-be-returned what to-me could, I-love!
Aut ego cum cara de te nutrice susurro,
Either I with dear about you nurse whisper,
quaeque tuum, miror, causa moretur iter;
and-what your, I-wonder, cause may-delay journey;
aut mare prospiciens odioso concita vento
or sea looking-out-on by-hateful stirred wind
corripio verbis aequora paene tuis;
I-rebuke with-words the-seas almost your;
aut, ubi saevitiae paulum gravis unda remisit,
or, when of-savagery a-little heavy wave has-relaxed,

posse quidem, sed te nolle venire, queror;
to-be-able indeed, but you to-be-unwilling to-come, I-complain;
dumque queror lacrimae per amantia lumina manant,
and-while I-complain tears through loving eyes flow,
pollice quas tremulo conscia siccat anus.
with-thumb which trembling knowing dries the-old-woman.
Saepe tui specto si sint in litore passus,
Often your I-look-for whether may-be on shore steps,
inpositas tamquam servet harena notas;
placed as-if may-keep the-sand marks;
utque rogem de te et scribam tibi, siquis Abydo
and-that I-may-ask about you and may-write to-you, if-anyone from-Abydos
venerit, aut, quaero, siquis Abydon eat.
has-come, or, I-ask, if-anyone to-Abydos may-go.
Quid referam, quotiens dem vestibus oscula, quas tu
Why should-I-tell, how-often I-give to-the-garments kisses, which you
Hellespontiaca ponis iturus aqua?
on-the-Hellespont's you-lay-aside about-to-go water?
Sic ubi lux acta est et noctis amicior hora
So when the-light spent is and of-night friendlier the-hour
exhibuit pulso sidera clara die,
has-displayed driven stars bright with-day,
protinus in summo vigilantia lumina tecto
at-once on highest watchful lights roof
ponimus, adsuetae signa notamque viae,
we-set, of-accustomed signs and-mark way,
tortaque versato ducentes stamina fuso
and-twisted with-turned drawing threads spindle
feminea tardas fallimus arte moras.
by-woman's slow we-beguile art delays.

Quid loquar interea tam longo tempore, quaeris?
What do-I-say meanwhile so long in-time, you-ask?
Nil nisi Leandri nomen in ore meo est.
Nothing except of-Leander the-name in mouth my is.
'Iamne putas exisse domo mea gaudia, nutrix,
'Already-whether do-you-think to-have-gone-out from-home my joys, nurse,
an vigilant omnes, et timet ille suos?
or are-awake all, and fears he his-own?
Iamne suas umeris illum deponere vestes,
Already-whether his-own from-shoulders him to-lay-down clothes,
Pallade iam pingui tinguere membra putas?'
with-Pallas already rich to-moisten limbs do-you-think?'
Adnuit illa fere; non nostra quod oscula curet,
Nods she generally; not our that kisses she-cares-for,
sed movet obrepens somnus anile caput.
but moves creeping-up sleep aged head.
Postque morae minimum 'iam certe navigat,' inquam,
And-after of-delay the-least 'already surely he-sails,' I-say,
'lentaque dimotis bracchia iactat aquis.'
'and-pliant parted arms tosses with-waters.'
Paucaque cum tacta perfeci stamina terra,
And-a-few when touched I-have-finished threads with-ground,
an medio possis, quaerimus, esse freto.
whether in-mid you-can, we-ask, to-be sea.
Et modo prospicimus, timida modo voce precamur,
And now we-look-out, with-timid now voice we-pray,
ut tibi det faciles utilis aura vias;
that to-you may-give easy useful breeze ways;
auribus incertas voces captamus, et omnem
with-ears uncertain voices we-catch-at, and every

adventus strepitum credimus esse tui.
of-arrival noise we-believe to-be your.

Sic ubi deceptae pars est mihi maxima noctis
So when of-the-deceived part is for-me the-greatest night

acta, subit furtim lumina fessa sopor.
spent, comes-on stealthily eyes weary sleep.

Forsitan invitus mecum tamen, inprobe, dormis,
Perhaps unwilling with-me still, shameless, you-sleep,

et, quamquam non vis ipse venire, venis.
and, though not you-wish yourself to-come, you-come.

Nam modo te videor prope iam spectare natantem,
For now you I-seem near already to-see swimming,

bracchia nunc umeris umida ferre meis,
arms now on-shoulders wet to-put my,

nunc dare, quae soleo, madidis velamina membris,
now to-give, which I-am-wont, to-the-wet coverings limbs,

pectora nunc iuncto nostra fovere sinu
breast now with-joined our to-warm bosom

multaque praeterea linguae reticenda modestae,
and-many-things besides by-tongue to-be-kept-silent modest,

quae fecisse iuvat, facta referre pudet.
which to-have-done pleases, done to-tell shames.

Me miseram! brevis est haec et non vera voluptas;
Me wretched! brief is this and not true pleasure;

nam tu cum somno semper abire soles.
for you with sleep always to-go-away are-wont.

Firmius, o, cupidi tandem coeamus amantes,
More-firmly, O, eager at-last let-us-come-together lovers,

nec careant vera gaudia nostra fide!
nor may-lack true joys our faith!

Cur ego tot viduas exegi frigida noctes?
Why I so-many widowed have-spent cold nights?
Cur totiens a me, lente morator, abes?
Why so-often from me, slow delayer, are-you-away?
Est mare, confiteor, nondum tractabile nanti;
It-is the-sea, I-confess, not-yet manageable for-a-swimmer;
nocte sed hesterna lenior aura fuit.
by-night but yesterday's gentler breeze was.
Cur ea praeterita est? cur non ventura timebas?
Why that passed-by was? why not the-coming did-you-fear?
Tam bona cur periit, nec tibi rapta via est?
So good why has-it-perished, nor by-you seized way is?
Protinus ut similis detur tibi copia cursus,
At-once though like be-given to-you the-opportunity of-the-course,
hoc melior certe, quo prior, illa fuit.
in-this better surely, by-what earlier, that was.
At cito mutata est iactati forma profundi.
But quickly changed was of-the-tossed the-face deep.
Tempore, cum properas, saepe minore venis.
In-time, when you-hasten, often less you-come.
Hic, puto, deprensus nil, quod querereris, haberes,
Here, I-think, caught nothing, which you-might-complain-of, you-would-have,
meque tibi amplexo nulla noceret hiemps.
and-me to-you having-embraced no would-harm winter.
Certe ego tum ventos audirem laeta sonantis,
Surely I then winds would-hear glad sounding,
et numquam placidas esse precarer aquas.
and never calm to-be would-pray waters.
Quid tamen evenit, cur sis metuentior undae
What still has-happened, why you-are more-fearful of-the-wave

contemptumque prius nunc vereare fretum?
and-scorned before now you-fear sea?
Nam memini, cum te saevum veniente minaxque
For I-remember, when with-you savage coming and-threatening
non minus, aut multo non minus, aequor erat;
not less, or by-much not less, the-sea was;
cum tibi clamabam: 'sic tu temerarius esto,
when to-you I-was-shouting: 'so you rash be,
ne miserae virtus sit tua flenda mihi!'
lest to-wretched courage be your to-be-wept me!'
Unde novus timor hic, quoque illa audacia fugit?
Whence new fear this, and-where that daring has-fled?
Magnus ubi est spretis ille natator aquis?
Great where is in-scorned that swimmer waters?
Sis tamen hoc potius, quam quod prius esse solebas,
Be-you still this rather, than what before to-be you-were-wont,
et facias placidum per mare tutus iter —
and make calm through sea safe journey
dummodo sis idem, dum sic, ut scribis, amemur,
provided-that you-be the-same, provided so, as you-write, we-are-loved,
flammaque non fiat frigidus illa cinis.
and-flame not become cold that ash.
Non ego tam ventos timeo mea vota morantes,
Not I so-much winds fear my vows delaying,
quam similis vento ne tuus erret amor,
as-much-as like to-wind lest your may-wander love,
ne non sim tanti, superentque pericula causam,
lest not I-be of-such-worth, and-outweigh dangers the-cause,
et videar merces esse labore minor.
and I-seem the-reward to-be than-labor lesser.

Interdum metuo, patria ne laedar et inpar
Sometimes I-fear, by-fatherland lest I-be-hurt and unequal
dicar Abydeno Thressa puella toro.
be-called to-the-Abydene Thracian girl bed.
Ferre tamen possum patientius omnia, quam si
To-bear still I-can more-patiently everything, than if
otia nescio qua paelice captus agis,
leisure by-I-know-not what mistress captured you-spend,
in tua si veniunt alieni colla lacerti,
onto your if come another's neck arms,
fitque novus nostri finis amoris amor.
and-becomes new of-our the-end love love.
A, potius peream, quam crimine vulnerer isto,
Ah, rather may-I-perish, than by-crime be-wounded that,
fataque sint culpa nostra priora tua!
and-fate be by-fault our prior your!
Nec, quia venturi dederis mihi signa doloris,
Nor, because of-coming you-have-given me signs grief,
haec loquor aut fama sollicitata nova.
these-things do-I-say or by-report troubled new.
Omnia sed vereor — quis enim securus amavit?
Everything but I-fear who indeed carefree has-loved?
Cogit et absentes plura timere locus.
Compels also the-absent more to-fear place.
Felices illas, sua quas praesentia nosse
Happy those, their-own whom presence to-know
crimina vera iubet, falsa timere vetat!
crimes true bids, false to-fear forbids!
Nos tam vana movet, quam facta iniuria fallit,
Us so empty-things move, as-much-as done wrong escapes,

incitat et morsus error uterque pares.
spurs and bites error each equal.
O utinam venias, aut ut ventusve paterve
O would-that you-would-come, or that either-wind or-father
causaque sit certe femina nulla morae!
and-cause be surely woman no of-delay!
Quodsi quam sciero, moriar, mihi crede, dolendo;
But-if any I-shall-know, I-shall-die, to-me believe, by-grieving;
iamdudum pecca, si mea fata petis!
at-once sin, if my death you-seek!
Sed neque peccabis, frustraque ego terreor istis,
But neither will-you-sin, and-vainly I am-frightened by-those-things,
quoque minus venias, invida pugnat hiemps.
and-by-what less you-may-come, envious fights winter.
Me miseram! quanto planguntur litora fluctu,
Me wretched! with-how-great are-beaten the-shores wave,
et latet obscura condita nube dies!
and lies-hid in-dark buried cloud day!
Forsitan ad pontum mater pia venerit Helles,
Perhaps to the-sea the-mother dutiful has-come of-Helle,
mersaque roratis nata fleatur aquis —
and-drowned with-dewy daughter is-wept waters
an mare ab inviso privignae nomine dictum
or the-sea from hated of-her-stepdaughter name called
vexat in aequoream versa noverca deam?
does-she-harass into of-the-sea turned stepmother goddess?
Non favet, ut nunc est, teneris locus iste puellis;
Not favors, as now it-is, tender place that girls;
hac Helle periit, hac ego laedor aqua.
here Helle perished, here I am-hurt water.

At tibi flammarum memori, Neptune, tuarum
But to-you of-flames mindful, Neptune, your
nullus erat ventis inpediendus amor —
no was by-winds to-be-hindered love
si neque Amymone nec, laudatissima forma,
if neither Amymone nor, most-praised for-beauty,
criminis est Tyro fabula vana tui,
of-crime is Tyro story empty your,
lucidaque Alcyone Calyceque Hecataeone nata,
and-bright Alcyone and-Calyce Hecataeon's daughter,
et nondum nexis angue Medusa comis,
and not-yet with-twined snake Medusa hair,
flavaque Laudice caeloque recepta Celaeno,
and-golden Laodice and-into-heaven received Celaeno,
et quarum memini nomina lecta mihi.
and whose I-remember names read by-me.
Has certe pluresque canunt, Neptune, poetae
These surely and-more sing, Neptune, poets
molle latus lateri conposuisse tuo.
soft side with-side to-have-laid your.
Cur igitur, totiens vires expertus amoris,
Why then, so-often the-strength having-tested of-love,
adsuetum nobis turbine claudis iter?
accustomed to-us with-whirlwind do-you-close journey?
Parce, ferox, latoque mari tua proelia misce!
Spare, fierce-one, and-on-wide sea your battles stir-up!
Seducit terras haec brevis unda duas.
Separates lands this short wave two.
Te decet aut magnas magnum iactare carinas,
You befits either great a-great-one to-toss keels,

aut etiam totis classibus esse trucem;
or even to-whole fleets to-be savage;
turpe deo pelagi iuvenem terrere natantem,
shameful for-the-god of-the-sea a-youth to-frighten swimming,
gloriaque est stagno quolibet ista minor.
and-glory is than-pond any that less.
Nobilis ille quidem est et clarus origine, sed non
Noble he indeed is and famous in-origin, but not
a tibi suspecto ducit Ulixe genus.
from by-you suspected he-derives Ulysses race.
Da veniam servaque duos! natat ille, sed isdem
Give pardon and-save two! swims he, but in-the-same
corpus Leandri, spes mea pendet aquis.
the-body of-Leander, hope my hangs waters.
Sternuit en lumen! — posito nam scribimus illo —
Has-sneezed see the-light! by-set for we-write it
sternuit et nobis prospera signa dedit.
has-sneezed and to-us favorable signs has-given.
Ecce, merum nutrix faustos instillat in ignes,
Behold, wine the-nurse auspicious drips into fires,
'Cras'que 'erimus plures,' inquit, et ipsa bibit.
'Tomorrow'-and 'we-shall-be more,' she-says, and herself drinks.
Effice nos plures, evicta per aequora lapsus,
Make us more, conquered through seas gliding,
o penitus toto corde recepte mihi!
O deeply whole into-heart received by-me!
In tua castra redi, socii desertor amoris;
Into your camp return, of-shared deserter love;
ponuntur medio cur mea membra toro?
are-laid in-mid why my limbs bed?

Quod timeas, non est! auso Venus ipsa favebit,
What you-may-fear, not is! to-the-daring Venus herself will-favor,
sternet et aequoreas aequore nata vias.
will-smooth and of-the-sea from-the-sea born ways.
Ire libet medias ipsi mihi saepe per undas,
To-go it-pleases mid myself to-me often through waves,
sed solet hoc maribus tutius esse fretum.
but is-wont this for-men more-safe to-be sea.
Nam cur hac vectis Phrixo Phrixique sorore
For why by-this carried with-Phrixus and-of-Phrixus sister
sola dedit vastis femina nomen aquis?
alone gave to-vast woman name waters?
Forsitan ad reditum metuas ne tempora desint,
Perhaps for return you-may-fear lest times be-lacking,
aut gemini nequeas ferre laboris onus.
or of-double you-be-unable to-bear labor the-burden.
At nos diversi medium coeamus in aequor
But we from-opposite mid let-us-meet into sea
obviaque in summis oscula demus aquis,
and-meeting on highest kisses let-us-give waters,
atque ita quisque suas iterum redeamus ad urbes;
and so each his-own again let-us-return to cities;
exiguum, sed plus quam nihil illud erit!
small, but more than nothing that will-be!
Vel pudor hic utinam, qui nos clam cogit amare,
Either shame this would-that, which us secretly compels to-love,
vel timidus famae cedere vellet amor!
or timid to-report to-yield would-wish love!
Nunc male res iunctae, calor et reverentia, pugnant.
Now badly things joined, passion and reverence, fight.

Quid sequar, in dubio est; haec decet, ille iuvat.
What I-should-follow, in doubt it-is; this befits, that pleases.
Ut semel intravit Colchos Pagasaeus Iason,
As once entered Colchis Pagasaean Jason,
inpositam celeri Phasida puppe tulit;
placed in-swift the-Phasian-woman ship he-carried;
ut semel Idaeus Lacedaemona venit adulter,
as once the-Idaean to-Lacedaemon came adulterer,
cum praeda rediit protinus ille sua.
with prey returned at-once he his-own.
Tu quam saepe petis, quod amas, tam saepe relinquis,
You as often-as you-seek, what you-love, so often you-leave,
et quotiens grave sit puppibus ire, natas.
and as-often-as heavy it-may-be for-ships to-go, you-swim.
Sic tamen, o iuvenis tumidarum victor aquarum,
So still, O young-man of-swollen victor waters,
sic facito spernas, ut vereare, fretum!
so see-to-it you-scorn, that you-may-fear, sea!
Arte laboratae merguntur ab aequore naves;
By-art labored are-sunk by the-sea ships;
tu tua plus remis bracchia posse putas?
you your more than-oars arms to-be-able do-you-think?
Quod cupis, hoc nautae metuunt, Leandre, natare;
What you-desire, this sailors fear, Leander, to-swim;
exitus hic fractis puppibus esse solet.
the-end this for-broken ships to-be is-wont.
Me miseram! cupio non persuadere, quod hortor,
Me wretched! I-desire not to-persuade, what I-urge,
sisque, precor, monitis fortior ipse meis —
and-be-you, I-pray, than-warnings braver yourself my

dummodo pervenias excussaque saepe per undas
provided-that you-arrive and-shaken often through waves
inicias umeris bracchia lassa meis!
throw on-shoulders arms weary my!
Sed mihi, caeruleas quotiens obvertor ad undas,
But to-me, blue as-often-as I-am-turned toward waves,
nescio quae pavidum frigora pectus habet.
I-know-not what timid chills breast has.
Nec minus hesternae confundor imagine noctis,
Nor less of-yesterday's am-I-confounded by-the-image night,
quamvis est sacris illa piata meis.
although is by-rites it expiated my.
Namque sub aurora, iam dormitante lucerna,
For under dawn, already drowsing with-lamp,
somnia quo cerni tempore vera solent,
dreams at-which to-be-seen time true are-wont,
stamina de digitis cecidere sopore remissis,
threads from fingers fell with-sleep relaxed,
collaque pulvino nostra ferenda dedi.
and-neck on-pillow our to-be-borne I-gave.
Hic ego ventosas nantem delphina per undas
Here I windy swimming a-dolphin through waves
cernere non dubia sum mihi visa fide,
to-see not with-doubtful I-was to-myself seemed faith,
quem postquam bibulis inlisit fluctus harenis,
which after onto-thirsty dashed wave sands,
unda simul miserum vitaque deseruit.
wave together wretched and-life deserted.
Quidquid id est, timeo; nec tu mea somnia ride
Whatever it is, I-fear; nor you my dreams laugh-at

nec nisi tranquillo bracchia crede mari!
nor except to-calm arms trust sea!
Si tibi non parcis, dilectae parce puellae,
If yourself not you-spare, beloved spare girl,
quae numquam nisi te sospite sospes ero!
who never except with-you safe safe shall-be!
Spes tamen est fractis vicinae pacis in undis;
Hope still is broken of-neighboring peace in waves;
tu placidas toto pectore finde vias!
you calm with-whole breast cleave ways!
Interea nanti, quoniam freta pervia non sunt,
Meanwhile for-you-swimming, since seas passable not are,
leniat invisas littera missa moras.
may-soften hated letter sent delays.

Acontius Cydippae

XX · ACONTIUS TO CYDIPPE

Acontius writes to Cydippe, whom he bound by a trick: in Diana's temple he rolled her an apple inscribed with an oath to marry him, and she read it aloud. He defends the trick as the work of love. Each time her father tries to marry her to another man she falls ill, and he says the goddess is punishing her broken oath. He envies her new suitor at her bedside and urges her to keep her word.

Pone metum! nihil hic iterum iurabis amanti;
Lay-aside fear! nothing here again will-you-swear to-a-lover;
promissam satis est te semel esse mihi.
promised enough it-is you once to-be to-me.
Perlege! discedat sic corpore languor ab isto,
Read-through! may-depart so body languor from that,

quod meus est ulla parte dolere dolor!
which my it-is in-any part to-ache pain!
Quid pudor ante subit? nam, sicut in aede Dianae,
Why does-shame before come-up? for, as in the-shrine of-Diana,
suspicor ingenuas erubuisse genas.
I-suspect noble to-have-blushed cheeks.
Coniugium pactamque fidem, non crimina posco;
Marriage and-pledged faith, not crimes I-ask;
debitus ut coniunx, non ut adulter amo.
owed as husband, not as adulterer I-love.
Verba licet repetas, quae demptus ab arbore fetus
The-words you-may repeat, which plucked from tree fruit
pertulit ad castas me iaciente manus;
carried to chaste with-me throwing hands;
invenies illic, id te spondere, quod opto
you-will-find there, that you to-pledge, what I-wish
te potius, virgo, quam meminisse deam.
you rather, maiden, than to-remember the-goddess.
Nunc quoque idem timeo, sed idem tamen acrius illud;
Now too the-same I-fear, but the-same still more-keenly that;
adsumpsit vires auctaque flamma mora est,
has-taken-on strength and-increased flame by-delay is,
quique fuit numquam parvus, nunc tempore longo
and-which was never small, now in-time long
et spe, quam dederas tu mihi, crevit amor.
and by-hope, which had-given you to-me, has-grown love.
Spem mihi tu dederas, meus hic tibi credidit ardor.
Hope to-me you had-given, my this to-you trusted ardor.
Non potes hoc factum teste negare dea.
Not you-can this done with-witness to-deny the-goddess.

Adfuit et, praesens ut erat, tua verba notavit
She-was-present and, present as she-was, your words noted
et visa est mota dicta tulisse coma.
and seemed she-was with-nodding the-words to-have-taken hair.
Deceptam dicas nostra te fraude licebit,
Deceived you-may-say our you by-fraud you-may,
dum fraudis nostrae causa feratur amor.
provided of-fraud our the-cause be-said love.
Fraus mea quid petiit, nisi uti tibi iungerer, unum?
Fraud my what did-it-seek, except that to-you I-might-be-joined, one?
Id te, quod quereris, conciliare potest.
That you, what you-complain-of, to-win-over can.
Non ego natura nec sum tam callidus usu;
Not I by-nature nor am-I so crafty by-practice;
sollertem tu me, crede, puella, facis.
skillful you me, believe, girl, make.
Te mihi conpositis — siquid tamen egimus — a me
You to-me with-composed if-anything still we-have-done from me
adstrinxit verbis ingeniosus Amor.
bound with-words ingenious Love.
Dictatis ab eo feci sponsalia verbis,
Dictated by him I-made the-betrothal words,
consultoque fui iuris Amore vafer.
and-learned I-was in-law with-Love cunning.
Sit fraus huic facto nomen, dicarque dolosus,
Let-be fraud for-this deed the-name, and-may-I-be-called crafty,
si tamen est, quod ames, velle tenere dolus!
if still it-is, what you-love, to-wish to-hold craft!
En, iterum scribo mittoque rogantia verba!
Behold, again I-write and-send entreating words!

Altera fraus haec est, quodque queraris habes.
Another fraud this is, and-what you-may-complain-of you-have.
Si noceo, quod amo, fateor, sine fine nocebo,
If I-harm, in-that I-love, I-confess, without end I-will-harm,
teque petam; caveas tu licet, usque petam.
and-you I-will-seek; beware you may, continually I-will-seek.
Per gladios alii placitas rapuere puellas;
By swords others pleasing have-carried-off girls;
scripta mihi caute littera crimen erit?
written by-me cautiously a-letter crime will-be?
Di faciant, possim plures inponere nodos,
Gods grant, I-may-be-able more to-put-on knots,
ut tua sit nulla libera parte fides!
that your be in-no free part faith!
Mille doli restant — clivo sudamus in imo;
A-thousand tricks remain slope we-sweat at the-bottom;
ardor inexpertum nil sinet esse meus.
ardor untried nothing will-allow to-be my.
Sit dubium, possisne capi; captabere certe.
Let-it-be doubtful, whether-you-can be-caught; you-will-be-hunted surely.
Exitus in dis est, sed capiere tamen.
The-outcome with the-gods is, but you-will-be-caught still.
Ut partem effugias, non omnia retia falles,
Though part you-escape, not all nets will-you-elude,
quae tibi, quam credis, plura tetendit Amor.
which for-you, than you-believe, more has-stretched Love.
Si non proficient artes, veniemus ad arma,
If not will-succeed arts, we-shall-come to arms,
inque tui cupido rapta ferere sinu.
and-in for-you eager snatched you-will-be-borne bosom.

Non sum, qui soleam Paridis reprehendere factum,
Not I-am, one-who is-wont of-Paris to-blame the-deed,
nec quemquam, qui vir, posset ut esse, fuit.
nor anyone, who a-man, he-might-be-able that to-be, was.
Nos quoque — sed taceo! mors huius poena rapinae
We too but I-am-silent! death of-this the-penalty rape
ut sit, erit, quam te non habuisse, minor.
though be, it-will-be, than you not to-have-had, less.
Aut esses formosa minus, peterere modeste;
Either you-should-be beautiful less, you-would-be-sought modestly;
audaces facie cogimur esse tua.
bold by-beauty we-are-forced to-be your.
Tu facis hoc oculique tui, quibus ignea cedunt
You do this and-eyes your, to-which fiery yield
sidera, qui flammae causa fuere meae;
stars, which of-flame the-cause were my;
hoc faciunt flavi crines et eburnea cervix,
this do golden hair and ivory neck,
quaeque, precor, veniant in mea colla manus,
and-which, I-pray, may-come onto my neck hands,
et decor et vultus sine rusticitate pudentes,
and grace and face without boorishness modest,
et, Thetidis qualis vix rear esse, pedes.
and, of-Thetis such hardly I-should-think to-be, feet.
Cetera si possem laudare, beatior essem,
The-rest if I-could to-praise, happier I-would-be,
nec dubito, totum quin sibi par sit opus.
nor do-I-doubt, whole but-that with-itself equal be the-work.
Hac ego conpulsus, non est mirabile, forma
By-this I compelled, not it-is wonderful, beauty

si pignus volui vocis habere tuae.
if a-pledge I-wished of-voice to-have your.

Denique, dum captam tu te cogare fateri,
Then, until captured you yourself be-forced to-confess,

insidiis esto capta puella meis.
by-snares be captured girl my.

Invidiam patiar; passo sua praemia dentur.
Reproach I-shall-endure; to-the-sufferer its-own rewards may-be-given.

Cur suus a tanto crimine fructus abest?
Why its-own from so-great crime fruit is-absent?

Hesionen Telamon, Briseida cepit Achilles;
Hesione Telamon, Briseis took Achilles;

utraque victorem nempe secuta virum.
each victorious surely followed man.

Quamlibet accuses et sis irata licebit,
However-much you-may-accuse and be angry you-may,

irata liceat dum mihi posse frui.
angry may-it-be-allowed provided me to-be-able to-enjoy.

Idem, qui facimus, factam tenuabimus iram,
The-same, who we-cause, caused shall-lessen wrath,

copia placandi sit modo parva tui.
opportunity of-appeasing be only small you.

Ante tuos liceat flentem consistere vultus
Before your may-it-be-allowed weeping to-stand face

et liceat lacrimis addere verba sua,
and may-it-be-allowed to-tears to-add words their-own,

utque solent famuli, cum verbera saeva verentur,
and-as are-wont slaves, when blows savage they-fear,

tendere submissas ad tua crura manus!
to-stretch lowered to your shins hands!

Ignoras tua iura; voca! cur arguor absens?
You-do-not-know your rights; summon! why am-I-accused absent?
Iamdudum dominae more venire iube.
At-once of-a-mistress in-manner to-come order.
Ipsa meos scindas licet imperiosa capillos,
Yourself my tear you-may imperious hair,
oraque sint digitis livida nostra tuis.
and-face may-be by-fingers bruised our your.
Omnia perpetiar; tantum fortasse timebo,
Everything I-shall-endure; only perhaps I-shall-fear,
corpore laedatur ne manus ista meo.
by-body be-hurt lest hand that my.
Sed neque conpedibus nec me conpesce catenis —
But neither with-fetters nor me restrain with-chains
servabor firmo vinctus amore tui!
I-shall-be-kept by-firm bound love of-you!
Cum bene se quantumque volet satiaverit ira,
When well itself and-as-much-as it-will-wish has-sated wrath,
ipsa tibi dices: 'quam patienter amat!'
yourself to-yourself you-will-say: 'how patiently he-loves!'
Ipsa tibi dices, ubi videris omnia ferre:
Yourself to-yourself you-will-say, when you-see everything to-bear:
'Tam bene qui servit, serviat iste mihi!'
'So well who serves, let-serve that-one me!'
Nunc reus infelix absens agor, et mea, cum sit
Now accused unhappy absent I-am-tried, and my, though it-be
optima, non ullo causa tuente perit.
best, not by-any cause defending perishes.
Hoc quoque — quantumvis sit scriptum iniuria nostrum,
This too however-much be written wrong our,

quod de me solo, nempe queraris habes.
that about me alone, surely you-may-complain-of you-have.
Non meruit falli mecum quoque Delia; si non
Not has-deserved to-be-deceived with-me too Delia; if not
vis mihi promissum reddere, redde deae.
you-wish to-me promised to-give-back, give-back to-the-goddess.
Adfuit et vidit, cum tu decepta rubebas,
She-was-present and saw, when you deceived were-blushing,
et vocem memori condidit aure tuam.
and voice in-mindful stored ear your.
Omina re careant! nihil est violentius illa,
Omens from-reality be-free! nothing is more-violent than-she,
cum sua, quod nolim, numina laesa videt.
when her-own, which I-would-not-wish, divinity wronged she-sees.
Testis erit Calydonis aper, sic saevus, ut illo
Witness will-be of-Calydon the-boar, so savage, that than-it
sit magis in natum saeva reperta parens.
be more against son savage found parent.
Testis et Actaeon, quondam fera creditus illis,
Witness also Actaeon, once beast believed by-those,
ipse dedit leto cum quibus ante feras;
himself gave to-death with whom before beasts;
quaeque superba parens saxo per corpus oborto
and-she-who proud parent with-stone through body grown-over
nunc quoque Mygdonia flebilis adstat humo.
now too on-Mygdonian tearful stands ground.
Ei mihi! Cydippe, timeo tibi dicere verum,
Ah me! Cydippe, I-fear to-you to-say the-truth,
ne videar causa falsa monere mea;
lest I-seem for-sake falsely to-warn my;

dicendum tamen est. hoc est, mihi crede, quod aegra
to-be-said still it-is. this is, to-me believe, why sick
ipso nubendi tempore saepe iaces.
at-very of-marrying time often you-lie.
Consulit ipsa tibi, neu sis periura, laborat,
Takes-counsel herself for-you, lest you-be forsworn, she-labors,
et salvam salva te cupit esse fide.
and safe safe you desires to-be with-faith.
Inde fit ut, quotiens existere perfida temptas,
Hence it-comes that, as-often-as to-prove-yourself faithless you-try,
peccatum totiens corrigat illa tuum.
the-sin so-often corrects she your.
Parce movere feros animosae virginis arcus;
Forbear to-move fierce of-spirited maiden bow;
mitis adhuc fieri, si patiare, potest.
gentle still to-become, if you-allow, it-can.
Parce, precor, teneros corrumpere febribus artus;
Forbear, I-pray, tender to-spoil with-fevers limbs;
servetur facies ista fruenda mihi.
let-be-kept face that to-be-enjoyed by-me.
Serventur vultus ad nostra incendia nati,
Let-be-kept features for our fires born,
quique subest niveo lenis in ore rubor.
and-which lies-beneath snowy gentle on face blush.
Hostibus et siquis, ne fias nostra, repugnat,
To-foes and if-anyone, that-not you-become ours, resists,
sic sit ut invalida te solet esse mihi!
so may-it-be as weak you is-wont to-be to-me!
Torqueor ex aequo vel te nubente vel aegra
I-am-tortured from equal either with-you marrying or sick

dicere nec possum, quid minus ipse velim;
to-say nor can-I, which less myself I-wish;
maceror interdum, quod sim tibi causa dolendi
I-waste-away sometimes, because I-am to-you a-cause of-grieving
teque mea laedi calliditate puto.
and-you by-my to-be-hurt cleverness I-think.
In caput ut nostrum dominae periuria quaeso
On head that our of-my-lady perjuries I-pray
eveniant; poena tuta sit illa mea!
may-come; penalty safe be she my!
Ne tamen ignorem, quid agas, ad limina crebro
Lest still I-be-ignorant, what you-are-doing, to threshold often
anxius huc illuc dissimulanter eo;
anxious here there dissemblingly I-go;
subsequor ancillam furtim famulumque requirens,
I-follow a-maid stealthily and-a-servant asking,
profuerint somni quid tibi quidve cibi.
have-done-good sleep what to-you or-what food.
Me miserum, quod non medicorum iussa ministro,
Me wretched, that not of-doctors the-orders I-carry-out,
effingoque manus, insideoque toro!
and-chafe hands, and-sit-on bed!
Et rursus miserum, quod me procul inde remoto,
And again wretched, that with-me far thence removed,
quem minime vellem, forsitan alter adest!
whom least I-would-wish, perhaps another is-here!
Ille manus istas effingit, et adsidet aegrae
He hands those chafes, and sits-by the-sick-one
invisus superis cum superisque mihi,
hateful to-the-gods-above with and-the-gods-above me,

dumque suo temptat salientem pollice venam,
and-while with-his-own he-tries leaping thumb vein,
candida per causam bracchia saepe tenet,
white for pretext arms often holds,
contrectatque sinus, et forsitan oscula iungit.
and-handles bosom, and perhaps kisses joins.
Officio merces plenior ista suo est!
For-service reward fuller that its-own is!
Quis tibi permisit nostras praecerpere messes?
Who to-you permitted our to-pluck-early harvests?
Ad spes alterius quis tibi fecit iter?
To hopes of-another who for-you made the-way?
Iste sinus meus est! mea turpiter oscula sumis!
That bosom mine is! my shamefully kisses you-take!
A mihi promisso corpore tolle manus!
From to-me promised body take hands!
Inprobe, tolle manus! quam tangis, nostra futura est;
Shameless, take hands! she-whom you-touch, ours to-be is;
postmodo si facies istud, adulter eris.
hereafter if you-do that, adulterer you-will-be.
Elige de vacuis quam non sibi vindicet alter;
Choose from free-women one-whom not for-himself may-claim another;
si nescis, dominum res habet ista suum.
if you-do-not-know, a-master thing has that its-own.
Nec mihi credideris — recitetur formula pacti;
Nor to-me believe let-be-recited the-form of-the-pact;
neu falsam dicas esse, fac ipsa legat!
and-lest false you-say it-to-be, see-to-it herself may-read!
Alterius thalamo, tibi nos, tibi dicimus, exi!
From-another's chamber, to-you we, to-you we-say, go-out!

Quid facis hic? exi! non vacat iste torus!
What are-you-doing here? go-out! not is-free that bed!
Nam quod habes et tu gemini verba altera pacti,
For that you-have also you of-double the-words the-other pact,
non erit idcirco par tua causa meae.
not will-be therefore equal your cause to-mine.
Haec mihi se pepigit, pater hanc tibi, primus ab illa;
She to-me herself pledged, father her to-you, first by her;
sed propior certe quam pater ipsa sibi est.
but nearer surely than father she to-herself is.
Promisit pater hanc, haec et iuravit amanti;
Promised the-father her, she also swore to-a-lover;
ille homines, haec est testificata deam.
he men, she has called-to-witness the-goddess.
Hic metuit mendax, haec et periura vocari;
He fears a-liar, she also forsworn to-be-called;
an dubitas, hic sit maior an ille metus?
or do-you-doubt, this be greater or that fear?
Denique, ut amborum conferre pericula possis,
Finally, that of-both to-compare the-dangers you-may-be-able,
respice ad eventus — haec cubat, ille valet.
look to the-outcomes she lies-sick, he is-well.
Nos quoque dissimili certamina mente subimus;
We too with-unlike contests mind undergo;
nec spes par nobis nec timor aequus adest.
nor hope equal to-us nor fear equal is-here.
Tu petis ex tuto; gravior mihi morte repulsa est,
You seek from safety; heavier to-me than-death the-rebuff is,
idque ego iam, quod tu forsan amabis, amo.
and-that I already, which you perhaps will-love, love.

Si tibi iustitiae, si recti cura fuisset,
If to-you for-justice, if for-right care had-been,
cedere debueras ignibus ipse meis.
to-yield you-ought-to-have to-fires yourself my.
Nunc, quoniam ferus hic pro causa pugnat iniqua,
Now, since fierce this-one for a-cause fights unjust,
ad quid, Cydippe, littera nostra redit?
to what, Cydippe, letter our returns?
Hic facit ut iaceas et sis suspecta Dianae;
He makes that you-lie-sick and you-be suspect to-Diana;
hunc tu, si sapias, limen adire vetes.
him you, if you-were-wise, the-threshold to-approach would-forbid.
Hoc faciente subis tam saeva pericula vitae —
With-him doing-so you-undergo so savage dangers of-life
atque utinam pro te, qui movet illa, cadat!
and would-that for you, who moves those, may-he-fall!
Quem si reppuleris, nec, quem dea damnat, amaris,
Whom if you-repulse, nor, whom the-goddess condemns, you-love,
tu tunc continuo, certe ego salvus ero.
you then immediately, surely I safe shall-be.
Siste metum, virgo! stabili potiere salute,
Stop fear, maiden! of-stable you-shall-possess health,
fac modo polliciti conscia templa colas;
see-to-it only of-the-promise witnessing temples you-worship;
non bove mactato caelestia numina gaudent,
not with-ox slain heavenly divinities rejoice,
sed, quae praestanda est et sine teste, fide.
but, which to-be-kept is even without witness, faith.
Ut valeant aliae, ferrum patiuntur et ignes,
That may-be-well others, sword they-endure and fires,

fert aliis tristem sucus amarus opem.
brings to-others grim juice bitter help.

Nil opus est istis; tantum periuria vita
Nothing need is of-those; only perjury avoid

teque simul serva meque datamque fidem!
and-you at-once keep and-me and-given faith!

Praeteritae veniam dabit ignorantia culpae —
For-past pardon will-give ignorance fault

exciderant animo foedera lecta tuo.
had-fallen from-mind the-covenants read your.

Admonita es modo voce mea cum casibus istis,
Reminded you-are now by-voice my with chances those,

quos, quotiens temptas fallere, ferre soles.
which, as-often-as you-try to-deceive, to-bear you-are-wont.

His quoque vitatis in partu nempe rogabis,
With-these too avoided in childbirth surely will-you-ask,

ut tibi luciferas adferat illa manus?
that to-you light-bearing may-bring she hands?

Audiet haec — repetens quae sunt audita, requiret,
She-will-hear this recalling which are heard, she-will-ask,

iste tibi de quo coniuge partus eat.
that from-you by what husband offspring may-come.

Promittes votum — scit te promittere falso;
You-will-promise a-vow she-knows you to-promise falsely;

iurabis — scit te fallere posse deos!
you-will-swear she-knows you to-deceive to-be-able the-gods!

Non agitur de me; cura maiore laboro.
Not it-is-a-question about me; with-care greater I-labor.

Anxia sunt vitae pectora nostra tuae.
Anxious are for-life breast our your.

Cur modo te dubiam pavidi flevere parentes,
Why lately you doubtful terrified wept parents,
ignaros culpae quos facis esse tuae?
ignorant of-fault whom you-make to-be your?
Et cur ignorent? matri licet omnia narres.
And why should-they-be-ignorant? to-mother you-may everything tell.
Nil tua, Cydippe, facta ruboris habent.
Nothing your, Cydippe, deeds of-blushing have.
Ordine fac referas ut sis mihi cognita primum
In-order see-to-it you-tell how you-were by-me noticed first
sacra pharetratae dum facit ipsa deae;
rites of-the-quivered while makes herself goddess;
ut te conspecta subito, si forte notasti,
how with-you seen suddenly, if perhaps you-noticed,
restiterim fixis in tua membra genis;
I-stopped fixed on your limbs with-cheeks;
et, te dum nimium miror, nota certa furoris,
and, you while too-much I-marvel-at, a-sign sure of-madness,
deciderint umero pallia lapsa meo;
fell from-shoulder cloak slipped my;
postmodo nescio qua venisse volubile malum,
afterward I-know-not whence to-have-come rolling apple,
verba ferens doctis insidiosa notis,
words carrying with-learned treacherous marks,
quod quia sit lectum sancta praesente Diana,
which because it-was read holy present with-Diana,
esse tuam vinctam numine teste fidem
to-be your bound with-divinity witness faith
ne tamen ignoret, scripti sententia quae sit,
lest still she-be-ignorant, of-the-writing the-sense what be,

lecta tibi quondam nunc quoque verba refer.
read by-you once now too words repeat.
'Nube, precor,' dicet, 'cui te bona numina iungunt;
'Marry, I-pray,' she-will-say, 'to-whom you good divinities join;
quem fore iurasti, sit gener ille mihi.
whom to-be you-swore, be son-in-law he to-me.
Quisquis is est, placeat, quoniam placet ante Dianae!'
Whoever he is, may-he-please, since he-pleases first to-Diana!'
Talis erit mater, si modo mater erit.
Such will-be your-mother, if only a-mother she-will-be.
Sed tamen ut quaerat quis sim qualisque, videto.
But still that she-may-ask who I-am and-what-kind, see-to-it.
Inveniet vobis consuluisse deam.
She-will-find for-you to-have-taken-counsel the-goddess.
Insula, Coryciis quondam celeberrima nymphis,
An-island, by-Corycian once most-frequented nymphs,
cingitur Aegaeo, nomine Cea, mari.
is-girt by-Aegean, by-name Cea, sea.
Illa mihi patria est; nec, si generosa probatis
That to-me fatherland is; nor, if noble you-approve
nomina, despectis arguor ortus avis.
names, from-despised am-I-charged sprung ancestors.
Sunt et opes nobis, sunt et sine crimine mores;
There-are also wealth to-us, there-are also without reproach character;
amplius utque nihil, me tibi iungit Amor.
more and-though nothing, me to-you joins Love.
Appeteres talem vel non iurata maritum;
You-would-seek such even not having-sworn a-husband;
iuratae vel non talis habendus erat.
having-sworn even not such to-be-had was.

Haec tibi me in somnis iaculatrix scribere Phoebe;
These to-you me in dreams the-huntress to-write Phoebe;
haec tibi me vigilem scribere iussit Amor;
these to-you me waking to-write ordered Love;
e quibus alterius mihi iam nocuere sagittae,
of whom of-the-one to-me already have-harmed the-arrows,
alterius noceant ne tibi tela, cave!
of-the-other may-harm lest you the-shafts, beware!
Iuncta salus nostra est — miserere meique tuique;
Joined safety our is pity both-me and-yourself;
quid dubitas unam ferre duobus opem?
why do-you-hesitate one to-bring to-two help?
Quod si contigerit, cum iam data signa sonabunt,
Which if it-befalls, when already given signals will-sound,
tinctaque votivo sanguine Delos erit,
and-dyed with-votive blood Delos will-be,
aurea ponetur mali felicis imago,
golden will-be-set-up of-the-apple lucky the-image,
causaque versiculis scripta duobus erit:
and-the-cause in-little-verses written two will-be:
effigie pomi testatur Acontius huius
by-the-likeness of-the-apple testifies Acontius this
quae fuerint in eo scripta fuisse rata.
what was on it written to-have-been ratified.
Longior infirmum ne lasset epistula corpus
Longer the-weak lest weary letter body
clausaque consueto sit sibi fine: vale!
and-closed with-the-usual be for-itself end: farewell!

Cydippe Acontio

XXI · CYDIPPE TO ACONTIUS

Cydippe answers from her sickbed, writing in secret. She describes her visit to Delos, the apple at her feet, and the oath she read without meaning it: the mind swears, not the tongue. Yet her illness returns whenever her wedding approaches, and the oracle at Delphi says she must keep faith. She has confessed everything to her mother, and leaves the rest to Acontius.

Pertimui, scriptumque tuum sine murmure legi,
I-was-terrified, and-writing your without murmur I-read,
iuraret ne quos inscia lingua deos.
might-swear lest any unknowing tongue gods.
Et puto captasses iterum, nisi, ut ipse fateris,
And I-think you-would-have-caught-at again, unless, as yourself you-confess,
promissam scires me satis esse semel.
promised you-knew me enough to-be once.
Nec lectura fui, sed, si tibi dura fuissem,
Nor about-to-read was-I, but, if to-you harsh I-had-been,
aucta foret saevae forsitan ira deae.
increased would-have-been of-savage perhaps the-wrath goddess.
Omnia cum faciam, cum dem pia tura Dianae,
Everything though I-do, though I-give dutiful incense to-Diana,
illa tamen iusta plus tibi parte favet,
she still than-just more you part favors,
utque cupis credi, memori te vindicat ira;
and-as you-desire to-be-believed, with-mindful you she-champions wrath;
talis in Hippolyto vix fuit illa suo.
such toward Hippolytus hardly was she her-own.
At melius virgo favisset virginis annis,
But better the-maiden would-have-favored of-a-maiden the-years,

quos vereor paucos ne velit esse mihi.
which I-fear few lest she-wish to-be for-me.
Languor enim causis non apparentibus haeret;
Languor indeed with-causes not apparent clings;
adiuvor et nulla fessa medentis ope.
I-am-helped and by-no weary of-the-physician help.
Quam tibi nunc gracilem vix haec rescribere quamque
How to-you now thin hardly this to-write-back and-how
pallida vix cubito membra levare putas?
pale hardly on-elbow limbs to-raise do-you-think?
Nunc timor accedit, ne quis nisi conscia nutrix
Now fear is-added, lest anyone except knowing nurse
colloquii nobis sentiat esse vices.
of-conversation to-us may-sense to-be exchanges.
Ante fores sedet haec quid agamque rogantibus intus,
Before door sits she what and-I-am-doing to-those-asking inside,
ut possim tuto scribere, 'dormit,' ait.
that I-may-be-able safely to-write, 'she-sleeps,' she-says.
Mox, ubi, secreti longi causa optima, somnus
Soon, when, of-secrecy long the-cause best, sleep
credibilis tarda desinit esse mora,
believable by-slow ceases to-be delay,
iamque venire videt quos non admittere durum est,
and-now to-come she-sees whom not to-admit hard is,
excreat et ficta dat mihi signa nota.
she-coughs and with-feigned gives to-me signs mark.
Sicut erant, properans verba inperfecta relinquo,
As they-were, hurrying words unfinished I-leave,
et tegitur trepido littera coepta sinu.
and is-hidden in-trembling letter begun bosom.

Inde meos digitos iterum repetita fatigat;
Thence my fingers again taken-up wearies;
quantus sit nobis adspicis ipse labor.
how-great be to-us you-see yourself labor.
Quo peream si dignus eras, ut vera loquamur;
By-which may-I-perish if worthy you-were, that true-things we-may-speak;
sed melior iusto quamque mereris ego.
but kinder than-just and-than you-deserve I.
Ergo te propter totiens incerta salutis
So you because-of so-often uncertain of-health
commentis poenas doque dedique tuis?
for-the-inventions penalties both-I-give and-I-have-given your?
Haec nobis formae te laudatore superbae
This to-us of-beauty with-you as-praiser proud
contingit merces? et placuisse nocet?
befalls reward? and to-have-pleased harms?
Si tibi deformis, quod mallem, visa fuissem,
If to-you ugly, which I-would-prefer, seemed I-had,
culpatum nulla corpus egeret ope;
blamed by-no body would-need help;
nunc laudata gemo, nunc me certamine vestro
now praised I-groan, now me by-contest your
perditis, et proprio vulneror ipsa bono.
you-ruin, and by-own I-am-wounded myself good.
Dum neque tu cedis, nec se putat ille secundum,
While neither you yield, nor himself thinks he second,
tu votis obstas illius, ille tuis.
you to-the-vows stand-against of-that-one, he yours.
Ipsa velut navis iactor quam certus in altum
Myself like a-ship I-am-tossed which steady into the-deep

propellit Boreas, aestus et unda refert,
drives Boreas, the-tide and wave carries-back,
cumque dies caris optata parentibus instat,
and-when the-day by-dear hoped-for parents presses-near,
inmodicus pariter corporis ardor adest —
immoderate equally of-body fever is-here
ei mihi, coniugii tempus crudelis ad ipsum
ah me, of-marriage the-time cruel at very
Persephone nostras pulsat acerba fores!
Persephone our knocks bitter door!
Iam pudet, et timeo, quamvis mihi conscia non sim,
Already it-shames-me, and I-fear, although to-myself conscious not I-am,
offensos videar ne meruisse deos.
offended I-seem lest to-have-deserved gods.
Accidere haec aliquis casu contendit, at alter
To-happen these-things someone by-chance contends, but another
acceptum superis hunc negat esse virum;
acceptable to-the-gods-above this denies to-be man;
neve nihil credas in te quoque dicere famam,
and-lest nothing you-believe against you too to-say report,
facta veneficiis pars putat ista tuis.
made by-sorceries part thinks that your.
Causa latet, mala nostra patent; vos pace movetis
The-cause lies-hid, ills our lie-open; you with-peace stir
aspera submota proelia, plector ego!
harsh removed battles, am-punished I!
Dic mihi nunc, solitoque tibi ne decipe more:
Tell me now, and-in-the-usual by-you not deceive manner:
quid facies odio, sic ubi amore noces?
what will-you-do in-hatred, so when in-love you-harm?

Si laedis, quod amas, hostem sapienter amabis —
If you-hurt, what you-love, the-foe wisely you-will-love
me, precor, ut serves, perdere velle velis!
me, I-pray, that you-may-save, to-destroy to-wish you-would-wish!
Aut tibi iam nulla est speratae cura puellae,
Either to-you already no is of-the-hoped-for care girl,
quam ferus indigna tabe perire sinis,
whom fierce by-undeserved wasting to-perish you-allow,
aut, dea si frustra pro me tibi saeva rogatur,
or, the-goddess if in-vain for me by-you savage is-entreated,
quid mihi te iactas? gratia nulla tua est!
why to-me yourself do-you-boast? favor no yours is!
Elige, quid fingas: non vis placare Dianam —
Choose, what you-may-pretend: not you-wish to-appease Diana
inmemor es nostri; non potes — illa tui est!
unmindful you-are of-us; not you-can she of-you is!
Vel numquam mallem vel non mihi tempore in illo
Either never I-would-prefer or not to-me time at that
esset in Aegaeis cognita Delos aquis!
had-been on Aegean known Delos waters!
Tunc mea difficili deducta est aequore navis,
Then my on-difficult launched was sea ship,
et fuit ad coeptas hora sinistra vias.
and was for begun the-hour unlucky ways.
Quo pede processi! quo me pede limine movi!
With-what foot I-went-forth! with-what me foot from-threshold I-moved!
Picta citae tetigi quo pede texta ratis!
Painted of-swift I-touched with-what foot the-planks ship!
Bis tamen adverso redierunt carbasa vento —
Twice still with-adverse returned sails wind

mentior, a demens! ille secundus erat!
I-lie, ah mad! that-wind favoring was!
Ille secundus erat qui me referebat euntem,
That favoring was which me was-bringing-back going,
quique parum felix inpediebat iter.
and-which too-little fortunate hindered journey.
Atque utinam constans contra mea vela fuisset —
And would-that constant against my sails it-had-been
sed stultum est venti de levitate queri.
but foolish it-is of-wind about fickleness to-complain.
Mota loci fama properabam visere Delon
Moved of-the-place by-the-fame I-was-hurrying to-visit Delos
et facere ignava puppe videbar iter.
and to-make in-sluggish ship I-seemed journey.
Quam saepe ut tardis feci convicia remis,
How often as to-slow I-made reproaches oars,
questaque sum vento lintea parca dari!
and-complained I-have to-wind canvas sparing to-be-given!
Et iam transieram Myconon, iam Tenon et Andron,
And already I-had-passed Myconos, already Tenos and Andros,
inque meis oculis candida Delos erat;
and-in my eyes white Delos was;
quam procul ut vidi, 'quid me fugis, insula,' dixi,
which far when I-saw, 'why me do-you-flee, island,' I-said,
'laberis in magno numquid, ut ante, mari?'
'do-you-glide in great surely-not, as before, sea?'
Institeram terrae, cum iam prope luce peracta
I-had-set-foot on-land, when already nearly with-light completed
demere purpureis sol iuga vellet equis.
to-take from-purple the-sun yokes wished horses.

Quos idem solitos postquam revocavit ad ortus,
Whom the-same usual after he-recalled to risings,
comuntur nostrae matre iubente comae.
are-dressed our with-mother bidding hair.
Ipsa dedit gemmas digitis et crinibus aurum,
Herself gave gems to-fingers and to-hair gold,
et vestes umeris induit ipsa meis.
and garments on-shoulders put herself my.
Protinus egressae superis, quibus insula sacra est,
At-once having-gone-out to-the-gods-above, to-whom the-island sacred is,
flava salutatis tura merumque damus;
golden greeted incense and-wine we-give;
dumque parens aras votivo sanguine tingit,
and-while my-parent altars with-votive blood dyes,
festaque fumosis ingerit exta focis,
and-festal on-smoky heaps entrails hearths,
sedula me nutrix alias quoque ducit in aedes,
busy me the-nurse other too leads into shrines,
erramusque vago per loca sacra pede.
and-we-wander with-roving through places sacred foot.
Et modo porticibus spatior modo munera regum
And now in-porticoes I-stroll now the-gifts of-kings
miror et in cunctis stantia signa locis;
I-marvel-at and in all standing statues places;
miror et innumeris structam de cornibus aram,
I-marvel-at also countless built from horns altar,
et de qua pariens arbore nixa dea est,
and from which giving-birth tree leaning the-goddess was,
et quae praeterea — neque enim meminive libetve
and what besides nor indeed do-I-remember or-does-it-please

quidquid ibi vidi dicere — Delos habet.
whatever there I-saw to-tell Delos has.
Forsitan haec spectans a te spectabar, Aconti,
Perhaps these-things watching by you I-was-watched, Acontius,
visaque simplicitas est mea posse capi.
and-seemed simplicity has my to-be-able to-be-caught.
In templum redeo gradibus sublime Dianae —
Into the-temple I-return by-steps lofty of-Diana
tutior hoc ecquis debuit esse locus?
safer than-this whether-any ought to-be place?
Mittitur ante pedes malum cum carmine tali —
Is-thrown before feet an-apple with verse such
ei mihi, iuravi nunc quoque paene tibi!
ah me, I-have-sworn now too almost to-you!
Sustulit hoc nutrix miratque 'perlege!' dixit.
Picked-up this the-nurse and-wondering 'read-through!' said.
Insidias legi, magne poeta, tuas!
The-snares I-read, great poet, your!
Nomine coniugii dicto confusa pudore,
By-the-name of-marriage spoken confused with-shame,
sensi me totis erubuisse genis,
I-felt me with-whole to-have-blushed cheeks,
luminaque in gremio veluti defixa tenebam —
and-eyes on lap as-if fixed I-kept
lumina propositi facta ministra tui.
eyes of-the-scheme made servants your.
Inprobe, quid gaudes? aut quae tibi gloria parta est?
Shameless, why do-you-rejoice? or what to-you glory gained is?
Quidve vir elusa virgine laudis habes?
Or-what man deceived with-maiden of-praise have-you?

Non ego constiteram sumpta peltata securi,
Not I had-stood with-taken-up shield-bearing axe,
qualis in Iliaco Penthesilea solo;
such-as on Ilian Penthesilea soil;
nullus Amazonio caelatus balteus auro,
no with-Amazonian embossed belt gold,
sicut ab Hippolyte, praeda relata tibi est.
as from Hippolyte, as-spoil brought-back to-you is.
Verba quid exultas tua si mihi verba dederunt,
Words why do-you-exult your if me words have-cheated,
sumque parum prudens capta puella dolis?
and-am-I too-little prudent caught a-girl by-tricks?
Cydippen pomum, pomum Schoeneida cepit;
Cydippe an-apple, an-apple Schoeneus'-daughter caught;
tu nunc Hippomenes scilicet alter eris!
you now Hippomenes doubtless a-second will-be!
At fuerat melius, si te puer iste tenebat,
But it-had-been better, if you boy that held,
quem tu nescio quas dicis habere faces,
whom you I-know-not what you-say to-have torches,
more bonis solito spem non corrumpere fraude;
in-the-way to-the-good usual hope not to-corrupt by-fraud;
exoranda tibi, non capienda fui!
to-be-won-by-entreaty by-you, not to-be-caught I-was!
Cur, me cum peteres, ea non profitenda putabas,
Why, me when you-sought, those-things not to-be-professed did-you-think,
propter quae nobis ipse petendus eras?
on-account-of which by-us yourself to-be-sought you-were?
Cogere cur potius quam persuadere volebas,
To-compel why rather than to-persuade did-you-wish,

si poteram audita condicione capi?
if I-could with-heard terms to-be-caught?
Quid tibi nunc prodest iurandi formula iuris
What to-you now profits of-swearing the-formula of-right
linguaque praesentem testificata deam?
and-tongue present called-to-witness the-goddess?
Quae iurat, mens est. nil coniuravimus illa;
What swears, mind is. nothing have-we-sworn with-it;
illa fidem dictis addere sola potest.
it faith to-words to-add alone can.
Consilium prudensque animi sententia iurat,
Counsel and-prudent of-mind judgment swears,
et nisi iudicii vincula nulla valent.
and except of-judgment bonds none avail.
Si tibi coniugium volui promittere nostrum,
If to-you marriage I-wished to-promise our,
exige polliciti debita iura tori;
exact of-the-promised the-due rights bed;
sed si nil dedimus praeter sine pectore vocem,
but if nothing we-gave except without heart voice,
verba suis frustra viribus orba tenes.
words of-their-own in-vain strength bereft you-hold.
Non ego iuravi — legi iurantia verba;
Not I swore I-read swearing words;
vir mihi non isto more legendus eras.
husband by-me not in-that way to-be-chosen you-were.
Decipe sic alias — succedat epistula pomo!
Deceive so others let-follow a-letter the-apple!
Si valet hoc, magnas ditibus aufer opes;
If avails this, great from-the-rich take-away wealth;

fac iurent reges sua se tibi regna daturos,
see-to-it swear kings their-own themselves to-you realms about-to-give,
sitque tuum toto quidquid in orbe placet!
and-let-be yours whole whatever in world pleases!
Maior es hoc ipsa multo, mihi crede, Diana,
Greater you-are by-this than-herself by-much, to-me believe, Diana,
si tua tam praesens littera numen habet.
if your so present letter divinity has.
Cum tamen haec dixi, cum me tibi firma negavi,
When still these-things I-have-said, when me to-you firm I-have-refused,
cum bene promissi causa peracta mei est,
when well of-promise the-cause pleaded my is,
confiteor, timeo saevae Latoidos iram
I-confess, I-fear of-savage Latona's-daughter wrath
et corpus laedi suspicor inde meum.
and body to-be-hurt I-suspect thence my.
Nam quare, quotiens socialia sacra parantur,
For why, as-often-as nuptial rites are-prepared,
nupturae totiens languida membra cadunt?
of-one-about-to-wed so-often languid limbs fall?
Ter mihi iam veniens positas Hymenaeus ad aras
Three-times from-me already coming placed Hymenaeus at altars
fugit, et a thalami limine terga dedit,
fled, and from of-the-chamber threshold back gave,
vixque manu pigra totiens infusa resurgunt
and-scarcely by-hand slow so-often poured-on rise-again
lumina, vix moto corripit igne faces.
lights, hardly with-stirred he-grasps fire torches.
Saepe coronatis stillant unguenta capillis
Often from-crowned drip unguents hair

et trahitur multo splendida palla croco.
and is-trailed with-much splendid robe saffron.
Cum tetigit limen, lacrimas mortisque timorem
When he-has-touched the-threshold, tears and-of-death fear
cernit et a cultu multa remota suo,
he-sees and from dress much removed his-own,
proicit ipse sua deductas fronte coronas,
throws-off himself from-his-own drawn-down brow garlands,
spissaque de nitidis tergit amoma comis;
and-thick from shining wipes balsam hair;
et pudet in tristi laetum consurgere turba,
and it-shames-him in grim glad to-rise throng,
quique erat in palla, transit in ora rubor.
and-which was in robe, passes to face the-blush.
At mihi, vae miserae! torrentur febribus artus
But for-me, woe to-wretched! are-parched with-fevers limbs
et gravius iusto pallia pondus habent,
and heavier than-right the-coverings weight have,
nostraque plorantes video super ora parentes,
and-our weeping I-see over face parents,
et face pro thalami fax mihi mortis adest.
and torch instead-of of-chamber a-torch for-me of-death is-here.
Parce laboranti, picta dea laeta pharetra,
Spare one-suffering, in-painted goddess glad quiver,
daque salutiferam iam mihi fratris opem.
and-give health-bringing now to-me of-brother help.
Turpe tibi est, illum causas depellere leti,
Shameful for-you it-is, him the-causes to-drive-off of-death,
te contra titulum mortis habere meae.
you on-the-other-hand the-title of-death to-have my.

Numquid, in umbroso cum velles fonte lavari,
Surely-not, in shady when you-wished spring to-bathe,
inprudens vultus ad tua labra tuli,
unwitting face to your pools I-brought,
praeteriine tuas de tot caelestibus aras,
did-I-pass-by your of so-many heavenly-ones altars,
aque tua est nostra spreta parente parens?
and-by your was our scorned mother mother?
Nil ego peccavi, nisi quod periuria legi
Nothing I have-sinned, except that perjuries I-read
inque parum fausto carmine docta fui.
and-in too-little auspicious verse learned I-was.
Tu quoque pro nobis, si non mentiris amorem,
You too for us, if not you-feign love,
tura feras; prosint, quae nocuere, manus!
incense bring; may-help, which harmed, hands!
Cur, quae succenset quod adhuc tibi pacta puella
Why, she-who is-angry because still to-you promised the-girl
non tua sit, fieri ne tua possit, agit?
not yours is, to-become lest yours she-can, does-she-act?
Omnia de viva tibi sunt speranda; quid aufert
Everything from living by-you are to-be-hoped; why takes-away
saeva mihi vitam, spem tibi diva mei?
savage from-me life, hope from-you the-goddess of-me?
Nec tu credideris illum, cui destinor uxor,
Nor you should-believe him, to-whom I-am-destined as-wife,
aegra superposita membra fovere manu.
sick with-laid-on limbs to-warm hand.
Adsidet ille quidem, quantum permittitur, ipse
Sits-by he indeed, as-much-as is-permitted, himself

sed meminit nostrum virginis esse torum.
but he-remembers our of-a-maiden to-be bed.
Iam quoque nescio quid de me sensisse videtur;
Already too I-know-not what about me to-have-sensed he-seems;
nam lacrimae causa saepe latente cadunt,
for tears with-cause often hidden fall,
et minus audacter blanditur et oscula rara
and less boldly he-caresses and kisses rare
appetit et timido me vocat ore suam.
seeks and with-timid me calls mouth his-own.
Nec miror sensisse, notis cum prodar apertis;
Nor do-I-wonder he-has-sensed, by-signs since I-am-betrayed open;
in dextrum versor, cum venit ille, latus,
onto right I-turn, when comes he, side,
nec loquor, et tecto simulatur lumine somnus,
nor do-I-speak, and covered is-feigned with-eye sleep,
captantem tactus reicioque manum.
trying-for touches and-I-reject hand.
Ingemit et tacito suspirat pectore, me quod
He-groans and with-silent sighs breast, me that
offensam, quamvis non mereatur, habet.
offended, although not he-deserves-it, he-has.
Ei mihi, quod gaudes, et te iuvat ista voluntas!
Ah me, that you-rejoice, and you pleases that will!
Ei mihi, quod sensus sum tibi fassa meos!
Ah me, that feelings I-have to-you confessed my!
Si mihi lingua foret, tu nostra iustius ira,
If to-me tongue were, you of-our more-justly wrath,
qui mihi tendebas retia, dignus eras.
who for-me were-stretching nets, worthy were.

Scribis, ut invalidum liceat tibi visere corpus.
You-write, that weak may-be-allowed to-you to-visit body.
Es procul a nobis, et tamen inde noces.
You-are far from us, and still thence you-harm.
Mirabar quare tibi nomen Acontius esset;
I-was-wondering why to-you the-name Acontius was;
quod faciat longe vulnus, acumen habes.
which may-make from-afar a-wound, sharpness you-have.
Certe ego convalui nondum de vulnere tali,
Surely I have-recovered not-yet from wound such,
ut iaculo scriptis eminus icta tuis.
as-if by-javelin by-writings from-afar struck your.
Quid tamen huc venias? sane miserabile corpus,
Why still here should-you-come? indeed pitiable body,
ingenii videas magna tropaea tui!
of-genius you-may-see great trophies your!
Concidimus macie; color est sine sanguine, qualem
We-have-collapsed with-leanness; color is without blood, such-as
in pomo refero mente fuisse tuo,
on the-apple I-recall in-mind to-have-been your,
candida nec mixto sublucent ora rubore.
white nor with-mingled glow face blush.
Forma novi talis marmoris esse solet;
The-form of-new such of-marble to-be is-wont;
argenti color est inter convivia talis,
of-silver the-color is among banquets such,
quod tactum gelidae frigore pallet aquae.
which touched of-icy by-chill grows-pale water.
Si me nunc videas, visam prius esse negabis,
If me now you-should-see, seen before to-be you-will-deny,

‘Arte nec est,’ dices, ‘ista petita mea,’
‘By-art nor is,’ you-will-say, ‘she sought my,’
promissique fidem, ne sim tibi iuncta, remittes,
and-of-the-promise the-faith, lest I-be to-you joined, you-will-remit,
et cupies illud non meminisse deam.
and will-desire that not to-remember the-goddess.
Forsitan et facies iurem ut contraria rursus,
Perhaps also you-will-make I-may-swear that contrary-things again,
quaeque legam mittes altera verba mihi.
and-which I-may-read you-will-send other words to-me.
Sed tamen adspiceres vellem, quod et ipse rogabas —
But still that-you-might-look I-would-wish, which also yourself you-asked
adspiceres sponsae languida membra tuae!
you-might-look-at of-betrothed languid limbs your!
Durius et ferro cum sit tibi pectus, Aconti,
Harder also than-iron though be to-you breast, Acontius,
tu veniam nostris vocibus ipse petas.
you pardon for-our words yourself would-seek.
Ne tamen ignores ope qua revalescere possim,
Lest still you-be-ignorant by-help what to-grow-well I-can,
quaeritur a Delphis fata canente deo.
is-sought from Delphi fates chanting with-god.
Is quoque nescio quam, nunc ut vaga fama susurrat,
He too I-know-not which, now as wandering report whispers,
neclectam queritur testis habere fidem.
neglected complains as-witness to-have faith.
Hoc deus, hoc vates, hoc et mea carmina dicunt —
This god, this seer, this also my verses say
at desunt voto carmina nulla tuo!
but are-lacking to-wish verses none your!

Unde tibi favor hic? nisi si nova forte reperta est
Whence for-you favor this? unless if new perhaps found is
quae capiat magnos littera lecta deos.
which may-capture great letter read gods.
Teque tenente deos numen sequor ipsa deorum,
And-with-you holding gods the-will I-follow myself of-gods,
doque libens victas in tua vota manus;
and-I-give willingly conquered into your vows hands;
fassaque sum matri deceptae foedera linguae
and-confessed I-have to-mother of-deceived the-covenant tongue
lumina fixa tenens plena pudoris humo.
eyes fixed keeping full of-shame on-ground.
Cetera cura tua est; plus hoc quoque virgine factum,
The-rest care yours is; more this too than-a-maiden done,
non timuit tecum quod mea charta loqui.
not has-feared with-you that my paper to-speak.
Iam satis invalidos calamo lassavimus artus,
Already enough weak with-pen we-have-wearied limbs,
et manus officium longius aegra negat.
and hand the-duty longer sick refuses.
Quid, nisi quod cupio me iam coniungere tecum,
What, except that I-desire me now to-join with-you,
restat? ut adscribat littera nostra: Vale.
remains? that may-add letter our: Farewell.

OVID

Amores

The Loves

Epigramma ipsius

EPIGRAM · THE BOOK SPEAKS

The five books of Naso's Amores announce that they are now three: the author himself preferred this shorter work. If reading them gives no pleasure, at least the punishment is lighter by two.

Qui modo Nasonis fueramus quinque libelli,
We-who lately of-Naso had-been five books,
tres sumus; hoc illi praetulit auctor opus.
three we-are; this to-that preferred our-author work.
Ut iam nulla tibi nos sit legisse voluptas,
Though now no to-you us there-be to-have-read pleasure,
at levior demptis poena duobus erit.
yet lighter with-removed the-penalty two will-be.

I.1 · CUPID STEALS A FOOT

Ovid was preparing epic in hexameters when Cupid stole a foot from the second line. He protests that song is no business of Cupid's — Venus does not take Minerva's arms — and that he has neither a boy nor a long-haired girl to write about. Cupid then picks an arrow, bends the bow, and gives him his subject; Ovid yields, dismisses iron wars, and calls the Muse to be crowned with myrtle for the couplet's eleven feet.

Arma gravi numero violentaque bella parabam
Arms in-a-heavy measure and-violent wars I-was-preparing
edere, materia conveniente modis.
to-set-forth, with-the-matter matching the-measures.
Par erat inferior versus — risisse Cupido
Equal was the-lower verse to-have-laughed Cupid

dicitur atque unum surripuisse pedem.
is-said and one to-have-stolen foot.

'Quis tibi, saeve puer, dedit hoc in carmina iuris?
'Who to-you, cruel boy, gave this over songs of-right?

Pieridum vates, non tua turba sumus.
Of-the-Pierides bards, not your throng we-are.

Quid, si praeripiat flavae Venus arma Minervae,
What, if should-snatch of-golden Venus the-arms Minerva,

ventilet accensas flava Minerva faces?
should-fan the-kindled golden Minerva torches?

Quis probet in silvis Cererem regnare iugosis,
Who would-approve in woods Ceres to-reign ridged,

lege pharetratae virginis arva coli?
by-the-law of-the-quivered maiden the-fields to-be-tilled?

Crinibus insignem quis acuta cuspide Phoebum
For-his-locks notable who with-a-sharp spear-point Phoebus

instruat, Aoniam Marte movente lyram?
would-equip, the-Aonian with-Mars stirring lyre?

Sunt tibi magna, puer, nimiumque potentia regna;
There-are to-you great, boy, and-too-much powerful realms;

cur opus adfectas, ambitiose, novum?
why a-work do-you-grasp-at, ambitious-one, new?

An, quod ubique, tuum est? tua sunt Heliconia tempe?
Or, what everywhere-is, yours is? yours are the-Heliconian vales?

Vix etiam Phoebo iam lyra tuta sua est?
Hardly even to-Phoebus now the-lyre safe his-own is?

Cum bene surrexit versu nova pagina primo,
When well has-risen with-a-verse a-new page the-first,

attenuat nervos proximus ille meos;
weakens the-sinews the-next that my;

nec mihi materia est numeris levioribus apta,
nor for-me matter is for-measures lighter fit,
aut puer aut longas compta puella comas.'
either a-boy or long dressed a-girl as-to-hair.'
Questus eram, pharetra cum protinus ille soluta
Complained I-had, with-his-quiver when at-once he loosed
legit in exitium spicula facta meum,
picked for the-ruin darts made my,
lunavitque genu sinuosum fortiter arcum,
and-bent with-his-knee the-curving strongly bow,
'Quod' que 'canas, vates, accipe' dixit 'opus!'
'What' and 'you-may-sing, bard, take' he-said 'a-work!'
Me miserum! certas habuit puer ille sagittas.
Me wretched! unerring had boy that arrows.
Uror, et in vacuo pectore regnat Amor.
I-burn, and in an-empty breast reigns Love.
Sex mihi surgat opus numeris, in quinque residat:
In-six for-me let-rise the-work measures, into five let-it-settle:
ferrea cum vestris bella valete modis!
iron with your wars fare-well measures!
Cingere litorea flaventia tempora myrto,
Be-girt with-shore-grown golden as-to-temples myrtle,
Musa, per undenos emodulanda pedes!
Muse, through eleven to-be-measured feet!

Sleepless and sore, the poet works out that he is in love and decides to yield, since a burden well borne grows light. He then imagines Cupid's triumph: the captive young men and women, Good Sense and Modesty led with their hands twisted behind them, and Flattery, Error, and Frenzy in the train, with the poet himself as fresh spoil, his wound still new. He ends by asking Cupid, like his kinsman Caesar, to spare the conquered.

Esse quid hoc dicam, quod tam mihi dura videntur
To-be what this shall-I-say, that so to-me hard seem
strata, neque in lecto pallia nostra sedent,
the-bedding, and-not on the-bed the-covers our stay,
et vacuus somno noctem, quam longa, peregi,
and empty of-sleep the-night, how long, I-have-passed,
lassaque versati corporis ossa dolent?
and-weary of-my-tossed body the-bones ache?
Nam, puto, sentirem, siquo temptarer amore.
For, I-think, I-should-feel, if-by-any I-were-assailed love.
An subit et tecta callidus arte nocet?
Or does-he-steal-in and with-a-hidden crafty art harm?
Sic erit; haeserunt tenues in corde sagittae,
So it-will-be; have-stuck slender in my-heart arrows,
et possessa ferus pectora versat Amor.
and the-seized fierce breast tosses Love.
Cedimus, an subitum luctando accendimus ignem?
Do-we-yield, or the-sudden by-struggling do-we-kindle fire?
Cedamus! leve fit, quod bene fertur, onus.
Let-us-yield! light becomes, what well is-borne, a-burden.
Vidi ego iactatas mota face crescere flammas
I-have-seen I the-tossed with-a-moved torch to-grow flames

et vidi nullo concutiente mori.
and I-saw with-none shaking to-die.
Verbera plura ferunt, quam quos iuvat usus aratri,
Blows more they-bear, than those-whom pleases the-use of-the-plow,
detractant pressi dum iuga prima boves.
refuse the-pressed while the-yokes first oxen.
Asper equus duris contunditur ora lupatis,
A-rough horse by-hard is-bruised as-to-mouth jagged-bits,
frena minus sentit, quisquis ad arma facit.
the-bit less feels, whoever for the-harness is-fit.
Acrius invitos multoque ferocius urget
More-keenly the-unwilling and-by-much more-fiercely presses
quam qui servitium ferre fatentur Amor.
than those-who servitude to-bear confess Love.
En ego confiteor! tua sum nova praeda, Cupido;
Lo I confess-it! your I-am a-new prey, Cupid;
porrigimus victas ad tua iura manus.
we-hold-out conquered to your laws hands.
Nil opus est bello — veniam pacemque rogamus;
No need is of-war pardon and-peace we-ask;
nec tibi laus armis victus inermis ero.
nor to-you a-glory by-arms conquered unarmed shall-I-be.
Necte comam myrto, maternas iunge columbas;
Bind your-hair with-myrtle, your-mother's yoke doves;
qui deceat, currum vitricus ipse dabit,
which may-suit, a-chariot your-stepfather himself will-give,
inque dato curru, populo clamante triumphum,
and-in the-given car, with-the-people shouting triumph,
stabis et adiunctas arte movebis aves.
you-will-stand and the-yoked with-skill you-will-drive birds.

Ducentur capti iuvenes captaeque puellae;
Will-be-led captive young-men and-captive girls;
haec tibi magnificus pompa triumphus erit.
this for-you a-magnificent parade a-triumph will-be.
Ipse ego, praeda recens, factum modo vulnus habebo
Myself I, a-prey fresh, made lately a-wound shall-carry
et nova captiva vincula mente feram.
and new with-a-captive chains mind shall-bear.
Mens Bona ducetur manibus post terga retortis,
Sense Good will-be-led with-hands behind her-back twisted,
et Pudor, et castris quidquid Amoris obest.
and Modesty, and to-the-camp whatever of-Love opposes.
Omnia te metuent; ad te sua bracchia tendens
Everything you will-fear; toward you its-own arms stretching
vulgus 'io' magna voce 'triumphe!' canet.
the-crowd 'io' with-a-great voice 'triumph!' will-sing.
Blanditiae comites tibi erunt Errorque Furorque,
Flatteries companions to-you will-be and-Error and-Frenzy,
adsidue partes turba secuta tuas.
constantly the-side a-throng having-followed your.
His tu militibus superas hominesque deosque;
With-these you soldiers you-overcome both-men and-gods;
haec tibi si demas commoda, nudus eris.
these from-you if you-take advantages, naked you-will-be.
Laeta triumphanti de summo mater Olympo
Glad at-you-triumphing from highest your-mother Olympus
plaudet et adpositas sparget in ora rosas.
will-clap and the-set-ready will-scatter on your-face roses.
Tu pinnas gemma, gemma variante capillos
You your-wings with-a-gem, with-a-gem dappling your-hair

ibis in auratis aureus ipse rotis.
will-ride on gilded golden yourself wheels.
Tunc quoque non paucos, si te bene novimus, ures;
Then too not a-few, if you well we-know, you-will-burn;
tunc quoque praeteriens vulnera multa dabis.
then too passing-by wounds many you-will-give.
Non possunt, licet ipse velis, cessare sagittae;
Not can, though yourself you-wish, to-rest the-arrows;
fervida vicino flamma vapore nocet.
a-glowing by-its-near flame heat harms.
Talis erat domita Bacchus Gangetide terra;
Such was with-the-tamed Bacchus Gangetic land;
tu gravis alitibus, tigribus ille fuit.
you heavy with-birds, with-tigers he was.
Ergo cum possim sacri pars esse triumphi,
So since I-can of-your-holy a-part to-be triumph,
parce tuas in me perdere, victor, opes!
spare your on me to-waste, victor, resources!
Adspice cognati felicia Caesaris arma —
Look-at of-your-kinsman the-fortunate Caesar arms
qua vicit, victos protegit ille manu.
with-which he-conquered, the-conquered he-shields he hand.

The poet asks only that the girl who has made him her prey either love him or give him a reason to love her always. His forebears are not famous, the founder of his line is only a knight, and both his parents are thrifty, but Apollo, the nine Muses, Bacchus, and Love are on his side, along with a loyalty that will yield to no one, blameless conduct, and modesty. Be my subject, he says, and our names will be sung together like those of Io, Leda, and Europa.

Iusta precor: quae me nuper praedata puella est,
Just-things I-pray: who me lately having-preyed-on a-girl has,
aut amet aut faciat, cur ego semper amem!
either let-her-love or let-her-bring-it-about, why I always may-love!
A, nimium volui — tantum patiatur amari;
Ah, too-much I-have-wished only let-her-allow to-be-loved;
audierit nostras tot Cytherea preces!
may-have-heard our so-many Cytherea prayers!
Accipe, per longos tibi qui deserviat annos;
Take, through long to-you one-who may-serve years;
accipe, qui pura norit amare fide!
take, one-who with-pure may-know to-love faith!
Si me non veterum commendant magna parentum
If me not of-ancient recommend great forebears
nomina, si nostri sanguinis auctor eques,
the-names, if of-our blood the-founder (is)-a-knight,
nec meus innumeris renovatur campus aratris,
nor my by-countless is-renewed field plows,
temperat et sumptus parcus uterque parens —
restrains and the-outlay thrifty each parent
at Phoebus comitesque novem vitisque repertor
yet Phoebus and-(his)-companions nine and-of-the-vine the-finder

hac faciunt, et me qui tibi donat, Amor,
on-this-side act, and me who to-you gives, Love,
et nulli cessura fides, sine crimine mores
and to-none about-to-yield loyalty, without reproach conduct
nudaque simplicitas purpureusque pudor.
and-bare frankness and-rosy modesty.
Non mihi mille placent, non sum desultor amoris:
Not to-me a-thousand please, not I-am a-vaulter of-love:
tu mihi, siqua fides, cura perennis eris.
you to-me, if-any faith, a-care lasting will-be.
Tecum, quos dederint annos mihi fila sororum,
With-you, which shall-have-given the-years to-me the-threads of-the-sisters,
vivere contingat teque dolente mori!
to-live may-it-befall and-with-you grieving to-die!
Te mihi materiem felicem in carmina praebe —
Yourself to-me as-matter happy for songs offer
provenient causa carmina digna sua.
will-come-forth of-the-cause songs worthy their-own.
Carmine nomen habent exterrita cornibus Io,
By-a-song a-name have frightened by-the-horns Io,
et quam fluminea lusit adulter ave,
and she-whom with-a-riverine tricked the-adulterer bird,
quaeque super pontum simulato vecta iuvenco
and-she-who over the-sea on-a-counterfeit borne bullock
virginea tenuit cornua vara manu.
with-a-maiden's held the-horns bent hand.
Nos quoque per totum pariter cantabimur orbem,
We too through the-whole alike shall-be-sung world,
iunctaque semper erunt nomina nostra tuis.
and-joined always will-be names our to-yours.

Her husband will be at the same dinner. The poet sets out an elaborate code of signals — touch the table, turn a ring, touch a cheek — and a list of prohibitions: her husband must not lay his arms on her neck, she must not rest her head on his chest, and there must be no kisses. He knows what will happen when the doors shut afterward; he asks her to give unwillingly if she must give at all, and to deny it all tomorrow.

Vir tuus est epulas nobis aditurus easdem —
The-husband your is a-feast with-us about-to-attend the-same

ultima coena tuo sit, precor, illa viro!
a-last supper for-your let-be, I-pray, that husband!

Ergo ego dilectam tantum conviva puellam
So I my-beloved only as-a-guest girl

adspiciam? tangi quem iuvet, alter erit,
shall-I-look-at? to-be-touched whom it-pleases, another there-will-be,

alteriusque sinus apte subiecta fovebis?
and-another's breast snugly laid-beneath will-you-warm?

Iniciet collo, cum volet, ille manum?
Will-he-lay on-your-neck, when he-wishes, he a-hand?

Desine mirari, posito quod candida vino
Cease to-wonder, with-set-out that the-fair wine

Atracis ambiguos traxit in arma viros.
the-Atracian the-two-formed drew into arms men.

Nec mihi silva domus, nec equo mea membra cohaerent —
Nor for-me a-wood a-home, nor to-a-horse my limbs cling

vix a te videor posse tenere manus!
hardly from you I-seem to-be-able to-keep (my)-hands!

Quae tibi sint facienda tamen cognosce, nec Euris
What by-you are to-be-done however learn, and-not to-the-East-winds

da mea nec tepidis verba ferenda Notis!
give my nor to-the-warm words to-be-carried South-winds!
Ante veni, quam vir — nec quid, si veneris ante,
Before come, than your-husband and-not what, if you-shall-have-come before,
possit agi video; sed tamen ante veni.
can to-be-done I-see; but still before come.
Cum premet ille torum, vultu comes ipsa modesto
When shall-press he the-couch, with-a-face a-companion yourself modest
ibis, ut accumbas — clam mihi tange pedem!
you-will-go, that you-recline secretly for-me touch the-foot!
Me specta nutusque meos vultumque loquacem;
Me watch and-the-nods my and-the-face speaking;
excipe furtivas et refer ipsa notas.
catch the-stealthy and give-back yourself signs.
Verba superciliis sine voce loquentia dicam;
Words with-my-eyebrows without a-voice speaking I-shall-say;
verba leges digitis, verba notata mero.
words you-will-read from-my-fingers, words traced in-wine.
Cum tibi succurret Veneris lascivia nostrae,
When to-you shall-occur of-Love the-wantonness our,
purpureas tenero pollice tange genas.
your-rosy with-a-soft thumb touch cheeks.
Siquid erit, de me tacita quod mente queraris,
If-anything there-be, about me in-a-silent which mind you-complain-of,
pendeat extrema mollis ab aure manus.
let-hang the-lowest a-soft from ear hand.
Cum tibi, quae faciam, mea lux, dicamve, placebunt,
When to-you, what I-do, my light, or-say, shall-please,
versetur digitis anulus usque tuis.
let-be-turned on-fingers a-ring constantly your.

Tange manu mensam, tangunt quo more precantes,
Touch with-your-hand the-table, they-touch in-which fashion those-praying,
optabis merito cum mala multa viro.
you-will-wish deservedly when evils many for-your-husband.
Quod tibi miscuerit, sapias, bibat ipse, iubeto;
What for-you he-has-mixed, be-wise, let-him-drink himself, order;
tu puerum leviter posce, quod ipsa voles.
you the-slave softly ask, what yourself you-shall-wish.
Quae tu reddideris ego primus pocula sumam,
Which you shall-have-given-back I first the-cups shall-take,
et, qua tu biberis, hac ego parte bibam.
and, where you shall-have-drunk, on-this I side shall-drink.
Si tibi forte dabit, quod praegustaverit ipse,
If to-you by-chance he-shall-give, what he-has-tasted-first himself,
reice libatos illius ore cibos.
throw-back the-tasted by-his mouth foods.
Nec premat inpositis sinito tua colla lacertis,
Nor (that)-he-press with-laid-on allow your neck arms,
mite nec in rigido pectore pone caput;
a-gentle nor on a-stiff breast lay head;
nec sinus admittat digitos habilesve papillae;
nor (your)-bosom let-admit fingers or-handy the-breasts;
oscula praecipue nulla dedisse velis!
kisses above-all none to-have-given may-you-wish!
Oscula si dederis, fiam manifestus amator
Kisses if you-shall-give, I-shall-become an-open lover
et dicam 'mea sunt!' iniciamque manum.
and I-shall-say 'mine they-are!' and-I-shall-lay-on a-hand.
Haec tamen adspiciam, sed quae bene pallia celant,
These however I-shall-see, but which well the-covers hide,

illa mihi caeci causa timoris erunt.
those for-me of-a-blind the-cause dread will-be.
Nec femori committe femur nec crure cohaere
Nor to-a-thigh join a-thigh nor with-a-leg cling
nec tenerum duro cum pede iunge pedem.
nor a-tender a-hard with foot join foot.
Multa miser timeo, quia feci multa proterve,
Many-things wretched I-fear, because I-have-done many wantonly,
exemplique metu torqueor, ecce, mei.
and-of-the-example by-fear I-am-racked, behold, my.
Saepe mihi dominaeque meae properata voluptas
Often for-me and-for-the-lady my hurried pleasure
veste sub iniecta dulce peregit opus.
a-robe beneath thrown-over sweet accomplished the-work.
Hoc tu non facies; sed, ne fecisse puteris,
This you not will-do; but, that-not to-have-done-it you-be-thought,
conscia de tergo pallia deme tuo.
the-telltale from the-back the-cloak take-off your.
Vir bibat usque roga — precibus tamen oscula desint! —
The-husband let-drink always beg from-prayers still kisses be-absent!
dumque bibit, furtim si potes, adde merum.
and-while he-drinks, secretly if you-can, add unmixed-wine.
Si bene conpositus somno vinoque iacebit,
If well settled by-sleep and-by-wine he-shall-lie,
consilium nobis resque locusque dabunt.
counsel to-us both-the-occasion and-the-place will-give.
Cum surges abitura domum, surgemus et omnes,
When you-shall-rise about-to-go home, we-shall-rise also all,
in medium turbae fac memor agmen eas.
into the-middle of-the-crowd see-to-it mindful the-column you-go.

Agmine me invenies aut invenieris in illo:
In-the-column me you-will-find or you-will-be-found in that:
quidquid ibi poteris tangere, tange, mei.
whatever there you-shall-be-able to-touch, touch, of-me.
Me miserum! monui, paucas quod prosit in horas;
Me wretched! I-have-advised, a-few what may-help for hours;
separor a domina nocte iubente mea.
I-am-parted from the-lady with-night bidding my.
Nocte vir includet, lacrimis ego maestus obortis,
By-night your-husband will-shut-you-in, with-tears I sorrowing risen,
qua licet, ad saevas prosequar usque fores.
as-far-as is-allowed, to the-cruel I-shall-follow right-up doors.
Oscula iam sumet, iam non tantum oscula sumet:
Kisses now he-will-take, now not only kisses he-will-take:
quod mihi das furtim, iure coacta dabis.
what to-me you-give secretly, by-right compelled you-will-give.
Verum invita dato — potes hoc — similisque coactae;
But unwilling give you-can this and-like a-woman-compelled;
blanditiae taceant, sitque maligna Venus.
let-caresses be-silent, and-let-be grudging Love.
Si mea vota valent, illum quoque ne iuvet, opto;
If my prayers avail, him too that-it-not please, I-wish;
si minus, at certe te iuvet inde nihil.
if not, yet at-least you let-please from-it nothing.
Sed quaecumque tamen noctem fortuna sequetur,
But whatever however the-night fortune shall-follow,
cras mihi constanti voce dedisse nega!
tomorrow to-me with-a-steady voice to-have-given deny!

On a hot afternoon the poet lies down in a room with one shutter open and one closed. He says that half-light is the light modest girls should be given, the light in which shy modesty can hope to hide. Corinna comes in with her tunic ungirt and her parted hair over her white neck; he tears the tunic away, she fights just enough to be beaten, and he praises her body part by part, refuses to describe the rest, and wishes for many such afternoons.

Aestus erat, mediamque dies exegerat horam;
Heat there-was, and-the-mid the-day had-completed hour;

adposui medio membra levanda toro.
I-laid-down on-the-mid limbs to-be-eased the-couch.

Pars adaperta fuit, pars altera clausa fenestrae;
Part open was, part the-other shut of-the-window;

quale fere silvae lumen habere solent,
such-as commonly woods light to-have are-wont,

qualia sublucent fugiente crepuscula Phoebo,
such-as glimmer fleeing the-twilights Phoebus,

aut ubi nox abiit, nec tamen orta dies.
or when night has-gone, and-not yet risen the-day.

Illa verecundis lux est praebenda puellis,
That to-modest light is to-be-given girls,

qua timidus latebras speret habere pudor.
in-which timid hiding-places may-hope to-have modesty.

Ecce, Corinna venit, tunica velata recincta,
Behold, Corinna comes, in-a-tunic veiled ungirt,

candida dividua colla tegente coma —
white parted the-neck covering hair

qualiter in thalamos famosa Semiramis isse
just-as into the-bedchamber famous Semiramis to-have-gone

dicitur, et multis Lais amata viris.
is-said, and by-many Lais loved men.

Deripui tunicam — nec multum rara nocebat;
I-tore-off the-tunic nor much thin hindered;

pugnabat tunica sed tamen illa tegi.
she-was-fighting with-the-tunic but still she to-be-covered.

Quae cum ita pugnaret, tamquam quae vincere nollet,
And-she when so fought, as one-who to-conquer wished-not,

victa est non aegre proditione sua.
conquered she-was not with-difficulty by-betrayal her-own.

Ut stetit ante oculos posito velamine nostros,
When she-stood before eyes laid-aside the-covering our,

in toto nusquam corpore menda fuit.
on the-whole nowhere body a-blemish was.

Quos umeros, quales vidi tetigique lacertos!
What shoulders, what-manner-of I-saw and-I-touched arms!

Forma papillarum quam fuit apta premi!
The-shape of-the-breasts how was fit to-be-pressed!

Quam castigato planus sub pectore venter!
How trim smooth under the-bosom the-belly!

Quantum et quale latus! quam iuvenale femur!
How-great and what-manner-of the-flank! how youthful the-thigh!

Singula quid referam? nil non laudabile vidi
Each-thing why should-I-recount? nothing not praiseworthy I-saw

et nudam pressi corpus ad usque meum.
and naked(-her) I-pressed body to all-the-way my.

Cetera quis nescit? lassi requievimus ambo.
The-rest who does-not-know? weary we-rested both.

Proveniant medii sic mihi saepe dies!
May-they-come-forth mid thus to-me often days!

Shut out on the doorstep, the poet begs the chained doorkeeper for a gap wide enough to slip through sideways. The refrain — the hours of night are going, strike the bar off the post — returns five times as he tries flattery, pity, the wind, and finally the threat of fire, and gives it up at dawn with a farewell to the doorposts.

Ianitor — indignum! — dura religate catena,
Doorkeeper a-shame! with-a-hard o-bound chain,
difficilem moto cardine pande forem!
the-stubborn with-a-moved hinge open door!
Quod precor, exiguum est — aditu fac ianua parvo
What I-ask, a-small-thing is with-an-opening see-to-it the-door small
obliquum capiat semiadaperta latus.
sideways may-take half-opened my-flank.
Longus amor tales corpus tenuavit in usus
A-long love such (my)-body has-thinned into uses
aptaque subducto corpore membra dedit.
and-fit with-withdrawn body limbs has-given.
Ille per excubias custodum leniter ire
He through the-watches of-guards softly to-go
monstrat; inoffensos dirigit ille pedes.
shows; unstumbling he-guides he feet.
At quondam noctem simulacraque vana timebam;
But once the-night and-phantoms empty I-feared;
mirabar, tenebris quisquis iturus erat.
I-wondered-at(-him), in-the-dark whoever about-to-go was.
Risit, ut audirem, tenera cum matre Cupido
He-laughed, so-that I-heard, (his)-tender with mother Cupid
et leviter ‘fies tu quoque fortis’ ait.
and lightly ‘you-will-become you too brave’ he-says.

Nec mora, venit amor — non umbras nocte volantis,
And-no delay, came love not the-shades by-night flying,
non timeo strictas in mea fata manus.
not I-fear the-drawn against my doom hands.
Te nimium lentum timeo, tibi blandior uni;
You too slow I-fear, to-you I-coax alone;
tu, me quo possis perdere, fulmen habes.
you, me by-which you-can to-destroy, a-bolt have.
Adspice — et ut videas, inmitia claustra relaxa —
Look and that you-may-see, the-harsh bolts loosen
uda sit ut lacrimis ianua facta meis!
wet is how by-tears the-door made my!
Certe ego, cum posita stares ad verbera veste,
Surely I, when with-laid-aside you-stood for the-lash clothing,
ad dominam pro te verba tremente tuli.
to my-lady for you words trembling I-carried.
Ergo quae valuit pro te quoque gratia quondam —
So which availed for you too the-favor once
heu facinus! — pro me nunc valet illa parum?
alas the-shame! for me now avails it too-little?
Redde vicem meritis! grato licet esse;
Give-back a-return for-my-deserts! for-a-grateful(-man) it-is-allowed to-be;
quid opstas?
why do-you-oppose?
Tempora noctis eunt; excute poste seram!
The-hours of-night go; strike-off from-the-post the-bar!
Excute! sic umquam longa relevere catena,
Strike-it-off! so ever from-a-long may-you-be-freed chain,
nec tibi perpetuo serva bibatur aqua!
and-not by-you forever servile be-drunk water!

Ferreus orantem nequiquam, ianitor, audis,
Iron-hearted (me)-praying in-vain, doorkeeper, you-hear,
roboribus duris ianua fulta riget.
with-oaks hard the-door propped stands-stiff.
Urbibus obsessis clausae munimina portae
To-cities besieged of-a-shut the-defenses gate
prosunt; in media pace quid arma times?
avail; in the-midst-of peace why arms do-you-fear?
Quid facies hosti, qui sic excludis amantem?
What will-you-do to-an-enemy, who thus you-shut-out a-lover?
Tempora noctis eunt; excute poste seram!
The-hours of-night go; strike-off from-the-post the-bar!
Non ego militibus venio comitatus et armis;
Not I by-soldiers come attended and by-arms;
solus eram, si non saevus adesset Amor.
alone I-should-be, if not savage were-here Love.
Hunc ego, si cupiam, nusquam dimittere possum;
Him I, if I-should-wish, nowhere to-send-away can;
ante vel a membris dividar ipse meis.
sooner even from the-limbs shall-I-be-parted myself my.
Ergo Amor et modicum circa mea tempora vinum
So Love and a-little around my temples wine
mecum est et madidis lapsa corona comis.
with-me is and from-my-drenched slipped a-garland hair.
Arma quis haec timeat? quis non eat obvius illis?
Arms who these would-fear? who not would-go to-meet them?
Tempora noctis eunt; excute poste seram!
The-hours of-night go; strike-off from-the-post the-bar!
Lentus es: an somnus, qui te male perdat, amantis
Slow you-are: or sleep, which you badly may-ruin, of-a-lover

verba dat in ventos aure repulsa tua?
the-words gives to the-winds by-the-ear driven-back your?
At, memini, primo, cum te celare volebam,
But, I-remember, at-first, when you to-hide-from I-wished,
pervigil in mediae sidera noctis eras.
wide-awake till of-mid the-stars night you-were.
Forsitan et tecum tua nunc requiescit amica —
Perhaps even with-you your now is-resting sweetheart
heu, melior quanto sors tua sorte mea!
alas, better by-how-much the-lot your than-the-lot my!
Dummodo sic, in me durae transite catenae!
Provided so, onto me hard pass chains!
Tempora noctis eunt; excute poste seram!
The-hours of-night go; strike-off from-the-post the-bar!
Fallimur, an verso sonuerunt cardine postes,
Am-I-deceived, or with-a-turned sounded hinge the-doorposts,
raucaque concussae signa dedere fores?
and-hoarse the-shaken signs gave the-doors?
Fallimur — inpulsa est animoso ianua vento.
I-am-deceived pushed was by-a-lusty the-door wind.
Ei mihi, quam longe spem tulit aura meam!
Ah me, how far hope has-carried the-breeze my!
Si satis es raptae, Borea, memor Orithyiae,
If enough you-are of-the-ravished, Boreas, mindful Orithyia,
huc ades et surdas flamine tunde foris!
hither come and the-deaf with-a-blast batter doors!
Urbe silent tota, vitreoque madentia rore
In-the-city they-are-silent whole, and-with-glassy dripping dew
tempora noctis eunt; excute poste seram!
the-hours of-night go; strike-off from-the-post the-bar!

Aut ego iam ferroque ignique paratior ipse,
Or I now both-with-steel and-with-fire more-ready myself,
quem face sustineo, tecta superba petam.
which with-a-torch I-hold, the-house haughty I-shall-attack.
Nox et Amor vinumque nihil moderabile suadent;
Night and Love and-wine nothing moderate urge;
illa pudore vacat, Liber Amorque metu.
she of-shame is-free, Liber and-Love of-fear.
Omnia consumpsi, nec te precibusque minisque
Everything I-have-spent, and-not you both-with-prayers and-with-threats
movimus, o foribus durior ipse tuis.
have-I-moved, o than-the-doors harder yourself your.
Non te formosae decuit servare puellae
Not you of-a-beautiful became to-guard girl
limina, sollicito carcere dignus eras.
the-threshold, of-an-anxious a-prison worthy you-were.
Iamque pruinosus molitur Lucifer axes,
And-now frosty sets-in-motion the-Morning-Star his-wheels,
inque suum miseros excitat ales opus.
and-to their-own the-wretched rouses the-bird work.
At tu, non laetis detracta corona capillis,
But you, not from-glad plucked garland hair,
dura super tota limina nocte iace!
hard upon the-whole the-threshold night lie!
Tu dominae, cum te proiectam mane videbit,
You to-my-lady, when you flung-down in-the-morning she-shall-see,
temporis absumpti tam male testis eris.
of-a-time wasted so ill a-witness you-will-be.
Qualiscumque vale sentique abeuntis honorem;
Of-whatever-sort farewell and-feel of-one-departing the-courtesy;

lente nec admisso turpis amante, vale!
slow and-not admitted shameful with-a-lover, farewell!
Vos quoque, crudeles rigido cum limine postes
You too, cruel a-hard with threshold doorposts
duraque conservae ligna, valete, fores!
and-hard fellow-slave timbers, farewell, doors!

I.7 · HE HAS STRUCK HER

The poet demands to be put in chains: he has raised his hand against his mistress and torn her hair. He compares himself to Ajax and Orestes, calls himself a second Diomedes, and admits that Diomedes at least struck an enemy. She stood white and silent and her tears fell; he asks her to take her revenge, and then asks her to put her hair straight again.

Adde manus in vincla meas — meruere catenas —
Put the-hands into bonds my they-have-earned chains
dum furor omnis abit, siquis amicus ades!
until the-madness all departs, if-any friend you-are-here!
Nam furor in dominam temeraria bracchia movit;
For madness against my-lady reckless arms has-moved;
flet mea vaesana laesa puella manu.
weeps my by-a-frantic hurt girl hand.
Tunc ego vel caros potui violare parentes
Then I either my-dear could to-outrage parents
saeva vel in sanctos verbera ferre deos!
savage or against the-holy blows to-bring gods!
Quid? non et clipei dominus septemplicis Aiax
What? not also of-a-shield the-lord sevenfold Ajax
stravit deprensos lata per arva greges,
laid-low the-caught broad over fields flocks,

et, vindex in matre patris, malus ultor, Orestes
and, an-avenger on a-mother of-a-father, an-ill avenger, Orestes
ausus in arcanas poscere tela deas?
dared against the-secret to-demand weapons goddesses?
Ergo ego digestos potui laniare capillos?
So I the-arranged could to-tear hair?
Nec dominam motae dedecuere comae.
And-not my-lady disordered misbecame the-locks.
Sic formosa fuit. Talem Schoeneida dicam
So beautiful she-was. Such the-daughter-of-Schoeneus I-shall-say
Maenalias arcu sollicitasse feras;
the-Maenalian with-a-bow to-have-harried beasts;
talis periuri promissaque velaque Thesei
such of-the-forsworn both-the-promises and-the-sails Theseus
flevit praecipites Cressa tulisse Notos;
wept the-headlong the-Cretan to-have-carried South-winds;
sic, nisi vittatis quod erat Cassandra capillis,
so, except with-filleted that she-was Cassandra hair,
procubuit templo, casta Minerva, tuo.
she-fell-down in-the-temple, chaste Minerva, your.
Quis mihi non 'demens!' quis non mihi 'barbare!' dixit?
Who to-me not 'madman!' who not to-me 'brute!' has-said?
Ipsa nihil; pavido est lingua retenta metu.
She-herself nothing; by-quaking was her-tongue held-back fear.
Sed taciti fecere tamen convicia vultus;
But silent made still reproaches her-looks;
egit me lacrimis ore silente reum.
arraigned me by-tears with-a-mouth silent guilty.
Ante meos umeris vellem cecidisse lacertos;
Sooner my from-the-shoulders I-would-wish to-have-fallen arms;

utiliter potui parte carere mei.
usefully I-could a-part to-lack of-myself.
In mea vaesanas habui dispendia vires
To my frenzied I-had loss strength
et valui poenam fortis in ipse meam.
and I-was-strong a-punishment brave for myself my.
Quid mihi vobiscum, caedis scelerumque ministrae?
What to-me with-you, of-slaughter and-of-crimes servants?
Debita sacrilegae vincla subite manus!
The-owed sacrilegious bonds undergo hands!
An, si pulsassem minimum de plebe Quiritem,
Or, if I-had-struck the-least of the-people a-Citizen,
plecterer — in dominam ius mihi maius erit?
I-should-be-punished against my-lady a-right for-me greater shall-there-be?
Pessima Tydides scelerum monimenta reliquit.
The-worst the-son-of-Tydeus of-crimes memorials has-left.
Ille deam primus perculit — alter ego!
He a-goddess first struck a-second I!
Et minus ille nocens. Mihi, quam profitebar amare
And less he guilty. By-me, whom I-professed to-love
laesa est; Tydides saevus in hoste fuit.
hurt she-was; the-son-of-Tydeus savage against an-enemy was.
I nunc, magnificos victor molire triumphos,
Go now, magnificent a-victor set-in-motion triumphs,
cinge comam lauro votaque redde Iovi,
bind your-hair with-laurel and-vows render to-Jove,
quaeque tuos currus comitatus turba sequetur,
and-which your car accompanying a-throng shall-follow,
clamet 'io! forti victa puella viro est!'
let-it-cry 'io! by-a-brave conquered a-girl man was!'

Ante eat effuso tristis captiva capillo,
In-front let-go with-loosened sad a-captive hair,
si sinerent laesae, candida tota, genae.
if they-allowed the-hurt, white all-over, cheeks.
Aptius impressis fuerat livere labellis
More-fitting from-pressed it-had-been to-be-bruised lips
et collo blandi dentis habere notam.
and on-the-neck of-a-coaxing tooth to-have the-mark.
Denique, si tumidi ritu torrentis agebar,
In-short, if of-a-swollen in-the-manner torrent I-was-driven,
caecaque me praedam fecerat ira suam,
and-blind me a-prey had-made anger its-own,
nonne satis fuerat timidae inclamasse puellae,
had-it-not enough been at-the-frightened to-have-shouted girl,
nec nimium rigidas intonuisse minas,
and-not too harsh to-have-thundered threats,
aut tunicam summa deducere turpiter ora
or her-tunic from-the-topmost to-draw-down shamefully edge
ad mediam? — mediae zona tulisset opem.
to the-middle? to-the-middle her-girdle would-have-brought help.
At nunc sustinui raptis a fronte capillis
But now I-had-the-heart with-torn from her-brow hair
ferreus ingenuas ungue notare genas.
iron-hearted the-free-born with-a-nail to-mark cheeks.
Adstitit illa amens albo et sine sanguine vultu,
Stood she dazed with-a-white and without blood face,
caeduntur Pariis qualia saxa iugis.
are-cut on-Parian such-as stones ridges.
Exanimis artus et membra trementia vidi —
Lifeless her-joints and limbs trembling I-saw

ut cum populeas ventilat aura comas,
as when the-poplar's fans a-breeze leaves,
ut leni Zephyro gracilis vibratur harundo,
as by-a-gentle Zephyr a-slender is-shaken reed,
summave cum tepido stringitur unda Noto;
or-the-topmost when by-a-warm is-grazed wave South-wind;
suspensaeque diu lacrimae fluxere per ora,
and-held-back long the-tears flowed over her-face,
qualiter abiecta de nive manat aqua.
just-as fallen from snow trickles water.
Tunc ego me primum coepi sentire nocentem —
Then I myself for-the-first-time began to-feel guilty
sanguis erant lacrimae, quas dabat illa, meus.
blood were the-tears, which shed she, my.
Ter tamen ante pedes volui procumbere supplex;
Thrice however before her-feet I-wished to-fall-down a-suppliant;
ter formidatas reppulit illa manus.
thrice the-dreaded pushed-back she hands.
At tu ne dubita — minuet vindicta dolorem —
But you not hesitate will-lessen revenge the-pain
protinus in vultus unguibus ire meos.
at-once against the-face with-nails to-go my.
Nec nostris oculis nec nostris parce capillis:
Neither my eyes nor my spare hair:
quamlibet infirmas adiuvat ira manus;
however weak helps anger hands;
neve mei sceleris tam tristia signa supersint,
and-that-not of-my crime so sad the-marks remain,
pone recompositas in statione comas!
set the-re-arranged in position your-hair!

There is an old woman called Dipsas, a witch who has never seen the dawn sober. Hidden behind the door, the poet overhears her whole lesson to his mistress: take the rich man, feign a blush, feign anger, learn to weep on command, set the maid to ask for gifts, and prefer the giver to the poet, who sends nothing but verses. His shadow gives him away, and he curses her old age.

Est quaedam — quicumque volet cognoscere lenam,
There-is a-certain-woman whoever shall-wish to-know a-bawd,
audiat! — est quaedam nomine Dipsas anus.
let-him-hear! there-is a-certain by-name Dipsas an-old-woman.
Ex re nomen habet — nigri non illa parentem
From a-thing a-name she-has of-black not she the-mother
Memnonis in roseis sobria vidit equis.
of-Memnon on rosy sober has-seen horses.
Illa magas artes Aeaeaque carmina novit
She magic arts and-Aeaean spells knows
inque caput liquidas arte recurvat aquas;
and-to their-head the-flowing by-art she-turns-back waters;
scit bene, quid gramen, quid torto concita rhombo
she-knows well, what a-herb, what by-a-twisted set-in-motion a-wheel
licia, quid valeat virus amantis equae.
threads, what avails the-slime of-a-lusting mare.
Cum voluit, toto glomerantur nubila caelo;
When she-has-wished, in-the-whole are-massed clouds sky;
cum voluit, puro fulget in orbe dies.
when she-has-wished, a-clear shines in heaven day.
Sanguine, siqua fides, stillantia sidera vidi;
With-blood, if-any belief, dripping the-stars I-have-seen;

purpureus Lunae sanguine vultus erat.
crimson of-the-Moon with-blood the-face was.
Hanc ego nocturnas versam volitare per umbras
Her I nightly transformed to-flit through shades
suspicor et pluma corpus anile tegi.
I-suspect and with-feathers a-body aged to-be-covered.
Suspicor, et fama est. Oculis quoque pupula duplex
I-suspect, and report there-is. In-her-eyes too a-pupil double
fulminat, et gemino lumen ab orbe venit.
flashes, and twin light from a-circle comes.
Evocat antiquis proavos atavosque sepulcris
She-calls-out from-ancient great-grandsires and-forefathers tombs
et solidam longo carmine findit humum.
and the-solid with-a-long chant she-splits ground.
Haec sibi proposuit thalamos temerare pudicos;
She for-herself has-set bedchambers to-violate chaste;
nec tamen eloquio lingua nocente caret.
nor however eloquence her-tongue harmful lacks.
Fors me sermoni testem dedit; illa monebat
Chance me to-the-talk as-a-witness gave; she was-advising
talia — me duplices occuluere fores:
such-things me the-double hid doors:
'Scis here te, mea lux, iuveni placuisse beato?
'Do-you-know yesterday you, my light, to-a-youth to-have-pleased wealthy?
Haesit et in vultu constitit usque tuo.
He-stuck and on face he-halted continually your.
Et cur non placeas? nulli tua forma secunda est;
And why not should-you-please? to-none your beauty second is;
me miseram, dignus corpore cultus abest!
me wretched, worthy of-your-body an-adornment is-wanting!

Tam felix esses quam formosissima, vellem —
As lucky you-were as most-beautiful, I-could-wish

non ego, te facta divite, pauper ero.
not I, you made rich, poor shall-be.

Stella tibi oppositi nocuit contraria Martis.
The-star to-you of-the-opposing harmed adverse Mars.

Mars abiit; signo nunc Venus apta suo.
Mars has-gone; in-a-sign now Venus is-fit her-own.

Prosit ut adveniens, en adspice! dives amator
May-she-help as she-comes, lo look! a-rich lover

te cupiit; curae, quid tibi desit, habet.
you has-desired; for-a-care, what to-you is-lacking, he-has.

Est etiam facies, quae se tibi conparet, illi;
There-is too a-face, which itself for-you may-match, to-him;

si te non emptam vellet, emendus erat.'
if you not bought he-wished, to-be-bought he-was.'

Erubuit. 'Decet alba quidem pudor ora, sed iste,
She-blushed. 'Suits white indeed modesty a-face, but that,

si simules, prodest; verus obesse solet.
if you-feign-it, helps; a-true to-hinder is-wont.

Cum bene deiectis gremium spectabis ocellis,
When well with-lowered your-lap you-shall-look-at eyes,

quantum quisque ferat, respiciendus erit.
how-much each brings, to-be-looked-at he-will-be.

Forsitan inmundae Tatio regnante Sabinae
Perhaps unwashed with-Tatius reigning the-Sabine-women

noluerint habiles pluribus esse viris;
may-have-refused available to-several to-be men;

nunc Mars externis animos exercet in armis,
now Mars foreign spirits exercises in arms,

at Venus Aeneae regnat in urbe sui.
but Venus of-Aeneas reigns in the-city her-own.
Ludunt formosae; casta est, quam nemo rogavit —
They-play the-beautiful; chaste is-she, whom no-one has-asked
aut, si rusticitas non vetat, ipsa rogat.
or, if boorishness not forbids, she-herself asks.
Has quoque, quas frontis rugas in vertice portas,
These too, which of-the-brow wrinkles on the-crown you-carry,
excute; de rugis crimina multa cadent.
shake-out; from the-wrinkles faults many will-fall.
Penelope iuvenum vires temptabat in arcu;
Penelope of-the-young-men the-strength was-testing with a-bow;
qui latus argueret, corneus arcus erat.
which the-flank might-prove, of-horn the-bow was.
Labitur occulte fallitque volubilis aetas,
Slips secretly and-deceives rolling time,
et celer admissis labitur annus equis.
and swift with-loosed glides the-year horses.
Aera nitent usu, vestis bona quaerit haberi,
Bronzes shine by-use, a-dress good seeks to-be-worn,
canescunt turpi tecta relicta situ —
grow-white with-foul houses abandoned mold
forma, nisi admittas, nullo exercente senescit.
beauty, unless you-admit, with-none exercising grows-old.
Nec satis effectus unus et alter habent;
Nor enough effect one and another have;
certior e multis nec iam invidiosa rapina est.
surer out-of many nor now envied the-plunder is.
Plena venit canis de grege praeda lupis.
Full comes to-gray from a-flock prey wolves.

Ecce, quid iste tuus praeter nova carmina vates
Behold, what that your besides new songs bard
donat? amatoris milia multa leges.
gives? of-a-lover thousands many you-will-gather.
Ipse deus vatum palla spectabilis aurea
The-very god of-bards in-a-robe conspicuous golden
tractat inauratae consona fila lyrae.
handles of-a-gilded harmonious strings lyre.
Qui dabit, ille tibi magno sit maior Homero;
He-who will-give, he to-you than-great let-be greater Homer;
crede mihi, res est ingeniosa dare.
believe me, a-thing is clever to-give.
Nec tu, siquis erit capitis mercede redemptus,
Nor you, if-anyone shall-be of-his-head by-a-price bought-back,
despice; gypsati crimen inane pedis.
despise; of-a-chalked a-reproach empty foot.
Nec te decipiant veteres circum atria cerae.
Nor you let-deceive old around the-hall wax-masks.
Tolle tuos tecum, pauper amator, avos!
Take your with-you, poor lover, forefathers!
Quin, quia pulcher erit, poscet sine munere noctem!
Nay, because handsome he-shall-be, he-shall-demand without a-gift a-night!
quod det, amatorem flagitet ante suum!
what he-may-give, a-lover let-him-dun first his-own!
Parcius exigito pretium, dum retia tendis,
More-sparingly demand a-price, while the-nets you-stretch,
ne fugiant; captos legibus ure tuis!
lest they-flee; the-caught with-terms burn your!
Nec nocuit simulatus amor; sine, credat amari,
Nor has-hurt a-feigned love; allow, let-him-believe to-be-loved,

et cave ne gratis hic tibi constet amor!
and beware lest for-nothing this to-you cost love!
Saepe nega noctes. Capitis modo finge dolorem,
Often refuse nights. Of-your-head now feign an-ache,
et modo, quae causas praebeat, Isis erit.
and now, which pretexts may-supply, Isis will-be.
Mox recipe, ut nullum patiendi colligat usum,
Soon take-him-back, that no of-enduring he-may-gather habit,
neve relentescat saepe repulsus amor.
and-that-not slacken often repulsed love.
Surda sit oranti tua ianua, laxa ferenti;
Deaf let-be to-him-pleading your door, open to-him-bringing;
audiat exclusi verba receptus amans;
let-hear of-the-shut-out the-words the-admitted lover;
et, quasi laesa prior, nonnumquam irascere laeso —
and, as-if wronged first, sometimes be-angry at-the-wronged
vanescit culpa culpa repensa tua.
vanishes by-a-fault his-fault balanced your.
Sed numquam dederis spatiosum tempus in iram;
But never should-you-give a-long time for anger;
saepe simultates ira morata facit.
often feuds anger delayed makes.
Quin etiam discant oculi lacrimare coacti,
Nay even let-learn your-eyes to-weep forced,
et faciant udas ille vel ille genas;
and let-them-make wet this-one or that-one cheeks;
nec, siquem falles, tu periurare timeto —
and-not, if-anyone you-cheat, you to-forswear fear
commodat in lusus numina surda Venus.
lends for the-game divinities deaf Venus.

Servus et ad partes sollers ancilla parentur,
A-slave and for the-parts a-clever maid let-be-provided,
qui doceant, apte quid tibi possit emi;
who may-teach, fitly what for-you can to-be-bought;
et sibi pauca rogent — multos si pauca rogabunt,
and for-themselves a-little let-them-ask many if a-little they-shall-ask,
postmodo de stipula grandis acervus erit.
presently from straw a-great heap will-be.
Et soror et mater, nutrix quoque carpat amantem;
Both a-sister and a-mother, a-nurse too let-pluck the-lover;
fit cito per multas praeda petita manus.
becomes quickly through many prey sought hands.
Cum te deficient poscendi munera causae,
When you shall-fail of-demanding gifts the-pretexts,
natalem libo testificare tuum!
the-birthday with-a-cake attest your!
Ne securus amet nullo rivale, caveto;
That-not carefree he-love with-no rival, beware;
non bene, si tollas proelia, durat amor.
not well, if you-take-away quarrels, lasts love.
Ille viri videat toto vestigia lecto
He of-a-man let-him-see over-the-whole the-traces bed
factaque lascivis livida colla notis.
and-made by-wanton bruised the-neck marks.
Munera praecipue videat, quae miserit alter.
Gifts above-all let-him-see, which has-sent another.
Si dederit nemo, Sacra roganda Via est.
If shall-have-given no-one, the-Sacred to-be-asked Way is.
Cum multa abstuleris, ut non tamen omnia donet,
When many-things you-shall-have-taken, that not however everything he-give,

quod numquam reddas, commodet, ipsa roga!
what never you-may-return, let-him-lend, yourself ask!
Lingua iuvet mentemque tegat — blandire noceque;
(Your)-tongue let-help and-your-mind let-hide coax and-harm;
inpia sub dulci melle venena latent.
wicked beneath sweet honey poisons lie-hidden.
Haec si praestiteris usu mihi cognita longo,
These if you-perform by-experience to-me known long,
nec tulerint voces ventus et aura meas,
and-not shall-have-carried-off the-words the-wind and the-breeze my,
saepe mihi dices vivae bene, saepe rogabis,
often to-me you-will-say to-me-living well, often you-will-pray,
ut mea defunctae molliter ossa cubent.'
that my of-me-dead softly the-bones lie.'
Vox erat in cursu, cum me mea prodidit umbra,
Her-voice was in mid-course, when me my betrayed shadow,
at nostrae vix se continuere manus,
but my hardly themselves held-back hands,
quin albam raramque comam lacrimosaque vino
from her-white and-thin hair and-tearful from-wine
lumina rugosas distraherentque genas.
eyes wrinkled and-should-tear cheeks.
Di tibi dent nullosque Lares inopemque senectam,
The-gods to-you may-give and-no Household-gods and-a-needy old-age,
et longas hiemes perpetuamque sitim!
and long winters and-unending thirst!

Love has its own camp, and the two services match point for point: both keep watch at a door, both march, both endure cold and rain, both scout the enemy and storm the gate. Achilles, Hector, Agamemnon, and Mars himself are cited. The poet ends by saying that idleness made him a sluggard until love enlisted him, so let anyone who fears sloth fall in love.

Militat omnis amans, et habet sua castra Cupido;
Serves-as-a-soldier every lover, and has his-own camp Cupid;

Attice, crede mihi, militat omnis amans.
Atticus, believe me, serves-as-a-soldier every lover.

Quae bello est habilis, Veneri quoque convenit aetas.
Which for-war is fit, for-Venus too suits the-age.

Turpe senex miles, turpe senilis amor.
Ugly an-old soldier, ugly an-aged love.

Quos petiere duces animos in milite forti,
Which have-sought commanders spirits in a-soldier brave,

hos petit in socio bella puella viro.
these seeks in a-partner a-fair girl man.

Pervigilant ambo; terra requiescit uterque —
They-watch-all-night both; on-the-ground rests each

ille fores dominae servat, at ille ducis.
the-one the-doors of-a-mistress guards, but the-other of-a-general.

Militis officium longa est via; mitte puellam,
Of-a-soldier the-duty a-long is road; send-away the-girl,

strenuus exempto fine sequetur amans.
strenuous with-removed limit will-follow the-lover.

Ibit in adversos montes duplicataque nimbo
He-will-go into opposing mountains and-doubled by-a-storm

flumina, congestas exteret ille nives,
rivers, the-heaped will-tread-through he snows,
nec freta pressurus tumidos causabitur Euros
nor the-straits about-to-press the-swollen will-he-plead East-winds
aptaque verrendis sidera quaeret aquis.
and-fit for-sweeping the-stars will-he-seek waters.
Quis nisi vel miles vel amans et frigora noctis
Who but either a-soldier or a-lover both the-colds of-night
et denso mixtas perferet imbre nives?
and with-thick mingled will-endure rain snows?
Mittitur infestos alter speculator in hostes;
Is-sent hostile the-one as-a-scout against foes;
in rivale oculos alter, ut hoste, tenet.
on a-rival his-eyes the-other, as on-a-foe, keeps.
Ille graves urbes, hic durae limen amicae
The-one weighty cities, this-one of-a-hard the-threshold sweetheart
obsidet; hic portas frangit, at ille fores.
besieges; this-one gates breaks, but that-one doors.
Saepe soporatos invadere profuit hostes
Often the-sleeping to-fall-upon has-availed foes
caedere et armata vulgus inerme manu.
to-cut-down and with-an-armed a-crowd unarmed hand.
Sic fera Threicii ceciderunt agmina Rhesi,
So the-fierce of-the-Thracian fell squadrons Rhesus,
et dominum capti deseruistis equi.
and your-master captured you-forsook horses.
Saepe maritorum somnis utuntur amantes,
Often of-husbands the-sleep use lovers,
et sua sopitis hostibus arma movent.
and their-own with-lulled foes arms they-move.

Custodum transire manus vigilumque catervas
militis et miseri semper amantis opus.
Mars dubius nec certa Venus; victique resurgunt,
quosque neges umquam posse iacere, cadunt.
Ergo desidiam quicumque vocabat amorem,
desinat. Ingenii est experientis amor.
Ardet in abducta Briseide magnus Achilles —
dum licet, Argivas frangite, Troes, opes!
Hector ab Andromaches conplexibus ibat ad arma,
et, galeam capiti quae daret, uxor erat.
Summa ducum, Atrides, visa Priameide fertur
Maenadis effusis obstipuisse comis.
Mars quoque deprensus fabrilia vincula sensit;
notior in caelo fabula nulla fuit.
Ipse ego segnis eram discinctaque in otia natus;

Of-guards to-pass-through the-bands and-of-watchmen the-troops
of-a-soldier and of-a-wretched always lover is-the-work.
Mars doubtful and-not sure Venus; and-the-beaten rise-again,
and-those-whom you-would-deny ever to-be-able to-lie, fall.
So sloth whoever was-calling love,
let-him-stop. Of-a-nature is enterprising love.
Burns for the-carried-off Briseis great Achilles
while it-is-allowed, the-Argive break, Trojans, forces!
Hector from of-Andromache the-embraces went to arms,
and, the-helmet on-his-head who might-set, his-wife it-was.
The-chief of-leaders, the-son-of-Atreus, at-the-sight-of the-daughter-of-Priam is-said
of-a-Maenad with-streaming to-have-been-struck-dumb hair.
Mars too caught the-smith's chains has-felt;
better-known in heaven a-story none has-been.
Myself I sluggish was and-loose for leisure born;

mollierant animos lectus et umbra meos.
had-softened the-spirits a-couch and shade my.
Inpulit ignavum formosae cura puellae
Drove-on me-idle for-a-beautiful the-care girl
iussit et in castris aera merere suis.
bade and in a-camp pay to-earn her-own.
Inde vides agilem nocturnaque bella gerentem.
Thence you-see me-brisk and-nightly wars waging.
Qui nolet fieri desidiosus, amet!
He-who will-not-wish to-become slothful, let-him-love!

I.10 · SHE ASKS FOR MONEY

She was once as lovely as Helen, as Leda, as Amymone with the urn on her head, and the poet feared some god would carry her off; now she asks for presents, and the spell is broken. Love is a naked boy with nowhere to keep a fee. Beasts do not charge each other, and a pleasure shared equally should not be sold by one and bought by the other. What a poet can give is fame.

Qualis ab Eurota Phrygiis avecta carinis
Such-as from Eurotas in-Phrygian carried-off keels
coniugibus belli causa duobus erat,
to-husbands of-war the-cause two she-was,
qualis erat Lede, quam plumis abditus albis
such-as was Leda, whom in-feathers hidden white
callidus in falsa lusit adulter ave,
crafty in a-feigned tricked the-adulterer bird,
qualis Amymone siccis erravit in agris,
such-as Amymone dry wandered in fields,
cum premeret summi verticis urna comas —
when pressed of-her-topmost head an-urn her-hair

talis eras; aquilamque in te taurumque timebam,
such you-were; and-an-eagle for you and-a-bull I-feared,
et quidquid magno de Iove fecit amor.
and whatever great out-of Jove has-made love.
Nunc timor omnis abest, animique resanuit error,
Now fear all is-gone, and-of-my-mind has-healed the-delusion,
nec facies oculos iam capit ista meos.
nor the-face the-eyes now catches that my.
Cur sim mutatus, quaeris? quia munera poscis.
Why I-am changed, you-ask? because gifts you-demand.
Haec te non patitur causa placere mihi.
This you not allows cause to-please me.
Donec eras simplex, animum cum corpore amavi;
While you-were guileless, your-mind with your-body I-loved;
nunc mentis vitio laesa figura tua est.
now of-the-mind by-the-fault marred the-form your is.
Et puer est et nudus Amor; sine sordibus annos
Both a-boy is-he and naked Love; without filth his-years
et nullas vestes, ut sit apertus, habet.
and no clothes, that he-may-be open, he-has.
Quid puerum Veneris pretio prostare iubetis?
Why the-boy of-Venus for-a-price to-be-set-for-sale do-you-bid?
Quo pretium condat, non habet ille sinum!
Where the-price he-may-store, not has he a-fold!
Nec Venus apta feris Veneris nec filius armis —
Neither Venus is-fit for-savage of-Venus nor the-son arms
non decet inbelles aera merere deos.
not it-becomes unwarlike pay to-earn gods.
Stat meretrix certo cuivis mercabilis aere,
Stands a-harlot for-a-fixed to-anyone purchasable coin,

et miseras iusso corpore quaerit opes;
and wretched with-a-bidden body she-seeks wealth;
devovet imperium tamen haec lenonis avari
she-curses the-rule however she of-a-pimp greedy
et, quod vos facitis sponte, coacta facit.
and, what you do of-choice, compelled she-does.
Sumite in exemplum pecudes ratione carentes;
Take for an-example the-beasts of-reason lacking;
turpe erit, ingenium mitius esse feris.
shameful it-will-be, a-nature gentler to-be to-wild-things.
Non equa munus equum, non taurum vacca poposcit;
Not a-mare a-gift from-a-stallion, not from-a-bull a-cow has-demanded;
non aries placitam munere captat ovem.
not a-ram the-pleasing with-a-gift woos ewe.
Sola viro mulier spoliis exultat ademptis,
Alone from-a-man a-woman in-spoils exults taken,
sola locat noctes, sola locanda venit,
alone she-hires-out nights, alone to-be-hired she-comes,
et vendit quod utrumque iuvat quod uterque petebat,
and sells what both-of-them pleases what each was-seeking,
et pretium, quanti gaudeat ipsa, facit.
and a-price, at-how-much she-delights herself, she-makes.
Quae Venus ex aequo ventura est grata duobus,
Which Love out-of equal about-to-come is welcome to-two,
altera cur illam vendit et alter emit?
the-one why it sells and the-other buys?
Cur mihi sit damno, tibi sit lucrosa voluptas,
Why to-me should-be a-loss, to-you should-be gainful the-pleasure,
quam socio motu femina virque ferunt?
which with-a-shared motion a-woman and-a-man take?

Non bene conducti vendunt periuria testes,
Not well hired sell perjuries witnesses,
non bene selecti iudicis arca patet.
not well of-a-chosen judge the-strongbox lies-open.
Turpe reos empta miseros defendere lingua;
Shameful the-accused with-a-bought wretched to-defend tongue;
quod faciat magnas, turpe tribunal, opes;
which makes great, shameful a-court, wealth;
turpe tori reditu census augere paternos,
shameful of-a-bed by-the-income the-estate to-increase ancestral,
et faciem lucro prostituisse suam.
and the-face for-gain to-have-prostituted one's-own.
Gratia pro rebus merito debetur inemptis;
Thanks for things deservedly is-owed unbought;
pro male conducto gratia nulla toro.
for an-ill hired thanks none bed.
Omnia conductor solvit; mercede soluta
Everything the-hirer pays; with-the-fee paid
non manet officio debitor ille tuo.
not remains to-the-service a-debtor he your.
Parcite, formosae, pretium pro nocte pacisci;
Forbear, beautiful-ones, a-price for a-night to-bargain;
non habet eventus sordida praeda bonos.
not has outcomes a-sordid plunder good.
Non fuit armillas tanti pepigisse Sabinas,
Not it-was the-bracelets of-such-worth to-have-bargained-for Sabine,
ut premerent sacrae virginis arma caput;
that should-crush of-a-holy maiden the-arms the-head;
e quibus exierat, traiecit viscera ferro
from which he-had-come, pierced her-vitals with-steel

filius, et poenae causa monile fuit.
a-son, and of-the-punishment the-cause a-necklace was.
Nec tamen indignum est a divite praemia posci;
Nor however unworthy it-is from a-rich-man rewards to-be-asked;
munera poscenti quod dare possit, habet.
gifts for-her-asking what to-give he-can, he-has.
Carpite de plenis pendentes vitibus uvas;
Pluck from full hanging vines grapes;
praebeat Alcinoi poma benignus ager!
let-yield of-Alcinous fruit a-generous field!
Officium pauper numerat studiumque fidemque;
Service a-poor-man counts and-zeal and-faith;
quod quis habet, dominae conferat omne suae.
what each has, on-the-lady let-him-bestow all his-own.
Est quoque carminibus meritas celebrare puellas
It-is too in-songs the-deserving to-celebrate girls
dos mea; quam volui, nota fit arte mea.
the-dower my; whom I-have-wished, known becomes by-art my.
Scindentur vestes, gemmae frangentur et aurum;
Will-be-torn dresses, gems will-be-broken and gold;
carmina quam tribuent, fama perennis erit.
songs which shall-grant, a-fame lasting will-be.
Nec dare, sed pretium posci dedignor et odi;
Not to-give, but a-price to-be-asked I-scorn and hate;
quod nego poscenti, desine velle, dabo!
what I-refuse to-her-asking, cease to-wish-it, I-shall-give!

Nape, who dresses hair and carries messages, is sent with tablets to Corinna. The poet tells her to watch the girl's face as she reads, to insist on a long answer, and to bring back the one word he wants. If it comes, he will hang the tablets in Venus' temple with an inscription that thanks them for their service and reminds them they were cheap maple not long ago.

Colligere incertos et in ordine ponere crines
To-gather straying and in order to-set the-hair
docta neque ancillas inter habenda Nape,
skilled and-not maids among to-be-counted Nape,
inque ministeriis furtivae cognita noctis
and-in the-services of-a-stealthy proved night
utilis et dandis ingeniosa notis
useful and for-giving clever signs
saepe venire ad me dubitantem hortata Corinnam,
often to-come to me hesitating having-urged Corinna,
saepe laboranti fida reperta mihi —
often in-trouble faithful found to-me
accipe et ad dominam peraratas mane tabellas
take and to my-lady the-written in-the-morning tablets
perfer et obstantes sedula pelle moras!
carry and the-blocking diligent drive delays!
Nec silicum venae nec durum in pectore ferrum,
Neither of-flints veins nor hard in your-breast iron,
nec tibi simplicitas ordine maior adest.
nor to-you plainness than-your-rank greater belongs.
Credibile est et te sensisse Cupidinis arcus —
Believable it-is too (that)-you to-have-felt of-Cupid the-bow

in me militiae signa tuere tuae!
on me of-the-service the-standards defend your!

Si quaeret quid agam, spe noctis vivere dices;
If she-asks what I-do, on-the-hope of-a-night to-live you-will-say;

cetera fert blanda cera notata manu.
the-rest carries by-a-coaxing the-wax marked hand.

Dum loquor, hora fugit. Vacuae bene redde tabellas,
While I-speak, the-hour flees. To-her-at-leisure well deliver the-tablets,

verum continuo fac tamen illa legat.
but at-once see-to-it however she reads.

Adspicias oculos mando frontemque legentis;
That-you-watch her-eyes I-charge-you and-the-brow of-her-reading;

e tacito vultu scire futura licet.
from a-silent face to-know the-future is-allowed.

Nec mora, perlectis rescribat multa, iubeto;
And-no delay, when-read let-her-write-back much, order;

odi, cum late splendida cera vacat.
I-hate-it, when widely gleaming the-wax lies-empty.

Conprimat ordinibus versus, oculosque moretur
Let-her-crowd in-rows the-lines, and-the-eyes let-delay

margine in extremo littera rasa meos.
the-margin on the-outmost a-letter scratched my.

Quid digitos opus est graphio lassare tenendo?
Why the-fingers need is with-a-stylus to-tire by-holding?

Hoc habeat scriptum tota tabella 'veni!'
This let-have written the-whole tablet 'come!'

Non ego victrices lauro redimire tabellas
Not I the-victorious with-laurel to-wreathe the-tablets

nec Veneris media ponere in aede morer.
nor of-Venus the-mid to-set in the-temple should-I-delay.

Subscribam: 'Veneri fidas sibi Naso ministras
I-shall-write-below: 'to-Venus faithful to-himself Naso servants
dedicat, at nuper vile fuistis acer.'
dedicates, but lately cheap you-were maple.'

I.12 · THE TABLETS COME BACK

The answer is no, and the poet turns his rage on the wood. Nape stumbled at the threshold, which was the omen. He curses the tablets as funeral timber, imagines the tree they came from serving hangings and crosses and owls, and decides they were better suited to lawsuits and account books. Two-leaved, he says, and double-dealing to match.

Flete meos casus — tristes rediere tabellae
Weep-for my mishaps gloomy have-come-back the-tablets
infelix hodie littera posse negat.
an-unlucky today letter to-be-possible denies.
Omina sunt aliquid; modo cum discedere vellet,
Omens are something; just-now when to-go-away she-wished,
ad limen digitos restitit icta Nape.
at the-threshold her-toes she-stopped struck Nape.
Missa foras iterum limen transire memento
Sent out again the-threshold to-cross remember
cautius atque alte sobria ferre pedem!
more-warily and high sober to-carry your-foot!
Ite hinc, difficiles, funebria ligna, tabellae,
Go from-here, troublesome, funeral timbers, tablets,
tuque, negaturis cera referta notis! —
and-you, with-about-to-refuse wax crammed marks!
quam, puto, de longae collectam flore cicutae
which, I-think, from of-a-tall gathered the-flower hemlock

melle sub infami Corsica misit apis.
honey beneath ill-famed a-Corsican has-sent bee.

At tamquam minio penitus medicata rubebas —
But as-if with-vermilion deeply dyed you-blushed

ille color vere sanguinolentus erat.
that color truly bloody was.

Proiectae triviis iaceatis, inutile lignum,
Flung-out at-crossroads may-you-lie, useless wood,

vosque rotae frangat praetereuntis onus!
and-you of-a-wheel let-break passing the-weight!

Illum etiam, qui vos ex arbore vertit in usum,
Him too, who you from a-tree turned into use,

convincam puras non habuisse manus.
I-shall-convict clean not to-have-had hands.

Praebuit illa arbor misero suspendia collo,
Furnished that tree for-a-wretched hangings neck,

carnifici diras praebuit illa cruces;
for-the-hangman grim furnished it crosses;

illa dedit turpes ravis bubonibus umbras,
it gave foul to-hoarse owls shade,

vulturis in ramis et strigis ova tulit.
of-a-vulture on its-branches and of-a-screech-owl the-eggs it-bore.

His ego commisi nostros insanus amores
To-these I entrusted my mad loves

molliaque ad dominam verba ferenda dedi?
and-tender to my-lady words to-be-carried gave?

Aptius hae capiant vadimonia garrula cerae,
More-fitly these should-hold bail-bonds chattering waxes,

quas aliquis duro cognitor ore legat;
which someone with-a-hard an-attorney mouth may-read;

inter ephemeridas melius tabulasque iacerent,
among day-books better and-ledgers they-would-lie,
in quibus absumptas fleret avarus opes.
in which the-squandered might-weep-for a-miser wealth.
Ergo ego vos rebus duplices pro nomine sensi.
So I you in-fact double according-to your-name have-found.
Auspicii numerus non erat ipse boni.
Of-an-omen the-number not was itself good.
Quid precer iratus, nisi vos cariosa senectus
What should-I-pray angry, but that-you a-crumbling old-age
rodat, et inmundo cera sit alba situ?
gnaw, and with-foul the-wax be white mold?

I.13 · TO THE DAWN

The poet tries to hold off the dawn with a speech. Everyone hates her: the sailor, the traveler, the soldier, the schoolboy, the surety, and the wool-worker. He could bear all of it, but not girls rising early, and he tells her she would not hurry so if she held Cephalus instead of aged Tithonus. Jupiter once joined two nights into one. She blushed — and the day rose all the same.

Iam super oceanum venit a seniore marito
Now over the-ocean comes from her-aged husband
flava pruinoso quae vehit axe diem.
the-golden on-a-frosty who carries axle the-day.
'Quo properas, Aurora? mane! — sic Memnonis umbris
'Whither do-you-hurry, Aurora? stay! so to-Memnon's shade
annua sollemni caede parentet avis!
the-yearly with-solemn slaughter may-pay-rites the-bird!
Nunc iuvat in teneris dominae iacuisse lacertis;
Now it-is-sweet in tender of-my-lady to-have-lain arms;

si quando, lateri nunc bene iuncta meo est.
if ever, to-the-side now well joined my she-is.
Nunc etiam somni pingues et frigidus aer,
Now too sleep-is deep and cool the-air,
et liquidum tenui gutture cantat avis.
and clear with-a-slender throat sings the-bird.
Quo properas, ingrata viris, ingrata puellis?
Where do-you-hurry, unwelcome to-men, unwelcome to-girls?
Roscida purpurea supprime lora manu!
The-dewy with-a-rosy cheek reins hand!
Ante tuos ortus melius sua sidera servat
Before your rising better its-own the-stars watches
navita nec media nescius errat aqua;
the-sailor and-not in-mid unknowing wanders water;
te surgit quamvis lassus veniente viator,
at-you rises although weary coming the-traveler,
et miles saevas aptat ad arma manus.
and a-soldier his-cruel fits to arms hands.
Prima bidente vides oneratos arva colentes;
First with-a-mattock you-see laden the-fields those-tilling;
prima vocas tardos sub iuga panda boves.
first you-call the-slow beneath the-yokes bent oxen.
Tu pueros somno fraudas tradisque magistris,
You boys of-sleep cheat and-hand-over to-masters,
ut subeant tenerae verbera saeva manus;
that may-undergo tender lashes cruel hands;
atque eadem sponsum multos ante atria mittis,
and the-same to-give-bail many before the-halls you-send,
unius ut verbi grandia damna ferant.
of-a-single that word great losses they-may-bear.

Nec tu consulto, nec tu iucunda diserto;
Nor you to-the-jurist, nor you welcome to-the-pleader;
cogitur ad lites surgere uterque novas.
is-forced to suits to-rise each new.
Tu, cum feminei possint cessare labores,
You, when womanly could to-rest labors,
lanificam revocas ad sua pensa manum.
the-wool-spinning you-call-back to its-own tasks hand.
Omnia perpeterer — sed surgere mane puellas,
Everything I-would-endure but to-rise early girls,
quis nisi cui non est ulla puella ferat?
who but to-whom not is any girl could-bear?
Optavi quotiens, ne nox tibi cedere vellet,
I-have-wished how-often, that-not the-night to-you to-yield should-wish,
ne fugerent vultus sidera mota tuos!
that-not should-flee the-face the-stars moved your!
Optavi quotiens, aut ventus frangeret axem,
I-have-wished how-often, either a-wind should-break your-axle,
aut caderet spissa nube retentus equus!
or should-fall by-a-thick cloud caught a-horse!
Invida, quo properas? quod erat tibi filius ater,
Envious-one, where do-you-hurry? because was to-you a-son black,
materni fuerat pectoris ille color.
of-a-mother's had-been the-heart that the-color.
Tithono vellem de te narrare liceret;
To-Tithonus I-would-wish about you to-tell were-allowed;
femina non caelo turpior ulla foret.
a-woman not in-heaven fouler any would-be.
Illum dum refugis, longo quia grandior aevo,
Him while you-shun, by-a-long because greater age,

surgis ad invisas a sene mane rotas.
you-rise to your-hated from the-old-man early wheels.
At si, quem mavis, Cephalum conplexa teneres,
But if, whom you-prefer, Cephalus embracing you-held,
clamares: 'lente currite, noctis equi!'
you-would-cry: 'slowly run, of-the-night horses!'
Cur ego plectar amans, si vir tibi marcet ab annis?
Why should-I be-punished loving, if a-husband to-you droops from years?
Num me nupsisti conciliante seni?
Surely-not me did-you-marry arranging an-old-man?
Adspice, quot somnos iuveni donarit amato
Look, how-many sleeps to-a-youth has-granted beloved
Luna! — neque illius forma secunda tuae.
the-Moon! and-not her beauty second to-yours.
Ipse deum genitor, ne te tam saepe videret,
The-very of-the-gods father, that-not you so often he-should-see,
commisit noctes in sua vota duas.'
joined nights for his-own wishes two.'
Iurgia finieram. Scires audisse: rubebat —
My-scolding I-had-ended. You-would-know (her)-to-have-heard: she-was-blushing
nec tamen adsueto tardius orta dies!
and-not however than-usual later risen the-day!

He keeps telling her to stop dyeing her hair, and now she has nothing left to color. It was as fine as the veils the Seres wear or the thread a spider draws, and no pin or comb ever tore it — the irons and the drugs did that, and no rival's herbs, no Thessalian hag, and no illness. Germany will send captive locks, he says; she holds the old hair in her lap and barely keeps back her tears, and he tells her the loss will mend and her own hair be seen again.

Dicebam 'medicare tuos desiste capillos!'
I-kept-saying 'to-dye your cease hair!'

Tingere quam possis, iam tibi nulla coma est.
To-color which you-could, now to-you no hair is.

At si passa fores, quid erat spatiosius illis?
But if let-alone you-had, what was longer than-them?

Contigerant imum, qua patet usque, latus.
They-had-reached (your)-lowest, as-far-as it-extends right-down, flank.

Quid, quod erant tenues, et quos ornare timeres?
What, that they-were fine, and which to-dress you-would-fear?

Vela colorati qualia Seres habent,
Veils swarthy such-as the-Seres have,

vel pede quod gracili deducit aranea filum,
or with-a-foot which slender draws-out a-spider a-thread,

cum leve deserta sub trabe nectit opus.
when a-light deserted beneath a-beam she-weaves work.

Nec tamen ater erat nec erat tamen aureus ille,
Nor however black it-was nor was however golden that,

sed, quamvis neuter, mixtus uterque color —
but, although neither, mixed each color

qualem clivosae madidis in vallibus Idae
such-as of-steep dewy in valleys Ida

ardua derepto cortice cedrus habet.
a-tall with-torn-off bark cedar has.
Adde, quod et dociles et centum flexibus apti
Add, that both manageable and for-a-hundred twists fit
et tibi nullius causa doloris erant.
and to-you of-no a-cause pain they-were.
Non acus abrupit, non vallum pectinis illos.
Not a-pin broke, not the-row of-a-comb them.
Ornatrix tuto corpore semper erat;
The-hairdresser with-a-safe body always was;
ante meos saepe est oculos ornata nec umquam
before my often she-was eyes adorned and not-ever
bracchia derepta saucia fecit acu.
arms with-a-torn-out wounded made pin.
Saepe etiam nondum digestis mane capillis
Often too not-yet arranged in-the-morning with-hair
purpureo iacuit semisupina toro.
on-a-purple she-lay half-reclining couch.
Tum quoque erat neclecta decens, ut Threcia Bacche,
Then too she-was unkempt comely, like a-Thracian Bacchant,
cum temere in viridi gramine lassa iacet.
when at-random on green grass weary she-lies.
Cum graciles essent tamen et lanuginis instar,
Though fine they-were however and of-down the-likeness,
heu, male vexatae quanta tulere comae!
alas, ill tormented how-much have-borne the-locks!
Quam se praebuerunt ferro patienter et igni,
How themselves they-offered to-the-iron patiently and to-fire,
ut fieret torto nexilis orbe sinus!
that might-be-made with-a-twisted knotted coil a-curl!

Clamabam: 'scelus est istos, scelus urere crines!
I-kept-crying-out: 'a-crime it-is those, a-crime to-burn locks!
Sponte decent; capiti, ferrea, parce tuo!
Of-themselves they-suit; the-head, iron-hearted, spare your!
Vim procul hinc remove! non est, qui debeat uri;
Force far from-here take-away! not there-is, which ought to-be-burned;
erudit admotas ipse capillus acus.'
teaches the-applied itself the-hair pins.'
Formosae periere comae — quas vellet Apollo,
The-beautiful have-perished locks which would-wish Apollo,
quas vellet capiti Bacchus inesse suo!
which would-wish on-a-head Bacchus to-be his-own!
Illis contulerim, quas quondam nuda Dione
To-them I-would-compare, which once naked Dione
pingitur umenti sustinuisse manu.
is-painted with-a-dripping to-have-held-up hand.
Quid male dispositos quereris periisse capillos?
Why ill arranged do-you-complain to-have-perished the-hair?
Quid speculum maesta ponis, inepta, manu?
Why the-mirror with-a-sad do-you-lay-down, foolish-one, hand?
Non bene consuetis a te spectaris ocellis;
Not well with-accustomed by you you-are-looked-at eyes;
ut placeas, debes inmemor esse tui.
that you-may-please, you-ought forgetful to-be of-yourself.
Non te cantatae laeserunt paelicis herbae,
Not you enchanted have-harmed of-a-rival the-herbs,
non anus Haemonia perfida lavit aqua;
not a-bag with-Haemonian treacherous has-washed water;
nec tibi vis morbi nocuit — procul omen abesto! —
nor to-you the-force of-sickness has-harmed far the-omen be-away!

nec minuit densas invida lingua comas.
nor has-thinned the-thick an-envious tongue locks.
Facta manu culpaque tua dispendia sentis;
Done by-hand and-by-fault your the-loss you-feel;
ipsa dabas capiti mixta venena tuo.
yourself you-were-giving to-the-head mixed poisons your.
Nunc tibi captivos mittet Germania crines;
Now to-you captive will-send Germany locks;
culta triumphatae munere gentis eris.
adorned of-a-triumphed-over by-the-gift race you-will-be.
O quam saepe comas aliquo mirante rubebis,
O how often (your)-hair with-someone admiring you-will-blush,
et dices: 'empta nunc ego merce probor,
and you-will-say: 'by-a-bought now I goods am-approved,
nescio quam pro me laudat nunc iste Sygambram.
I-know-not which instead-of me praises now that-man a-Sygambrian.
Fama tamen memini cum fuit ista mea.'
Fame however I-remember when was that my.'
Me miserum! lacrimas male continet oraque dextra
Me wretched! her-tears scarcely she-holds-back and-her-face with-her-right
protegit ingenuas picta rubore genas.
she-shields the-free-born (she)-stained with-a-blush cheeks.
Sustinet antiquos gremio spectatque capillos,
She-holds-up her-old in-her-lap and-looks-at hair,
ei mihi, non illo munera digna loco!
ah me, not of-that gifts worthy place!
Collige cum vultu mentem! reparabile damnum est.
Gather with your-face your-mind! repairable the-loss is.
Postmodo nativa conspiciere coma.
Presently with-your-native you-will-be-seen hair.

Envy calls the poet idle for not soldiering or pleading in the courts. He seeks a fame that lasts, names the poets who will not die, from Homer to Gallus, and claims a place among them: when the last fire has eaten him, a great part of him will survive.

Quid mihi, Livor edax, ignavos obicis annos,
Why to-me, Envy devouring, idle do-you-cast-up years,
ingeniique vocas carmen inertis opus;
and-of-a-wit do-you-call song of-a-lazy the-work;
non me more patrum, dum strenua sustinet aetas,
not me in-the-fashion of-our-fathers, while a-vigorous holds-up age,
praemia militiae pulverulenta sequi,
the-rewards of-soldiering dusty to-follow,
nec me verbosas leges ediscere nec me
nor me wordy laws to-learn-by-heart nor me
ingrato vocem prostituisse foro?
to-a-thankless my-voice to-have-prostituted forum?
Mortale est, quod quaeris, opus. Mihi fama perennis
Mortal is, what you-seek, a-work. By-me a-fame lasting
quaeritur, in toto semper ut orbe canar.
is-sought, in the-whole always that world I-may-be-sung.
Vivet Maeonides, Tenedos dum stabit et Ide,
Will-live the-Maeonian, Tenedos while shall-stand and Ida,
dum rapidas Simois in mare volvet aquas;
while swift Simois into the-sea shall-roll waters;
vivet et Ascraeus, dum mustis uva tumebit,
will-live also the-Ascraean, while with-must the-grape shall-swell,
dum cadet incurva falce resecta Ceres.
while shall-fall by-a-curved sickle cut Ceres.

Battiades semper toto cantabitur orbe;
The-son-of-Battus always in-the-whole will-be-sung world;
quamvis ingenio non valet, arte valet.
although in-genius not he-is-strong, in-art he-is-strong.
Nulla Sophocleo veniet iactura cothurno;
No to-the-Sophoclean will-come loss buskin;
cum sole et luna semper Aratus erit;
with the-sun and moon always Aratus will-be;
dum fallax servus, durus pater, inproba lena
while a-cheating slave, a-hard father, a-shameless bawd
vivent et meretrix blanda, Menandros erit;
shall-live and a-harlot coaxing, Menander will-be;
Ennius arte carens animosique Accius oris
Ennius art lacking and-of-spirited Accius speech
casurum nullo tempore nomen habent.
about-to-fall at-no time a-name have.
Varronem primamque ratem quae nesciet aetas,
Varro and-the-first ship which shall-not-know age,
aureaque Aesonio terga petita duci?
and-the-golden by-the-Aesonian fleece sought chief?
Carmina sublimis tunc sunt peritura Lucreti,
The-songs of-lofty then are about-to-perish Lucretius,
exitio terras cum dabit una dies;
to-destruction the-lands when shall-give one day;
Tityrus et segetes Aeneiaque arma legentur,
Tityrus and the-harvests and-Aeneas' arms will-be-read,
Roma triumphati dum caput orbis erit;
Rome of-a-conquered while the-head world shall-be;
donec erunt ignes arcusque Cupidinis arma,
as-long-as shall-be fires and-a-bow of-Cupid the-weapons,

discentur numeri, culte Tibulle, tui;
will-be-learned the-measures, polished Tibullus, your;
Gallus et Hesperiis et Gallus notus Eois,
Gallus both to-the-Western and Gallus known to-the-Eastern,
et sua cum Gallo nota Lycoris erit.
and his-own with Gallus known Lycoris will-be.
Ergo, cum silices, cum dens patientis aratri
So, though flints, though the-tooth of-an-enduring plow
depereant aevo, carmina morte carent.
perish by-time, songs death lack.
Cedant carminibus reges regumque triumphi,
Let-yield to-songs kings and-of-kings the-triumphs,
cedat et auriferi ripa benigna Tagi!
let-yield too of-the-gold-bearing the-bank generous Tagus!
Vilia miretur vulgus; mihi flavus Apollo
Cheap-things let-admire the-crowd; to-me golden Apollo
pocula Castalia plena ministret aqua,
cups of-Castalian full let-serve water,
sustineamque coma metuentem frigora myrtum,
and-let-me-wear on-my-hair fearing frosts myrtle,
atque ita sollicito multus amante legar!
and so by-a-troubled much lover let-me-be-read!
Pascitur in vivis Livor; post fata quiescit,
Feeds on the-living Envy; after death it-rests,
cum suus ex merito quemque tuetur honos.
when his-own according-to desert each guards honor.
Ergo etiam cum me supremus adederit ignis,
So even when me the-last shall-have-eaten fire,
vivam, parsque mei multa superstes erit.
I-shall-live, and-a-part of-me great surviving will-be.

BOOK II

II.1 · LOVE COMMANDS AGAIN

Ovid, the Paelignian poet of his own naughtiness, writes again at Love's command and bids the strict keep away. He tried to sing the war of the giants against heaven, but his mistress shut her door, and he dropped Jupiter's thunderbolt for elegy. Songs open doors where epic heroes do nothing for him; girls should turn their faces to the poems Love dictates.

Hoc quoque conposui Paelignis natus aquosis,
This too I-composed among-the-Paeligni born watery,
ille ego nequitiae Naso poeta meae.
that-one I of-naughtiness Naso the-poet my.
Hoc quoque iussit Amor — procul hinc, procul este, severae!
This too ordered Love far from-here, far be, strict-women!
Non estis teneris apta theatra modis.
Not you-are for-tender fit audience measures.
Me legat in sponsi facie non frigida virgo,
Me may-read in of-betrothed sight not frigid a-maiden,
et rudis ignoto tactus amore puer;
and inexperienced by-unknown touched love boy;
atque aliquis iuvenum quo nunc ego saucius arcu
and some of-the-young-men by-what now I wounded bow
agnoscat flammae conscia signa suae,
may-recognize of-flame sharing signs his-own,
miratusque diu 'quo' dicat 'ab indice doctus
and-having-wondered long 'by-what' may-say 'from informer taught
conposuit casus iste poeta meos?'
composed misfortunes that poet my?'

Ausus eram, memini, caelestia dicere bella
Dared I-had, I-remember, heavenly to-tell wars
centimanumque Gyen — et satis oris erat —
and-hundred-handed Gyes and enough of-voice there-was
cum male se Tellus ulta est, ingestaque Olympo
when badly herself Earth avenged has, and-piled-on on-Olympus
ardua devexum Pelion Ossa tulit.
lofty sloping Pelion Ossa bore.
In manibus nimbos et cum Iove fulmen habebam,
In hands storm-clouds and with Jupiter thunderbolt I-held,
quod bene pro caelo mitteret ille suo —
which well for heaven might-hurl he his-own
clausit amica fores! ego cum Iove fulmen omisi;
shut my-girl the-door! I with Jupiter thunderbolt dropped;
excidit ingenio Iuppiter ipse meo.
fell-out from-genius Jupiter himself my.
Iuppiter, ignoscas! nil me tua tela iuvabant;
Jupiter, pardon! nothing me your weapons helped;
clausa tuo maius ianua fulmen habet.
shut than-your greater door thunderbolt has.
Blanditias elegosque levis, mea tela, resumpsi;
Blandishments and-elegies light, my weapons, I-resumed;
mollierunt duras lenia verba fores.
softened hard gentle words door.
Carmina sanguineae deducunt cornua lunae,
Songs blood-red draw-down the-horns of-the-moon,
et revocant niveos solis euntis equos;
and call-back snowy of-the-sun going horses;
carmine dissiliunt abruptis faucibus angues,
by-song burst with-burst jaws snakes,

inque suos fontes versa recurrit aqua.
and-to its-own springs turned runs-back water.
Carminibus cessere fores, insertaque posti,
To-songs yielded the-door, and-inserted in-the-post,
quamvis robur erat, carmine victa sera est.
although oak it-was, by-song conquered the-bolt is.
Quid mihi profuerit velox cantatus Achilles?
What to-me will-have-profited swift sung Achilles?
Quid pro me Atrides alter et alter agent,
What for me son-of-Atreus one and other will-do,
quique tot errando, quot bello, perdidit annos,
and-he-who as-many in-wandering, as in-war, lost years,
raptus et Haemoniis flebilis Hector equis?
dragged and by-Haemonian tearful Hector horses?
At facie tenerae laudata saepe puellae,
But in-beauty of-tender praised often girl,
ad vatem, pretium carminis, ipsa venit.
to the-poet, as-price of-the-song, herself comes.
Magna datur merces! heroum clara valete
Great is-given reward! of-heroes famous farewell
nomina; non apta est gratia vestra mihi!
names; not fit is favor your for-me!
Ad mea formosos vultus adhibete, puellae,
To my beautiful faces apply, girls,
carmina, purpureus quae mihi dictat Amor!
songs, purple which to-me dictates Love!

Ovid asks Bagoas, the eunuch who guards his mistress, to relax his watch. A guard who is feared is hated, and a husband's suspicion profits no one. If Bagoas turns a blind eye he will be rewarded and freed in time; informers are punished like Tantalus. The husband will always believe her tears over his slave. All the lovers ask is to love in safety.

Quem penes est dominam servandi cura, Bagoe,
Whom with is mistress of-guarding the-care, Bagoas,
dum perago tecum pauca, sed apta, vaca.
while I-go-through with-you a-few, but fitting, be-free.
Hesterna vidi spatiantem luce puellam
Yesterday's I-saw strolling in-daylight a-girl
illa, quae Danai porticus agmen habet.
in-that, which of-Danaus portico the-column has.
Protinus, ut placuit, misi scriptoque rogavi.
At-once, as she-pleased, I-sent and-in-writing asked.
Rescripsit trepida 'non licet!' illa manu;
Wrote-back trembling 'not it-is-allowed!' she with-hand;
et, cur non liceat, quaerenti reddita causa est,
and, why not it-be-allowed, to-me-asking given the-cause is,
quod nimium dominae cura molesta tua est.
that too of-mistress care troublesome your is.
Si sapis, o custos, odium, mihi crede, mereri
If you-are-wise, O guard, hatred, me believe, to-earn
desine; quem metuit quisque, perisse cupit.
cease; whom fears each, to-have-perished desires.
Vir quoque non sapiens; quid enim servare laboret,
Husband too not wise; why indeed to-guard should-be-labor,

unde nihil, quamvis non tueare, perit?
whence nothing, although not you-guard, perishes?
Sed gerat ille suo morem furiosus amori
But may-indulge he his humor raving to-love
et castum, multis quod placet, esse putet;
and chaste, to-many what pleases, to-be may-think;
huic furtiva tuo libertas munere detur,
to-her stolen by-your freedom gift be-given,
quam dederis illi, reddat ut illa tibi.
which you-have-given her, may-return that she to-you.
Conscius esse velis — domina est obnoxia servo;
An-accomplice to-be you-would-wish the-mistress is beholden to-the-slave;
conscius esse times — dissimulare licet.
an-accomplice to-be you-fear to-dissemble is-allowed.
Scripta leget secum — matrem misisse putato!
Writings she-will-read with-herself mother to-have-sent think!
Venerit ignotus — postmodo notus erit.
Will-have-come unknown later known he-will-be.
Ibit ad adfectam, quae non languebit, amicam:
She-will-go to sick, who not will-be-languid, friend:
visat! iudiciis aegra sit illa tuis.
let-her-visit! in-judgment sick let-be she your.
Si faciet tarde, ne te mora longa fatiget,
If she-will-act slowly, lest you delay long weary,
inposita gremio stertere fronte potes.
placed on-lap to-snore with-forehead you-can.
Nec tu, linigeram fieri quid possit ad Isim,
Nor you, linen-wearing to-happen what may at Isis,
quaesieris nec tu curva theatra time!
should-ask nor you curved theaters fear!

Conscius adsiduos commissi tollet honores —
An-accomplice constant of-a-secret will-gain honors
quis minor est autem quam tacuisse labor?
what less is moreover than to-have-kept-silent labor?
Ille placet versatque domum neque verbera sentit;
He pleases and-turns-about the-house nor blows feels;
ille potens — alii, sordida turba, iacent.
he powerful others, base throng, lie-low.
Huic, verae ut lateant causae, finguntur inanes;
For-him, true that may-lie-hidden causes, are-feigned empty;
atque ambo domini, quod probat una, probant.
and both masters, what approves one, approve.
Cum bene vir traxit vultum rugasque coegit,
When well husband has-drawn face and-wrinkles forced,
quod voluit fieri blanda puella, facit.
what she-has-wished to-happen coaxing girl, does.
Sed tamen interdum tecum quoque iurgia nectat,
But still sometimes with-you too quarrels may-she-weave,
et simulet lacrimas carnificemque vocet.
and may-she-feign tears and-executioner may-she-call.
Tu contra obicies, quae tuto diluat illa;
You in-reply will-allege, what safely may-refute she;
in verum falso crimine deme fidem.
in truth by-false charge take-away belief.
Sic tibi semper honos, sic alta peculia crescent.
So for-you always honor, so deep savings will-grow.
Haec fac, in exiguo tempore liber eris.
These-things do, in short time free you-will-be.
Adspicis indicibus nexas per colla catenas?
Do-you-see on-informers bound around necks chains?

Squalidus orba fide pectora carcer habet.
Filthy bereft of-faith breasts prison holds.
Quaerit aquas in aquis et poma fugacia captat
Seeks water in water and fruits fleeing grasps
Tantalus — hoc illi garrula lingua dedit.
Tantalus this to-him babbling tongue gave.
Dum nimium servat custos Iunonius Ion,
While too-much guards the-guard Junonian Io,
ante suos annos occidit; illa dea est!
before his years he-fell; she a-goddess is!
Vidi ego conpedibus liventia crura gerentem,
Saw I in-fetters livid legs one-wearing,
unde vir incestum scire coactus erat.
from-whom husband unchastity to-know forced was.
Poena minor merito. nocuit mala lingua duobus;
The-penalty less than-deserved. harmed evil tongue two;
vir doluit, famae damna puella tulit.
husband grieved, of-reputation losses girl bore.
Crede mihi, nulli sunt crimina grata marito,
Believe me, to-no are charges pleasing husband,
nec quemquam, quamvis audiat, illa iuvant.
nor anyone, although he-may-hear, they please.
Seu tepet, indicium securas prodis ad aures;
Whether he-is-lukewarm, the-information carefree you-betray to ears;
sive amat, officio fit miser ille tuo.
or-if he-loves, by-service becomes wretched he your.
Culpa nec ex facili quamvis manifesta probatur;
Fault nor from easy although manifest is-proved;
iudicis illa sui tuta favore venit.
of-judge she her-own safe by-favor comes.

Viderit ipse licet, credet tamen ille neganti
May-have-seen he-himself granted, he-will-believe still he her-denying
damnabitque oculos et sibi verba dabit.
and-will-condemn eyes and himself words will-give.
Adspiciat dominae lacrimas, plorabit et ipse,
May-he-see of-mistress tears, he-will-weep also himself,
et dicet: 'poenas garrulus iste dabit!'
and will-say: 'penalties babbler that will-pay!'
Quid dispar certamen inis? tibi verbera victo
Why unequal contest do-you-enter? for-you blows conquered
adsunt, in gremio iudicis illa sedet.
are-at-hand, on lap of-the-judge she sits.
Non scelus adgredimur, non ad miscenda coimus
Not crime we-attempt, not to to-be-mixed we-meet
toxica, non stricto fulminat ense manus.
poisons, not with-drawn flashes sword hand.
Quaerimus, ut tuto per te possimus amare.
We-seek, that safely through you we-may-be-able to-love.
Quid precibus nostris mollius esse potest?
What than-prayers our softer to-be can?

Ovid pities the eunuch, neither man nor woman, who cannot know the joys of love and guards them for others. He was not born for horses or war, so he should serve his mistress and earn her favor. She could deceive him if she chose; it would be better to win her thanks while he can.

Ei mihi, quod dominam nec vir nec femina servas
Ah me, that mistress neither man nor woman you-guard
mutua nec Veneris gaudia nosse potes!
mutual nor of-Venus joys to-know you-can!
Qui primus pueris genitalia membra recidit,
Who first of-boys genital members cut-off,
vulnera quae fecit, debuit ipse pati.
the-wounds which he-made, ought himself to-suffer.
Mollis in obsequium facilisque rogantibus esses,
Yielding to compliance and-easy to-the-askers you-would-be,
si tuus in quavis praetepuisset amor.
if your for any had-been-warm love.
Non tu natus equo, non fortibus utilis armis;
Not you born for-horse, not for-brave useful arms;
bellica non dextrae convenit hasta tuae.
warlike not to-right-hand suits spear your.
Ista mares tractent; tu spes depone viriles.
Those-things males may-handle; you hopes lay-down manly.
Sunt tibi cum domina signa ferenda tua.
Are for-you with mistress standards to-be-borne your.
Hanc inple meritis, huius tibi gratia prosit;
Her fill with-services, her to-you favor may-help;
si careas illa, quis tuus usus erit?
if you-lack her, what your use will-be?

Est etiam facies, sunt apti lusibus anni;
There-is also beauty, there-are fit for-play years;
indigna est pigro forma perire situ.
undeserving is in-sluggish beauty to-perish neglect.
Fallere te potuit, quamvis habeare molestus;
To-deceive you she-could, although you-be-held troublesome;
non caret effectu, quod voluere duo.
not lacks effect, what have-wished two.
Aptius ut fuerit precibus temptasse, rogamus,
Fitter that it-would-have-been with-prayers to-have-tried, we-ask,
dum bene ponendi munera tempus habes.
while well of-placing favors the-time you-have.

II.4 · HE LOVES THEM ALL

Ovid confesses that he cannot resist women and lists the kinds he loves: the modest and the forward; the learned and the simple; the singer, the lyre player, and the dancer; the tall and the short; the unadorned and the adorned; the fair, the golden-haired, and the dark; and the young and the older. His ambitious love takes in every girl that anyone in Rome admires.

Non ego mendosos ausim defendere mores
Not I faulty would-dare to-defend character
falsaque pro vitiis arma movere meis.
and-false for vices arms to-take-up my.
Confiteor — siquid prodest delicta fateri;
I-confess if-anything it-profits offenses to-confess;
in mea nunc demens crimina fassus eo.
against my now mad crimes having-confessed I-go.
Odi, nec possum, cupiens, non esse quod odi;
I-hate, nor can-I, desiring, not to-be what I-hate;

heu, quam quae studeas ponere ferre grave est!
alas, how what you-strive to-lay-down to-bear heavy is!
Nam desunt vires ad me mihi iusque regendum;
For are-lacking strength to me for-me and-right of-ruling;
auferor ut rapida concita puppis aqua.
I-am-carried-off as by-swift driven ship water.
Non est certa meos quae forma invitet amores —
Not is fixed my which beauty may-invite loves
centum sunt causae, cur ego semper amem.
a-hundred are causes, why I always should-love.
Sive aliqua est oculos in se deiecta modestos,
Whether some-girl is eyes on herself cast-down modest,
uror, et insidiae sunt pudor ille meae;
I-burn, and a-snare is modesty that for-me;
sive procax aliqua est, capior, quia rustica non est,
or-if forward some-girl is, I-am-caught, because boorish not she-is,
spemque dat in molli mobilis esse toro.
and-hope gives in soft lively to-be bed.
Aspera si visa est rigidasque imitata Sabinas,
Harsh if seemed she-was and-strict having-imitated Sabine-women,
velle, sed ex alto dissimulare puto.
to-wish, but from deep to-dissemble I-think.
Sive es docta, places raras dotata per artes;
Whether you-are learned, you-please rare endowed with arts;
sive rudis, placita es simplicitate tua.
or-if unskilled, pleasing you-are by-simplicity your.
Est, quae Callimachi prae nostris rustica dicat
There-is-one, who Callimachus' compared-with ours rustic calls
carmina — cui placeo, protinus ipsa placet.
songs to-whom I-please, at-once herself pleases.

Est etiam, quae me vatem et mea carmina culpet —
There-is also-one, who me as-poet and my songs blames
culpantis cupiam sustinuisse femur.
of-the-blamer I-should-desire to-have-held-up the-thigh.
Molliter incedit — motu capit; altera dura est —
Softly she-walks by-motion she-catches; another hard is
at poterit tacto mollior esse viro.
but she-will-be-able when-touched softer to-be by-a-man.
Haec quia dulce canit flectitque facillima vocem,
This-one because sweetly she-sings and-bends most-easily voice,
oscula cantanti rapta dedisse velim;
kisses from-her-singing snatched to-have-given I-would-wish;
haec querulas habili percurrit pollice chordas —
this-one plaintive with-deft runs-over thumb strings
tam doctas quis non possit amare manus?
so skilled who not could to-love hands?
Illa placet gestu numerosaque bracchia ducit
That-one pleases by-gesture and-rhythmic arms leads
et tenerum molli torquet ab arte latus —
and tender soft twists with art side
ut taceam de me, qui causa tangor ab omni,
that I-may-say-nothing of me, who cause am-touched by every,
illic Hippolytum pone, Priapus erit!
there Hippolytus put, Priapus he-will-be!
Tu, quia tam longa es, veteres heroidas aequas
You, because so tall you-are, ancient heroines you-equal
et potes in toto multa iacere toro.
and you-can on whole much to-lie bed.
Haec habilis brevitate sua est. corrumpor utraque;
This-one handy in-shortness her-own is. I-am-undone by-both;

conveniunt voto longa brevisque meo.
suit wish tall and-short my.
Non est culta — subit, quid cultae accedere possit;
Not is she-adorned it-comes-to-mind, what to-the-adorned to-be-added might;
ornata est — dotes exhibet ipsa suas.
adorned she-is endowments she-displays herself her-own.
Candida me capiet, capiet me flava puella,
Fair me will-take, will-take me golden girl,
est etiam in fusco grata colore Venus.
is also in dusky pleasing color Venus.
Seu pendent nivea pulli cervice capilli,
Whether hang from-snowy dark neck hair,
Leda fuit nigra conspicienda coma;
Leda was for-black to-be-gazed-at hair;
seu flavent, placuit croceis Aurora capillis.
or-if they-are-golden, pleased with-saffron Aurora hair.
Omnibus historiis se meus aptat amor.
To-all stories itself my fits love.
Me nova sollicitat, me tangit serior aetas;
Me the-young troubles, me touches later age;
haec melior, specie corporis illa placet.
this-one is-better, in-the-look of-body that-one pleases.
Denique quas tota quisquam probet urbe puellas,
In-short which in-whole anyone may-approve city girls,
noster in has omnis ambitiosus amor.
our toward these all ambitious love.

Pretending to sleep at dinner, Ovid saw his mistress signal to another man with eyebrows, nods, and letters traced in wine, and then kiss him. When he protested she blushed beautifully, and his anger left him. He begged for kisses no worse than the other man's; she laughed and gave him her best, so much better than any he had taught her that someone else must have been teaching her.

Nullus amor tanti est — abeas, pharetrate Cupido! —
No love of-such-worth is go-away, quivered Cupid!
ut mihi sint totiens maxima vota mori.
that for-me be so-often greatest prayers to-die.
Vota mori mea sunt, cum te peccare recordor,
Prayers to-die my are, when you to-sin I-recall,
ei mihi, perpetuum nata puella malum!
ah me, unending born girl evil!
Non mihi deceptae nudant tua facta tabellae,
Not to-me deceived lay-bare your deeds tablets,
nec data furtive munera crimen habent.
nor given stealthily gifts the-charge contain.
O utinam arguerem sic, ut non vincere possem!
O would-that I-could-accuse so, that not to-win I-could!
Me miserum! quare tam bona causa mea est?
Me wretched! why so good cause my is?
Felix, qui quod amat defendere fortiter audet,
Happy-he, who what he-loves to-defend bravely dares,
cui sua 'non feci!' dicere amica potest.
to-whom his-own 'not I-did!' to-say girl can.
Ferreus est nimiumque suo favet ille dolori,
Iron is-he and-too-much his-own favors he grief,

cui petitur victa palma cruenta rea.
by-whom is-sought conquered palm bloody defendant.

Ipse miser vidi, cum me dormire putares,
Myself wretched I-saw, when me to-sleep you-thought,

sobrius adposito crimina vestra mero.
sober with-set crimes your wine.

Multa supercilio vidi vibrante loquentes;
Many-things with-eyebrow I-saw quivering speaking;

nutibus in vestris pars bona vocis erat.
nods in your part good of-voice was.

Non oculi tacuere tui, conscriptaque vino
Not eyes were-silent your, and-written-over with-wine

mensa, nec in digitis littera nulla fuit.
the-table, nor on fingers letter none was.

Sermonem agnovi, quod non videatur, agentem
Talk I-recognized, that not it-may-seem, carrying-on

verbaque pro certis iussa valere notis.
and-words for fixed bidden to-stand-for signs.

Iamque frequens ierat mensa conviva relicta;
And-now numerous had-gone with-table guest left;

conpositi iuvenes unus et alter erant.
laid-to-sleep young-men one and another were.

Inproba tum vero iungentes oscula vidi —
Shameless then indeed joining kisses I-saw

illa mihi lingua nexa fuisse liquet —
those to-me with-tongue entwined to-have-been it-is-clear

qualia non fratri tulerit germana severo,
such-as not to-brother would-have-given sister stern,

sed tulerit cupido mollis amica viro;
but would-have-given to-eager soft mistress man;

qualia credibile est non Phoebo ferre Dianam,
such-as believable it-is not to-Phoebus to-give Diana,
sed Venerem Marti saepe tulisse suo.
but Venus to-Mars often to-have-given her-own.
'Quid facis?' exclamo, 'quo nunc mea gaudia differs?
'What are-you-doing?' I-cry-out, 'where now my joys do-you-carry?
Iniciam dominas in mea iura manus!
I-will-lay masterful on my rights hands!
Haec tibi sunt mecum, mihi sunt communia tecum —
These to-you are with-me, to-me are shared with-you
in bona cur quisquam tertius ista venit?'
on goods why anyone third those comes?'
Haec ego, quaeque dolor linguae dictavit; at illi
These-things I, and-what grief to-tongue dictated; but to-her
conscia purpureus venit in ora pudor,
conscious crimson came into face shame,
quale coloratum Tithoni coniuge caelum
such-as colored by-Tithonus' wife sky
subrubet, aut sponso visa puella novo;
reddens, or by-bridegroom seen girl new;
quale rosae fulgent inter sua lilia mixtae,
such-as roses shine among their-own lilies mingled,
aut ubi cantatis Luna laborat equis,
or when by-enchanted the-Moon labors horses,
aut quod, ne longis flavescere possit ab annis,
or what, lest long to-yellow it-be-able from years,
Maeonis Assyrium femina tinxit ebur.
Maeonian Assyrian woman dyed ivory.
Hic erat aut alicui color ille simillimus horum,
This was or to-some color that most-like of-these,

et numquam visu pulchrior illa fuit.
and never in-sight more-beautiful she was.
Spectabat terram — terram spectare decebat;
She-was-looking-at the-ground the-ground to-look-at became-her;
maesta erat in vultu — maesta decenter erat.
sad she-was in face sad becomingly she-was.
Sicut erant, et erant culti, laniare capillos
As they-were, and they-were dressed, to-tear hair
et fuit in teneras impetus ire genas —
and there-was on tender an-impulse to-go cheeks
ut faciem vidi, fortes cecidere lacerti;
when face I-saw, strong fell arms;
defensa est armis nostra puella suis.
defended was by-arms our girl her-own.
Qui modo saevus eram, supplex ultroque rogavi,
I-who just-now savage was, suppliant and-of-my-own-accord asked,
oscula ne nobis deteriora daret.
kisses that-not to-us worse she-should-give.
Risit et ex animo dedit optima — qualia possent
She-laughed and from heart gave the-best such-as might
excutere irato tela trisulca Iovi;
to-shake-out from-angry weapons three-forked Jupiter;
torqueor infelix, ne tam bona senserit alter,
I-am-tortured unhappy, lest so good may-have-felt another,
et volo non ex hac illa fuisse nota.
and I-wish not from this those to-have-been mark.
Haec quoque, quam docui, multo meliora fuerunt,
These too, than-what I-taught, by-much better were,
et quiddam visa est addidicisse novi.
and something seemed she-was to-have-learned-more new.

Quod nimium placuere, malum est, quod tota labellis
That too-much they-pleased, an-evil it-is, that whole by-lips
lingua tua est nostris, nostra recepta tuis.
tongue your is our, ours received by-yours.
Nec tamen hoc unum doleo — non oscula tantum
Nor still this alone I-grieve not kisses only
iuncta queror, quamvis haec quoque iuncta queror;
joined I-complain, although these too joined I-complain;
illa nisi in lecto nusquam potuere doceri.
those except in bed nowhere could to-be-taught.
Nescio quis pretium grande magister habet.
I-know-not what reward great teacher has.

II.6 · THE PARROT'S FUNERAL

Ovid calls the birds to mourn Corinna's parrot, the clever mimic from India, and the turtle dove, its faithful friend, above all. It lived on nuts and poppies and loved talk more than food; yet greedy vultures and crows live on while the best die young. Its last words were Corinna's name. Now it rests in the birds' Elysium, beneath a small tomb with its own epitaph.

Psittacus, Eois imitatrix ales ab Indis,
The-parrot, eastern imitative bird from Indians,
occidit — exequias ite frequenter, aves!
has-died to-the-funeral go in-throngs, birds!
Ite, piae volucres, et plangite pectora pinnis
Go, dutiful fowl, and beat breasts with-wings
et rigido teneras ungue notate genas;
and with-rigid tender claw mark cheeks;
horrida pro maestis lanietur pluma capillis,
bristling instead-of sad be-torn plumage hair,

pro longa resonent carmina vestra tuba!
instead-of long may-resound songs your trumpet!
Quod scelus Ismarii quereris, Philomela, tyranni,
That the-crime of-Ismarian you-lament, Philomela, tyrant,
expleta est annis ista querela suis;
fulfilled is by-years that complaint its-own;
alitis in rarae miserum devertere funus —
of-a-bird to rare wretched turn funeral
magna, sed antiqua est causa doloris Itys.
great, but ancient is cause of-grief Itys.
Omnes, quae liquido libratis in aere cursus,
All, who liquid you-balance in air courses,
tu tamen ante alios, turtur amice, dole!
you still before others, turtle-dove friend, grieve!
Plena fuit vobis omni concordia vita,
Full was to-you in-all harmony life,
et stetit ad finem longa tenaxque fides.
and stood to the-end long and-tenacious faith.
Quod fuit Argolico iuvenis Phoceus Orestae,
What was to-Argive the-youth Phocian Orestes,
hoc tibi, dum licuit, psittace, turtur erat.
this to-you, while it-was-allowed, parrot, the-turtle-dove was.
Quid tamen ista fides, quid rari forma coloris,
What still that faith, what of-rare the-beauty color,
quid vox mutandis ingeniosa sonis,
what voice for-changing clever sounds,
quid iuvat, ut datus es, nostrae placuisse puellae? —
what helps-it, that given you-were, our to-have-pleased girl?
Infelix, avium gloria, nempe iaces!
Unhappy, of-birds glory, surely you-lie!

Tu poteras fragiles pinnis hebetare zmaragdos
You could fragile with-wings to-dull emeralds
tincta gerens rubro Punica rostra croco.
dyed bearing with-red Punic beak saffron.
Non fuit in terris vocum simulantior ales —
Not was on earth of-voices more-imitative a-bird
reddebas blaeso tam bene verba sono!
you-gave-back with-lisping so well words sound!
Raptus es invidia — non tu fera bella movebas;
Snatched you-were by-envy not you fierce wars were-stirring;
garrulus et placidae pacis amator eras.
talkative and of-calm peace a-lover you-were.
Ecce, coturnices inter sua proelia vivunt;
Behold, quails amid their-own battles live;
forsitan et fiant inde frequenter anus.
perhaps also they-become thence frequently old-women.
Plenus eras minimo, nec prae sermonis amore
Full you-were with-very-little, nor for of-talk love
in multos poteras ora vacare cibos.
on many you-could mouth to-have-leisure foods.
Nux erat esca tibi, causaeque papavera somni,
Nut was food for-you, and-cause poppies of-sleep,
pellebatque sitim simplicis umor aquae.
and-drove-away thirst of-simple moisture water.
Vivit edax vultur ducensque per aera gyros
Lives greedy vulture and-drawing through air circles
miluus et pluviae graculus auctor aquae;
the-kite and of-rain the-jackdaw herald water;
vivit et armiferae cornix invisa Minervae —
lives also to-armor-bearing the-crow hated Minerva

illa quidem saeclis vix moritura novem;
she indeed in-ages hardly about-to-die nine;
occidit illa loquax humanae vocis imago,
has-died that talkative of-human voice image,
psittacus, extremo munus ab orbe datum!
parrot, the-farthest gift from world given!
Optima prima fere manibus rapiuntur avaris;
The-best first generally by-hands are-snatched greedy;
inplentur numeris deteriora suis.
are-filled-up numbers worse their-own.
Tristia Phylacidae Thersites funera vidit,
Grim Protesilaus' Thersites funeral saw,
iamque cinis vivis fratribus Hector erat.
and-already ash living with-brothers Hector was.
Quid referam timidae pro te pia vota puellae —
Why should-I-tell of-timid for you dutiful vows girl
vota procelloso per mare rapta Noto?
vows by-stormy over sea carried-off South-wind?
Septima lux venit non exhibitura sequentem,
The-seventh day came not about-to-show the-following,
et stabat vacuo iam tibi Parca colo.
and stood with-empty already for-you Fate distaff.
Nec tamen ignavo stupuerunt verba palato;
Nor still in-sluggish were-numbed words palate;
clamavit moriens lingua: 'Corinna, vale!'
cried dying tongue: 'Corinna, farewell!'
Colle sub Elysio nigra nemus ilice frondet,
A-hill beneath Elysian black grove with-ilex leafs,
udaque perpetuo gramine terra viret.
and-moist with-perpetual grass earth is-green.

Siqua fides dubiis, volucrum locus ille piarum
If-any faith in-doubtful-things, of-birds place that dutiful
dicitur, obscenae quo prohibentur aves.
is-said, foul from-where are-kept birds.
Illic innocui late pascuntur olores
There harmless widely feed swans
et vivax phoenix, unica semper avis;
and long-lived phoenix, unique always bird;
explicat ipsa suas ales Iunonia pinnas,
spreads itself its-own bird Junonian wings,
oscula dat cupido blanda columba mari.
kisses gives to-eager coaxing dove male.
Psittacus has inter nemorali sede receptus
The-parrot these among in-woodland seat received
convertit volucres in sua verba pias.
turns birds toward his-own words dutiful.
Ossa tegit tumulus — tumulus pro corpore magnus —
Bones covers a-mound a-mound for body great
quo lapis exiguus par sibi carmen habet:
on-which stone small equal to-itself verse has:
colligor ex ipso dominae placuisse sepulcro.
I-am-gathered from very to-mistress to-have-pleased tomb.
Ora fuere mihi plus ave docta loqui.
Mouth was to-me more than-bird skilled to-speak.

His mistress accuses Ovid over every glance in the theater and every woman he praises, and now of an affair with her maid Cypassis, the hairdresser. Ovid swears by Venus that he is innocent: no free man would bed a slave whose back is cut by the whip, and he would hardly proposition a maid so loyal to her mistress, only to be betrayed and rebuffed.

Ergo sufficiam reus in nova crimina semper?
So shall-I-suffice as-defendant against new charges always?
Ut vincam, totiens dimicuisse piget.
Though I-win, so-often to-have-fought irks.
Sive ego marmorei respexi summa theatri,
Whether I of-marble have-looked-back-at the-top theater,
eligis e multis, unde dolere velis;
you-choose from many, whence to-grieve you-may-wish;
candida seu tacito vidit me femina vultu,
fair or-if with-silent has-seen me woman face,
in vultu tacitas arguis esse notas.
in face silent you-charge to-be signs.
Siquam laudavi, misero petis ungue capillos;
If-any-woman I-have-praised, wretched you-attack with-nail hair;
si culpo, crimen dissimulare putas.
if I-blame, a-crime to-dissemble you-think.
Sive bonus color est, in te quoque frigidus esse,
Whether good color is, toward you too cold to-be,
seu malus, alterius dicor amore mori.
or-if bad, for-another's I-am-said love to-die.
Atque ego peccati vellem mihi conscius essem!
And I of-sin I-would-wish to-myself conscious were!

Aequo animo poenam, qui meruere, ferunt;
With-even mind penalty, who have-deserved-it, bear;
nunc temere insimulas credendoque omnia frustra
now rashly you-accuse and-by-believing everything in-vain
ipsa vetas iram pondus habere tuam.
yourself you-forbid anger weight to-have your.
Adspice, ut auritus miserandae sortis asellus
Look, how long-eared of-pitiable lot little-ass
adsiduo domitus verbere lentus eat!
by-constant tamed blow sluggish goes!
Ecce novum crimen! sollers ornare Cypassis
Behold new charge! skilled at-dressing Cypassis
obicitur dominae contemerasse torum.
is-charged of-mistress to-have-defiled bed.
Di melius, quam me, si sit peccasse libido,
Gods better, than me, if there-be to-have-sinned desire,
sordida contemptae sortis amica iuvet!
a-base of-despised lot mistress should-please!
Quis Veneris famulae conubia liber inire
Who of-Venus with-a-slave marriages free to-enter
tergaque conplecti verbere secta velit?
and-back to-embrace by-whip cut would-wish?
Adde, quod ornandis illa est operata capillis
Add, that in-dressing she is busied hair
et tibi perdocta est grata ministra manu —
and to-you thoroughly-skilled is welcome servant by-hand
scilicet ancillam, quae tam tibi fida, rogarem!
doubtless a-maid, who so to-you faithful, I-would-ask!
Quid, nisi ut indicio iuncta repulsa foret?
What, except that by-betrayal joined rebuff would-be?

Per Venerem iuro puerique volatilis arcus,
By Venus I-swear and-of-the-boy winged the-bow,
me non admissi criminis esse reum!
me not committed of-crime to-be the-defendant!

II.8 · HE BLACKMAILS CYPASSIS

Ovid turns to Cypassis herself and asks how Corinna learned of their affair. He reminds her that heroes loved slave girls, and that his false oath by Venus saved her. As his reward he asks to sleep with her today. If she refuses, he will confess everything to Corinna himself: where, how often, and in what ways.

Ponendis in mille modos perfecta capillis,
In-arranging in a-thousand ways perfect hair,
comere sed solas digna, Cypassi, deas,
to-dress but only worthy, Cypassis, goddesses,
et mihi iucundo non rustica cognita furto,
and to-me in-pleasant not boorish known theft,
apta quidem dominae, sed magis apta mihi —
fit indeed for-mistress, but more fit for-me
quis fuit inter nos sociati corporis index? 5
who was among us of-joined body the-informer?
Sensit concubitus unde Corinna tuos?
Sensed lyings-together whence Corinna your?
Num tamen erubui? num, verbo lapsus in ullo,
Surely-not still did-I-blush? surely-not, word slipped in any,
furtivae Veneris conscia signa dedi?
of-stealthy Venus conscious signs did-I-give?
Quid, quod in ancilla siquis delinquere possit,
What, that in a-maid if-anyone to-transgress could,

illum ego contendi mente carere bona?
him I contended mind to-lack good?
Thessalus ancillae facie Briseidos arsit;
The-Thessalian of-a-maid for-beauty Briseis burned;
serva Mycenaeo Phoebas amata duci.
a-slave by-Mycenaean Phoebus'-priestess loved leader.
Nec sum ego Tantalide maior, nec maior Achille;
Nor am I than-the-Tantalid greater, nor greater than-Achilles;
quod decuit reges, cur mihi turpe putem?
what befitted kings, why to-me shameful should-I-think?
Ut tamen iratos in te defixit ocellos,
When still angry on you she-fixed little-eyes,
vidi te totis erubuisse genis;
I-saw you with-whole to-have-blushed cheeks;
at quanto, si forte refers, praesentior ipse
but how-much, if perhaps you-recall, more-present myself
per Veneris feci numina magna fidem!
by of-Venus I-made divinity great faith!
Tu, dea, tu iubeas animi periuria puri
You, goddess, you bid of-mind the-perjuries pure
Carpathium tepidos per mare ferre Notos!
Carpathian warm over sea to-carry South-winds!
Pro quibus officiis pretium mihi dulce repende
For which services reward to-me sweet repay
concubitus hodie, fusca Cypassi, tuos!
lying-together today, dusky Cypassis, your!
Quid renuis fingisque novos, ingrata, timores?
Why do-you-refuse and-feign new, ungrateful, fears?
Unum est e dominis emeruisse satis.
One it-is from masters to-have-earned enough.

Quod si stulta negas, index anteacta fatebor,
But if foolish you-refuse, as-informer past-deeds I-will-confess,
et veniam culpae proditor ipse meae,
and I-shall-come of-fault betrayer myself my,
quoque loco tecum fuerim, quotiensque, Cypassi,
and-in-what place with-you I-was, and-how-often, Cypassis,
narrabo dominae, quotque quibusque modis!
I-will-tell to-mistress, and-how-many and-in-what ways!

II.9A · A COMPLAINT TO CUPID

Ovid reproaches Cupid for wounding his own loyal soldier. A hunter leaves what he has caught to chase new game; Cupid should turn his bow on the many men and women who have never loved. The veteran soldier, the racehorse, and the old ship are retired; Ovid too has earned his discharge.

O numquam pro me satis indignate Cupido,
O never for me enough indignant Cupid,
o in corde meo desidiose puer —
O in heart my idle boy
quid me, qui miles numquam tua signa reliqui,
why me, who as-soldier never your standards have-left,
laedis, et in castris vulneror ipse meis?
do-you-hurt, and in camp am-I-wounded myself my?
Cur tua fax urit, figit tuus arcus amicos?
Why your torch burns, pierces your bow friends?
Gloria pugnantes vincere maior erat.
Glory fighters to-conquer greater was.
Quid? non Haemonius, quem cuspide perculit, heros
What? not the-Haemonian, whom with-spear he-struck, hero

confossum medica postmodo iuvit ope?
pierced healing later helped with-help?
Venator sequitur fugientia; capta relinquit
The-hunter follows fleeing-things; captured he-leaves
semper et inventis ulteriora petit.
always and than-found further-things seeks.
Nos tua sentimus, populus tibi deditus, arma;
We your feel, a-people to-you devoted, arms;
pigra reluctanti cessat in hoste manus.
sluggish resisting idles on foe hand.
Quid iuvat in nudis hamata retundere tela
What does-it-help on bare hooked to-blunt shafts
ossibus? ossa mihi nuda relinquit amor.
bones? bones to-me bare leaves love.
Tot sine amore viri, tot sunt sine amore puellae! —
So-many without love men, so-many are without love girls!
hinc tibi cum magna laude triumphus eat.
from-here for-you with great praise a-triumph may-go.
Roma, nisi inmensum vires movisset in orbem,
Rome, unless immense strength she-had-moved into world,
stramineis esset nunc quoque tecta casis.
of-straw would-be now too covered with-huts.
Fessus in acceptos miles deducitur agros;
Weary onto received soldier is-led-down fields;
mittitur in saltus carcere liber equus;
is-sent into pastures from-the-starting-gate free horse;
longaque subductam celant navalia pinum,
and-long hauled-up hide dockyards pine,
tutaque deposito poscitur ense rudis.
and-safe with-laid-down is-asked sword the-wooden-foil.

Me quoque, qui totiens merui sub amore puellae,
Me too, who so-often have-served under love of-a-girl,
defunctum placide vivere tempus erat.
discharged calmly to-live time it-was.

II.9B · HE WILL NOT BE DISCHARGED

If a god told him to live without love, Ovid would refuse, so sweet is the evil. When he has had enough, he is swept back like a runaway horse or a ship blown out from harbor. He bares himself to Cupid's arrows and calls sleep an image of death. Cupid may rule his heart, and add girls to his realm.

'Vive' deus 'posito' siquis mihi dicat 'amore!'
'Live' a-god 'with-laid-aside' if-anyone to-me should-say 'love!'
Deprecer — usque adeo dulce puella malum est.
I-would-beg-off so far sweet a-girl evil is.
Cum bene pertaesum est, animoque relanguit ardor,
When well wearied it-is, and-in-spirit has-grown-faint ardor,
nescio quo miserae turbine mentis agor.
by-I-know-not what of-wretched whirlwind mind I-am-driven.
Ut rapit in praeceps dominum spumantia frustra
As carries into headlong master foaming vainly
frena retentantem durior oris equus;
reins holding-back harder-of mouth horse;
ut subitus, prope iam prensa tellure, carinam
as sudden, almost already grasped with-land, keel
tangentem portus ventus in alta rapit —
touching harbor wind onto the-deep snatches
sic me saepe refert incerta Cupidinis aura,
so me often carries-back uncertain of-Cupid breeze,

notaque purpureus tela resumit Amor.
and-known crimson shafts resumes Love.
Fige, puer! positis nudus tibi praebeor armis;
Pierce, boy! with-laid-aside bare to-you I-am-offered arms;
hic tibi sunt vires, hic tua dextra facit;
here for-you is strength, here your right-hand acts;
huc tamquam iussae veniunt iam sponte sagittae —
here as-if ordered come now of-their-own-accord arrows
vix illis prae me nota pharetra sua est!
hardly to-them compared-with me known quiver their-own is!
Infelix, tota quicumque quiescere nocte
Unhappy, whole whoever to-rest night
sustinet et somnos praemia magna vocat!
endures and sleep rewards great calls!
Stulte, quid est somnus, gelidae nisi mortis imago!
Fool, what is sleep, of-cold except death the-image!
Longa quiescendi tempora fata dabunt.
Long of-resting times fates will-give.
Me modo decipiant voces fallacis amicae;
Me only may-deceive words of-false mistress;
sperando certe gaudia magna feram.
by-hoping surely joys great I-shall-get.
Et modo blanditias dicat, modo iurgia nectat;
And now endearments may-she-speak, now quarrels may-she-weave;
saepe fruar domina, saepe repulsus eam.
often may-I-enjoy mistress, often repulsed may-I-go.
Quod dubius Mars est, per te, privigne Cupido, est;
That doubtful Mars is, through you, stepson Cupid, it-is;
et movet exemplo vitricus arma tuo.
and moves by-example stepfather arms your.

Tu levis es multoque tuis ventosior alis,
You fickle are and-by-far than-your more-windy wings,
gaudiaque ambigua dasque negasque fide.
and-joys with-ambiguous you-both-give and-deny faith.
Si tamen exaudis, pulchra cum matre, Cupido,
If still you-hearken, beautiful with mother, Cupid,
indeserta meo pectore regna gere!
undeserted in-my breast realm wield!
Accedant regno, nimium vaga turba, puellae!
Let-be-added to-the-realm, too wandering throng, girls!
Ambobus populis sic venerandus eris.
By-both peoples so to-be-revered you-will-be.

II.10 · TWO AT ONCE

Ovid tells Graecinus, who said no one could love two women at once, that he does. Both are beautiful and accomplished, and he cannot choose between them. Better two than none; he can satisfy both. He prays to die in the act of love, so that a mourner may say that his death fitted his life.

Tu mihi, tu certe, memini, Graecine, negabas
You to-me, you surely, I-remember, Graecinus, were-denying
uno posse aliquem tempore amare duas.
at-one to-be-able anyone time to-love two.
Per te ego decipior, per te deprensus inermis —
Through you I am-deceived, through you caught unarmed
ecce, duas uno tempore turpis amo!
behold, two at-one time shameful I-love!
Utraque formosa est, operosae cultibus ambae;
Each beautiful is, assiduous in-adornment both;

artibus in dubio est haec sit an illa prior.
in-arts in doubt it-is this-one be or that-one prior.
Pulchrior hac illa est, haec est quoque pulchrior illa;
More-beautiful than-this that-one is, this-one is too more-beautiful than-that;
et magis haec nobis, et magis illa placet!
and more this-one to-us, and more that-one pleases!
Errant ut ventis discordibus acta phaselos
They-wander as by-winds discordant driven a-yacht
dividuumque tenent alter et alter amor.
and-divided hold one and another love.
Quid geminas, Erycina, meos sine fine dolores?
Why do-you-double, Erycina, my without end pains?
Non erat in curas una puella satis?
Not was for cares one girl enough?
Quid folia arboribus, quid pleno sidera caelo,
Why leaves to-trees, why to-full stars sky,
in freta collectas alta quid addis aquas?
to seas collected deep why add waters?
Sed tamen hoc melius, quam si sine amore iacerem —
But still this better, than if without love I-lay
hostibus eveniat vita severa meis!
to-foes may-befall life austere my!
Hostibus eveniat viduo dormire cubili
To-foes may-befall in-widowed to-sleep bed
et medio laxe ponere membra toro!
and in-mid loosely to-place limbs bed!
At mihi saevus amor somnos abrumpat inertes,
But for-me savage love sleep may-break idle,
simque mei lecti non ego solus onus!
and-may-I-be of-my bed not I alone the-burden!

Me mea disperdat nullo prohibente puella —
Me my may-ruin with-no-one hindering girl
si satis una potest, si minus una, duae!
if enough one can, if less one, two!
Sufficiam — graciles, non sunt sine viribus artus;
I-shall-suffice slender, not are without strength limbs;
pondere, non nervis corpora nostra carent;
in-weight, not in-sinews bodies our are-lacking;
et lateri dabit in vires alimenta voluptas.
and to-flank will-give for strength nourishment pleasure.
Decepta est opera nulla puella mea;
Cheated was by-work no girl my;
saepe ego lascive consumpsi tempora noctis,
often I wantonly have-spent the-times of-night,
utilis et forti corpore mane fui.
useful and with-strong body in-the-morning was.
Felix, quem Veneris certamina mutua perdunt!
Happy-he, whom of-Venus contests mutual destroy!
Di faciant, leti causa sit ista mei!
Gods grant, of-death the-cause be that my!
Induat adversis contraria pectora telis
May-put-on against-hostile opposite breast weapons
miles et aeternum sanguine nomen emat.
the-soldier and eternal with-blood name may-buy.
Quaerat avarus opes et, quae lassarit arando,
May-seek the-greedy wealth and, which he-has-wearied by-plowing,
aequora periuro naufragus ore bibat.
seas with-perjured shipwrecked mouth may-drink.
At mihi contingat Veneris languescere motu,
But to-me may-it-befall of-Venus to-languish in-the-motion,

cum moriar, medium solvar et inter opus;
when I-die, mid may-I-be-dissolved and in work;
atque aliquis nostro lacrimans in funere dicat:
and some-one our weeping at funeral may-say:
'Conveniens vitae mors fuit ista tuae!'
'Befitting to-life death was that your!'

II.11 · CORINNA'S VOYAGE

Corinna is preparing to sail away, and Ovid curses the first ship, the Argo. He lists the dangers of the sea and urges her to stay on land; if she must go, he prays to Galatea and the Nereids for her safety. He imagines her return: he will see her ship first, carry her ashore, and make a couch of sand where she can tell him of the dangers she escaped.

Prima malas docuit mirantibus aequoris undis
First evil taught to-the-wondering of-the-sea waves
Peliaco pinus vertice caesa vias,
from-Pelian pine peak cut ways,
quae concurrentis inter temeraria cautes
which clashing between rash rocks
conspicuam fulvo vellere vexit ovem.
conspicuous with-tawny fleece carried sheep.
O utinam, nequis remo freta longa moveret,
O would-that, that-no-one with-oar seas long might-stir,
Argo funestas pressa bibisset aquas!
Argo deadly sunk had-drunk waters!
Ecce, fugit notumque torum sociosque Penates
Behold, flees both-known bed and-shared Penates
fallacisque vias ire Corinna parat.
and-treacherous ways to-go Corinna prepares.

Quid tibi, me miserum! Zephyros Eurosque timebo
What for-you, me wretched! Zephyrs and-East-winds shall-I-fear
et gelidum Borean egelidumque Notum?
and icy Boreas and-mild South-wind?
Non illic urbes, non tu mirabere silvas;
Not there cities, not you will-admire woods;
una est iniusti caerula forma maris.
one is of-unjust blue form sea.
Nec medius tenuis conchas pictosque lapillos
Nor the-mid fine shells and-painted pebbles
pontus habet; bibuli litoris illa mora est.
sea has; of-thirsty shore that delay is.
Litora marmoreis pedibus signate, puellae;
Shores with-marble feet mark, girls;
hactenus est tutum — cetera caeca via est.
thus-far it-is safe the-rest blind way is.
Et vobis alii ventorum proelia narrent;
And to-you others of-winds battles may-tell;
quas Scylla infestet, quasve Charybdis aquas;
which Scylla infests, or-which Charybdis waters;
et quibus emineant violenta Ceraunia saxis;
and with-what stand-out violent Ceraunia rocks;
quo lateant Syrtes magna minorque sinu.
in-what lie-bid Syrtes great and-lesser gulf.
Haec alii referant ad vos; quod quisque loquetur,
These-things others may-report to you; what each will-speak,
credite! credenti nulla procella nocet.
believe! to-one-believing no storm harms.
Sero respicitur tellus, ubi fune soluto
Too-late is-looked-back-at land, when with-rope loosed

currit in inmensum panda carina salum;
runs into immense curved keel brine;
navita sollicitus cum ventos horret iniquos
the-sailor anxious when winds he-dreads unfavorable
et prope tam letum, quam prope cernit aquam.
and near so death, as near he-sees water.
Quod si concussas Triton exasperet undas,
But if shaken Triton should-roughen waves,
quam tibi sit toto nullus in ore color!
how to-you would-be whole no on face color!
Tum generosa voces fecundae sidera Ledae
Then noble you-would-call of-fruitful stars Leda
et 'felix,' dicas 'quem sua terra tenet!'
and 'happy-he,' you-would-say 'whom his-own land holds!'
Tutius est fovisse torum, legisse libellos,
Safer it-is to-have-warmed the-bed, to-have-read books,
Threiciam digitis increpuisse lyram.
Thracian with-fingers to-have-struck lyre.
At, si vana ferunt volucres mea dicta procellae,
But, if empty bear winged my words storms,
aequa tamen puppi sit Galatea tuae!
favorable still to-ship be Galatea your!
Vestrum crimen erit talis iactura puellae,
Your reproach will-be such the-loss of-a-girl,
Nereidesque deae Nereidumque pater.
both-Nereid goddesses and-of-the-Nereids father.
Vade memor nostri vento reditura secundo;
Go mindful of-us with-wind about-to-return favoring;
inpleat illa tuos fortior aura sinus!
may-fill that your stronger breeze folds!

Tum mare in haec magnus proclinet litora Nereus;
Then the-sea toward these great may-incline shores Nereus;
huc venti spirent, huc agat aestus aquas!
hither the-winds may-blow, hither may-drive the-tide waters!
Ipsa roges, Zephyri veniant in lintea pleni,
Yourself may-you-ask, Zephyrs may-come onto canvas full,
ipsa tua moveas turgida vela manu!
yourself with-your may-you-move swollen sails hand!
Primus ego adspiciam notam de litore puppim,
First I shall-see known from shore ship,
et dicam: 'nostros advehit illa deos!'
and I-shall-say: 'our brings it gods!'
Excipiamque umeris et multa sine ordine carpam
And-I-shall-take-you on-shoulders and many without order shall-pluck
oscula. pro reditu victima vota cadet;
kisses. for the-return victim vowed will-fall;
inque tori formam molles sternentur harenae,
and-in of-a-bed the-shape soft will-be-spread sands,
et tumulus mensae quilibet esse potest.
and a-mound for-a-table any to-be can.
Illic adposito narrabis multa Lyaeo —
There with-set-out you-will-tell many-things Lyaeus
paene sit ut mediis obruta navis aquis;
almost it-was that in-mid overwhelmed the-ship waters;
dumque ad me properas, neque iniquae tempora noctis
and-while to me you-hasten, neither unfavorable times of-night
nec te praecipites extimuisse Notos.
nor you headlong to-have-feared South-winds.
Omnia pro veris credam, sint ficta licebit —
Everything as true I-shall-believe, they-may-be fictions they-may

cur ego non votis blandiar ipse meis?
why I not vows should-flatter myself my?
Haec mihi quamprimum caelo nitidissimus alto
These to-me as-soon-as-possible in-sky brightest high
Lucifer admisso tempora portet equo!
Lucifer loosened times may-bring with-horse!

II.12 · THE TRIUMPH

Ovid crowns himself with laurel: he has won Corinna, guarded by husband, guard, and bolted door, without bloodshed. He was general, horseman, foot soldier, and standard-bearer at once. Wars have often been fought for women, from Helen to the Sabines, and Cupid has now made him a soldier too, but without slaughter.

Ite triumphales circum mea tempora laurus!
Go triumphal around my temples laurels!
Vicimus: in nostro est, ecce, Corinna sinu,
We-have-conquered: in our is, behold, Corinna bosom,
quam vir, quam custos, quam ianua firma, tot hostes,
whom husband, whom guard, whom door firm, so-many foes,
servabant, nequa posset ab arte capi!
were-guarding, lest-any she-could by art to-be-captured!
Haec est praecipuo victoria digna triumpho,
This is of-special victory worthy triumph,
in qua, quaecumque est, sanguine praeda caret.
in which, whatever it-is, of-blood the-prize is-free.
Non humiles muri, non parvis oppida fossis
Not low walls, not with-small towns ditches
cincta, sed est ductu capta puella meo!
girt, but is by-leadership captured a-girl my!

Pergama cum caderent bello superata bilustri,
Pergamum when was-falling in-war overcome ten-year,
ex tot in Atridis pars quota laudis erat?
of so-many to the-sons-of-Atreus part how-small of-praise was?
At mea sepositа est et ab omni milite dissors
But my set-apart is and from every soldier unshared
gloria, nec titulum muneris alter habet.
glory, nor the-title of-the-reward another has.
Me duce ad hanc voti finem, me milite veni;
With-me as-leader to this of-the-vow end, with-me as-soldier I-came;
ipse eques, ipse pedes, signifer ipse fui.
myself horseman, myself foot-soldier, standard-bearer myself was.
Nec casum fortuna meis inmiscuit actis —
Nor chance fortune with-my has-mingled deeds
huc ades, o cura parte Triumphe mea!
hither come, O by-care won Triumph my!
Nec belli est nova causa mei. nisi rapta fuisset
Nor of-war is new the-cause my. unless carried-off had-been
Tyndaris, Europae pax Asiaeque foret.
Tyndareus'-daughter, of-Europe peace and-of-Asia would-be.
Femina silvestris Lapithas populumque biformem
A-woman the-woodland Lapiths and-the-people two-formed
turpiter adposito vertit in arma mero;
shamefully with-set-out turned to arms wine;
femina Troianos iterum nova bella movere
a-woman Trojans again new wars to-stir
inpulit in regno, iuste Latine, tuo;
drove in realm, just Latinus, your;
femina Romanis etiamnunc urbe recenti
a-woman on-Romans even-now with-city new

inmisit soceros armaque saeva dedit.
let-loose fathers-in-law and-arms savage gave.
Vidi ego pro nivea pugnantes coniuge tauros;
Saw I for snowy fighting mate bulls;
spectatrix animos ipsa iuvenca dabat.
as-spectator spirit herself the-heifer was-giving.
Me quoque, qui multos, sed me sine caede, Cupido
Me too, who many, but me without slaughter, Cupid
iussit militiae signa movere suae.
ordered of-warfare standards to-move his-own.

II.13 · CORINNA IN DANGER

Corinna lies in danger of her life after trying to end a pregnancy without telling him. Ovid is angry, but fear overcomes anger, since the child may have been his. He prays to Isis to save her, and to Ilithyia, goddess of childbirth, promising offerings and an inscription: Naso gives thanks for Corinna's safety.

Dum labefactat onus gravidi temeraria ventris,
While she-loosens the-burden of-pregnant rash womb,
in dubio vitae lassa Corinna iacet.
in doubt of-life exhausted Corinna lies.
Illa quidem clam me tantum molita pericli
She indeed without me so-much having-undertaken of-danger
ira digna mea; sed cadit ira metu.
of-anger worthy my; but falls anger through-fear.
Sed tamen aut ex me conceperat — aut ego credo;
But still either by me she-had-conceived or I believe;
est mihi pro facto saepe, quod esse potest.
is for-me as fact often, what to-be can.

Isi, Paraetonium genialiaque arva Canopi
Isis, Paraetonium and-fruitful fields of-Canopus
quae colis et Memphin palmiferamque Pharon,
who frequent and Memphis and-palm-bearing Pharos,
quaque celer Nilus lato delapsus in alveo
and-where swift the-Nile broad gliding-down in channel
per septem portus in maris exit aquas,
through seven mouths into of-the-sea goes-out waters,
per tua sistra precor, per Anubidis ora verendi —
by your sistrums I-pray, by of-Anubis the-face revered
sic tua sacra pius semper Osiris amet,
so your rites dutiful always Osiris may-love,
pigraque labatur circa donaria serpens,
and-sluggish may-glide around offerings the-serpent,
et comes in pompa corniger Apis eat!
and as-companion in procession horned Apis may-go!
Huc adhibe vultus, et in una parce duobus!
Hither turn face, and in one spare two!
Nam vitam dominae tu dabis, illa mihi.
For life to-the-mistress you will-give, she to-me.
Saepe tibi sedit certis operata diebus,
Often to-you she-has-sat on-fixed having-worshiped days,
qua tangit laurus Gallica turma tuas.
where touches laurels the-Gallic troop your.
Tuque laborantes utero miserata puellas,
And-you laboring with-womb having-pitied girls,
quarum tarda latens corpora tendit onus,
whose slow hidden bodies stretches burden,
lenis ades precibusque meis fave, Ilithyia!
gentle be-present and-to-prayers my be-favorable, Ilithyia!

Digna est, quam iubeas muneris esse tui.
Worthy she-is, whom you-should-bid of-gift to-be your.
Ipse ego tura dabo fumosis candidus aris,
Myself I incense will-give at-smoky clothed-in-white altars,
ipse feram ante tuos munera vota pedes.
myself will-bring before your gifts vowed feet.
Adiciam titulum: 'servata Naso Corinna!'
I-will-add an-inscription: 'saved Naso with-Corinna!'
Tu modo fac titulo muneribusque locum.
You only see-to-it for-inscription and-gifts room.
Si tamen in tanto fas est monuisse timore,
If still in so-great right it-is to-have-warned fear,
hac tibi sit pugna dimicuisse satis!
in-this for-you let-it-be battle to-have-fought enough!

II.14 · AGAINST ABORTION

Ovid rails against women who abort their children. If mothers had always done so, the human race would have died out; neither Achilles, nor Romulus and Remus, nor Aeneas and the Caesars would have been born, and the woman he addresses would have perished, and he too. Not even tigresses and lionesses destroy their young, and the women who do often die themselves. He prays the gods to forgive her this once.

Quid iuvat inmunes belli cessare puellas,
What does-it-help free from-war to-be-idle girls,
nec fera peltatas agmina velle sequi,
nor fierce shield-bearing columns to-wish to-follow,
si sine Marte suis patiuntur vulnera telis,
if without Mars with-their-own they-suffer wounds weapons,
et caecas armant in sua fata manus?
and blind they-arm toward their-own fate hands?

Quae prima instituit teneros convellere fetus,
She-who first began tender to-tear-away offspring,
militia fuerat digna perire sua.
in-warfare had-been worthy to-perish her-own.
Scilicet, ut careat rugarum crimine venter,
Doubtless, that may-be-free of-wrinkles from-the-charge belly,
sternetur pugnae tristis harena tuae?
will-be-strewn of-fight grim the-sand your?
Si mos antiquis placuisset matribus idem,
If the-custom to-ancient had-pleased mothers same,
gens hominum vitio deperitura fuit,
the-race of-men by-fault about-to-perish was,
quique iterum iaceret generis primordia nostri
and-one-who again might-throw of-race the-beginnings our
in vacuo lapides orbe, parandus erat.
in empty stones world, to-be-found was.
Quis Priami fregisset opes, si numen aquarum
Who of-Priam would-have-broken the-wealth, if the-divinity of-waters
iusta recusasset pondera ferre Thetis?
due had-refused weights to-bear Thetis?
Ilia si tumido geminos in ventre necasset,
Ilia if swollen the-twins in womb had-killed,
casurus dominae conditor Urbis erat;
about-to-fall of-mistress the-founder of-the-City was;
si Venus Aenean gravida temerasset in alvo,
if Venus Aeneas pregnant had-violated in womb,
Caesaribus tellus orba futura fuit.
of-Caesars the-land bereft going-to-be was.
Tu quoque, cum posses nasci formosa, perisses,
You too, though you-could to-be-born beautiful, would-have-perished,

temptasset, quod tu, si tua mater opus;
had-tried, what you, if your mother work;
ipse ego, cum fuerim melius periturus amando,
myself I, although I-should-be better about-to-perish by-loving,
vidissem nullos matre necante dies.
would-have-seen no with-mother killing days.
Quid plenam fraudas vitem crescentibus uvis,
Why full do-you-cheat vine with-growing grapes,
pomaque crudeli vellis acerba manu?
and-fruits with-cruel do-you-pluck unripe hand?
Sponte fluant matura sua — sine crescere nata;
Of-accord let-fall ripe their-own allow to-grow born;
est pretium parvae non leve vita morae.
is the-reward of-small not light life delay.
Vestra quid effoditis subiectis viscera telis,
Your why do-you-dig-out with-placed-beneath bowels weapons,
et nondum natis dira venena datis?
and to-not-yet born dread poisons do-you-give?
Colchida respersam puerorum sanguine culpant
The-Colchian sprinkled of-children with-blood they-blame
atque sua caesum matre queruntur Ityn;
and by-his-own slain mother lament Itys;
utraque saeva parens, sed tristibus utraque causis
each savage parent, but for-grim each causes
iactura socii sanguinis ulta virum.
by-loss of-shared blood avenged husband.
Dicite, quis Tereus, quis vos inritet Iaso
Say, what Tereus, what you provokes Jason
figere sollicita corpora vestra manu?
to-pierce with-anxious bodies your hand?

Hoc neque in Armeniis tigres fecere latebris,
This neither in Armenian tigers did lairs,
perdere nec fetus ausa leaena suos.
to-destroy nor offspring dared lioness her-own.
At tenerae faciunt, sed non inpune, puellae;
But tender do-it, but not with-impunity, girls;
saepe, suos utero quae necat, ipsa perit.
often, her-own in-the-womb who kills, herself perishes.
Ipsa perit, ferturque rogo resoluta capillos,
Herself she-perishes, and-is-borne to-the-pyre loosened as-to-hair,
et clamant 'merito!' qui modo cumque vident.
and they-shout 'deserved!' who just -ever see.
Ista sed aetherias vanescant dicta per auras,
These but ethereal may-vanish words through airs,
et sint ominibus pondera nulla meis!
and be to-omens weight no my!
Di faciles, peccasse semel concedite tuto,
Gods kind, to-have-sinned once grant safely,
et satis est; poenam culpa secunda ferat!
and enough it-is; penalty fault second may-bear!

Ovid sends a ring to his mistress and wishes he could become it, by Circe's or Proteus' arts, so as to touch her, slip into her bosom, and seal her letters after her lips have moistened the stone. He would stay on her finger even in the bath. He ends by asking her to receive the gift as a pledge of his faith.

Anule, formosae digitum vincture puellae,
Ring, of-beautiful the-finger about-to-bind girl,
in quo censendum nil nisi dantis amor,
in which to-be-valued nothing except of-the-giver the-love,
munus eas gratum! te laeta mente receptum
gift may-you-go welcome! you with-glad mind received
protinus articulis induat illa suis;
at-once on-joints may-put she her-own;
tam bene convenias, quam mecum convenit illi,
so well may-you-fit, as with-me fits her,
et digitum iusto commodus orbe teras!
and the-finger with-proper easy circle may-you-rub!
Felix, a domina tractaberis, anule, nostra;
Happy, by mistress you-will-be-handled, ring, our;
invideo donis iam miser ipse meis.
I-envy gifts now wretched myself my.
O utinam fieri subito mea munera possem
O would-that to-become suddenly my gift I-could
artibus Aeaeae Carpathiive senis!
by-the-arts of-the-Aeaean or-of-the-Carpathian old-man!
Tunc ego te cupiam, domina, et tetigisse papillas,
Then I you would-desire, mistress, and to-have-touched breasts,
et laevam tunicis inseruisse manum —
and left into-tunic to-have-inserted hand

elabar digito quamvis angustus et haerens,
I-would-slip from-finger although tight and clinging,
inque sinum mira laxus ab arte cadam.
and-into bosom wonderful loose by art should-fall.
Idem ego, ut arcanas possim signare tabellas,
The-same I, that secret I-may-be-able to-seal tablets,
neve tenax ceram siccaque gemma trahat,
and-lest clinging wax and-dry gem may-pull,
umida formosae tangam prius ora puellae —
moist of-beautiful I-would-touch first the-lips girl
tantum ne signem scripta dolenda mihi.
only lest I-should-seal writings to-be-regretted by-me.
Si dabor ut condar loculis, exire negabo,
If I-shall-be-given that I-be-stored in-a-box, to-go-out I-will-refuse,
adstringens digitos orbe minore tuos.
tightening fingers with-circle smaller your.
Non ego dedecori tibi sim, mea vita, futurus,
Not I a-disgrace to-you may-I-be, my life, about-to-be,
quodve tener digitus ferre recuset, onus.
or-what tender finger to-bear may-refuse, burden.
Me gere, cum calidis perfundes imbribus artus,
Me wear, when warm you-drench with-showers limbs,
damnaque sub gemma perfer euntis aquae —
and-damage under the-gem endure of-going water
sed, puto, te nuda mea membra libidine surgent,
but, I-think, with-you naked my members with-lust will-rise,
et peragam partes anulus ille viri.
and I-shall-play the-part ring that of-a-man.
Inrita quid voveo? parvum proficiscere munus;
Vain why do-I-vow? small set-out gift;

illa datam tecum sentiat esse fidem!
she given with-you may-feel to-be faith!

II.16 · SULMO WITHOUT HER

Ovid is at Sulmo, in the well-watered Paelignian country, rich in grain, vines, and olives. But his love is away, and without her the place seems Scythia or Britain. With her he would cross the Alps or the Syrtes. He reminds her of her promise to come and asks the mountains and roads to make her journey easy.

Pars me Sulmo tenet Paeligni tertia ruris —
Part me Sulmo holds of-Paelignian the-third countryside
parva, sed inriguis ora salubris aquis.
small, but with-irrigating shore healthy waters.
Sol licet admoto tellurem sidere findat,
The-sun although with-moved-near earth star may-split,
et micet Icarii stella proterva canis,
and may-flash of-Icarius' the-star shameless dog,
arva pererrantur Paeligna liquentibus undis,
fields are-wandered-through Paelignian with-clear waves,
et viret in tenero fertilis herba solo.
and is-green in tender fertile grass soil.
Terra ferax Cereris multoque feracior uvis;
Land fruitful of-Ceres and-by-far more-fruitful in-grapes;
dat quoque baciferam Pallada rarus ager;
gives too berry-bearing Pallas scattered field;
perque resurgentes rivis labentibus herbas
and-through rising-again with-streams gliding grasses
gramineus madidam caespes obumbrat humum.
grassy wet turf shades ground.

At meus ignis abest. verbo peccavimus uno! —
But my fire is-away. in-word we-have-erred one!
quae movet ardores est procul; ardor adest.
she-who stirs ardors is far; ardor is-here.
Non ego, si medius Polluce et Castore ponar,
Not I, if in-the-middle between-Pollux and Castor I-were-placed,
in caeli sine te parte fuisse velim.
in of-heaven without you part to-have-been would-wish.
Solliciti iaceant terraque premantur iniqua,
Anxious may-they-lie and-by-earth be-pressed heavy,
in longas orbem qui secuere vias! —
into long the-world who cut ways!
aut iuvenum comites iussissent ire puellas,
or of-young-men as-companions they-should-have-bidden to-go girls,
si fuit in longas terra secanda vias!
if it-was in long land to-be-cut ways!
Tum mihi, si premerem ventosas horridus Alpes,
Then for-me, if I-were-treading windy bristling Alps,
dummodo cum domina, molle fuisset iter.
provided with mistress, soft would-have-been the-journey.
Cum domina Libycas ausim perrumpere Syrtes
With mistress Libyan I-would-dare to-break-through Syrtes
et dare non aequis vela ferenda Notis.
and to-give not to-favorable sails to-be-borne South-winds.
Non quae virgineo portenta sub inguine latrant,
Not which maidenly monsters under groin bark,
nec timeam vestros, curva Malea, sinus;
nor would-I-fear your, curved Malea, bays;
non quae submersis ratibus saturata Charybdis
not which with-sunk ships glutted Charybdis

fundit et effusas ore receptat aquas.
pours-out and poured from-mouth takes-back waters.
Quod si Neptuni ventosa potentia vincit,
But if of-Neptune windy power prevails,
et subventuros auferet unda deos,
and about-to-come-to-help will-carry-off the-wave gods,
tu nostris niveos umeris inpone lacertos;
you on-our snowy shoulders lay arms;
corpore nos facili dulce feremus onus.
with-body we easy sweet will-bear burden.
Saepe petens Heron iuvenis transnaverat undas;
Often seeking Hero the-youth had-swum-across waves;
tum quoque transnasset, sed via caeca fuit.
then too he-would-have-swum-across, but the-way dark was.
At sine te, quamvis operosi vitibus agri
But without you, although laborious with-vines fields
me teneant, quamvis amnibus arva natent,
me may-hold, although with-streams fields swim,
et vocet in rivos currentem rusticus undam,
and may-call into channels running rustic wave,
frigidaque arboreas mulceat aura comas,
and-cold of-trees may-soothe breeze foliage,
non ego Paelignos videor celebrare salubres,
not I the-Paeligni seem to-frequent healthy,
non ego natalem, rura paterna, locum —
not I natal, the-fields paternal, place
sed Scythiam Cilicasque feros viridesque Britannos,
but Scythia and-Cilicians fierce and-green Britons,
quaeque Prometheo saxa cruore rubent.
and-which Promethean rocks with-gore are-red.

Ulmus amat vitem, vitis non deserit ulmum;
The-elm loves the-vine, the-vine not deserts the-elm;
separor a domina cur ego saepe mea?
am-I-separated from mistress why I often my?
At mihi te comitem iuraras usque futuram —
But to-me you as-companion you-had-sworn always to-be
per me perque oculos, sidera nostra, tuos!
by me and-by eyes, stars our, your!
Verba puellarum, foliis leviora caducis,
The-words of-girls, than-leaves lighter falling,
inrita, qua visum est, ventus et unda ferunt.
vain, where seemed-good it-was, wind and wave carry.
Siqua mei tamen est in te pia cura relicti,
If-any of-me still is in you dutiful care left,
incipe pollicitis addere facta tuis,
begin to-promises to-add deeds your,
parvaque quamprimum rapientibus esseda mannis
and-small as-soon-as-possible snatching carriage with-ponies
ipsa per admissas concute lora iubas!
yourself through let-loose shake reins manes!
At vos, qua veniet, tumidi, subsidite, montes,
But you, where she-will-come, swollen, settle-down, mountains,
et faciles curvis vallibus este, viae!
and easy in-curved valleys be, ways!

Ovid will gladly be called a slave to his mistress, though Corinna is proud of her beauty. Goddesses have loved mortals, and unequal verses still pair well in elegy. She should take him on any terms: he will not shame her, and his poems will bring her fame, for many women want a name through him and one already passes herself off as Corinna, and he will sing of no one else.

Siquis erit, qui turpe putet servire puellae,
If-anyone will-be, who shameful may-think to-be-a-slave to-a-girl,
illo convincar iudice turpis ego!
with-him I-shall-be-convicted as-judge shameful I!
Sim licet infamis, dum me moderatius urat,
May-I-be granted infamous, provided me more-moderately may-burn,
quae Paphon et fluctu pulsa Cythera tenet.
she-who Paphos and by-wave beaten Cythera holds.
Atque utinam dominae miti quoque praeda fuissem
And would-that to-mistress gentle too the-prey I-had-been
formosae quoniam praeda futurus eram!
to-a-beautiful-one since prey about-to-be I-was!
Dat facies animos. facie violenta Corinna est —
Gives beauty pride. in-beauty violent Corinna is
me miserum! cur est tam bene nota sibi?
me wretched! why is-she so well known to-herself?
Scilicet a speculi sumuntur imagine fastus,
Doubtless from of-the-mirror are-taken the-image airs,
nec nisi conpositam se prius illa videt!
nor except composed herself first she sees!
Non, tibi si facies animum dat et omina regni —
Not, to-you if beauty pride gives and omens of-rule

o facies oculos nata tenere meos! —
O beauty eyes born to-hold my!
collatum idcirco tibi me contemnere debes;
compared therefore with-you me to-despise you-ought;
aptari magnis inferiora licet.
to-be-fitted to-great lesser-things it-is-allowed.
Traditur et nymphe mortalis amore Calypso
Is-handed-down also the-nymph of-a-mortal by-love Calypso
capta recusantem detinuisse virum.
captured refusing to-have-detained man.
Creditur aequoream Phthio Nereida regi,
Is-believed the-sea-nymph Phthian Nereid with-king,
Egeriam iusto concubuisse Numae,
Egeria with-just to-have-lain Numa,
Vulcano Venerem, quamvis incude relicta
with-Vulcan Venus, although with-anvil left
turpiter obliquo claudicet ille pede.
shamefully with-crooked limps he foot.
Carminis hoc ipsum genus inpar; sed tamen apte
Of-song this very kind unequal; but still fittingly
iungitur herous cum breviore modo.
is-joined the-heroic with shorter measure.
Tu quoque me, mea lux, in quaslibet accipe leges;
You too me, my light, on any receive terms;
te deceat medio iura dedisse foro.
you may-it-befit in-mid laws to-have-given forum.
Non tibi crimen ero, nec quo laetere remoto;
Not to-you a-reproach shall-I-be, nor with-whom you-would-rejoice removed;
non erit hic nobis infitiandus amor.
not will-be this by-us to-be-denied love.

Sunt mihi pro magno felicia carmina censu,
There-are to-me for great happy songs wealth,
et multae per me nomen habere volunt;
and many through me name to-have wish;
novi aliquam, quae se circumferat esse Corinnam.
I-know some-woman, who herself goes-about-saying to-be Corinna.
Ut fiat, quid non illa dedisse velit?
That it-may-be-so, what not she to-have-given would-wish?
Sed neque diversi ripa labuntur eadem
But neither differing in-bank glide the-same
frigidus Eurotas populiferque Padus,
cold Eurotas and-poplar-bearing Po,
nec nisi tu nostris cantabitur ulla libellis;
nor except you in-our will-be-sung any books;
ingenio causas tu dabis una meo.
to-genius causes you will-give alone my.

II.18 · TO MACER

While Macer writes epic on the Trojan war, Ovid stays in Venus' shade: whenever he tries something grand, his mistress keeps him from it, and his attempt at tragedy ended in Love's laughter. Instead he teaches the art of love and writes the heroines' letters, which Sabinus has answered. Even Macer's war, Ovid notes, is full of love.

Carmen ad iratum dum tu perducis Achillen
Song to angry while you lead Achilles
primaque iuratis induis arma viris,
and-first on-sworn put arms men,
nos, Macer, ignava Veneris cessamus in umbra,
we, Macer, sluggish of-Venus idle in shade,

et tener ausuros grandia frangit Amor.
and tender those-about-to-dare great-things breaks Love.
Saepe meae 'tandem' dixi 'discede' puellae —
Often to-my 'at-last' I-have-said 'depart' girl
in gremio sedit protinus illa meo.
on lap sat at-once she my.
Saepe 'pudet!' dixi — lacrimis vix illa retentis
Often 'it-shames!' I-said with-tears hardly she held-back
'me miseram! iam te' dixit 'amare pudet?'
'me wretched! already you' she-said 'to-love shames?'
Inplicuitque suos circum mea colla lacertos
And-she-twined her-own around my neck arms
et, quae me perdunt, oscula mille dedit.
and, which me ruin, kisses a-thousand gave.
Vincor, et ingenium sumptis revocatur ab armis,
I-am-conquered, and genius taken-up is-called-back from arms,
resque domi gestas et mea bella cano.
and-things at-home done and my wars I-sing.
Sceptra tamen sumpsi, curaque tragoedia nostra
The-scepter still I-took-up, and-with-care tragedy our
crevit, et huic operi quamlibet aptus eram.
grew, and for-this work as-you-please fit I-was.
Risit Amor pallamque meam pictosque cothurnos
Laughed Love and-robe my and-painted buskins
sceptraque privata tam cito sumpta manu.
and-scepter by-private so quickly taken-up hand.
Hinc quoque me dominae numen deduxit iniquae,
From-here too me of-mistress the-divinity drew-away unjust,
deque cothurnato vate triumphat Amor.
and-over buskined poet triumphs Love.

Quod licet, aut artes teneri profitemur Amoris —
What is-allowed, either the-arts of-tender we-profess Love
ei mihi, praeceptis urgeor ipse meis! —
ah me, by-precepts I-am-pressed myself my!
aut, quod Penelopes verbis reddatur Ulixi,
or, what of-Penelope in-words may-be-delivered to-Ulysses,
scribimus et lacrimas, Phylli relicta, tuas,
we-write and tears, Phyllis abandoned, your,
quod Paris et Macareus et quod male gratus Iaso
what Paris and Macareus and what badly grateful Jason
Hippolytique parens Hippolytusque legant,
and-Hippolytus' parent and-Hippolytus may-read,
quodque tenens strictum Dido miserabilis ensem
and-what holding drawn Dido pitiable sword
dicat et Aoniae Lesbis amata lyrae.
may-say and of-Aonian the-Lesbian loved lyre.
Quam cito de toto rediit meus orbe Sabinus
How quickly from whole has-returned my world Sabinus
scriptaque diversis rettulit ille locis!
and-writings from-different brought-back he places!
Candida Penelope signum cognovit Ulixis;
Fair Penelope the-seal recognized of-Ulysses;
legit ab Hippolyto scripta noverca suo.
read from Hippolytus writings the-stepmother her-own.
Iam pius Aeneas miserae rescripsit Elissae,
Already dutiful Aeneas to-wretched has-written-back Elissa,
quodque legat Phyllis, si modo vivit, adest.
and-what may-read Phyllis, if only she-lives, is-here.
Tristis ad Hypsipylen ab Iasone littera venit;
Grim to Hypsipyle from Jason a-letter comes;

det votam Phoebo Lesbis amata lyram.
may-give vowed to-Phoebus the-Lesbian loved lyre.

Nec tibi, qua tutum vati, Macer, arma canenti
Nor by-you, where safe for-a-poet, Macer, arms singing

aureus in medio Marte tacetur Amor.
golden in mid war is-left-unsaid Love.

Et Paris est illic et adultera, nobile crimen,
Both Paris is there and the-adulteress, noble crime,

et comes extincto Laudamia viro.
and companion to-the-dead Laodamia husband.

Si bene te novi, non bella libentius istis
If well you I-know, not wars more-gladly than-those

dicis, et a vestris in mea castra venis.
you-tell, and from your into my camp you-come.

II.19 · TO A CARELESS HUSBAND

Ovid tells a husband to guard his wife, so that Ovid may want her more: easy love bores him. Corinna knew this and kept him keen with pretended headaches and pretended guilt. If the husband will not watch his wife, he is no better than a pimp, and Ovid will leave her; he asks to be forbidden, if the husband wants him as a rival.

Si tibi non opus est servata, stulte, puella,
If for-you not need is guarded, fool, girl,

at mihi fac serves, quo magis ipse velim!
yet for-me see-to-it you-guard, that more I-myself may-wish!

Quod licet, ingratum est; quod non licet acrius urit.
What is-allowed, unwelcome is; what not is-allowed more-keenly burns.

Ferreus est, siquis, quod sinit alter, amat.
Iron is-he, if-anyone, what allows another, loves.

Speremus pariter, pariter metuamus amantes,
Let-us-hope equally, equally let-us-fear lovers,
et faciat voto rara repulsa locum.
and let-make for-prayer rare repulse room.
Quo mihi fortunam, quae numquam fallere curet?
To-what-end for-me a-fortune, which never to-deceive may-care?
Nil ego, quod nullo tempore laedat, amo!
Nothing I, which at-no time may-hurt, love!
Viderat hoc in me vitium versuta Corinna,
Had-seen this in me fault crafty Corinna,
quaque capi possem, callida norat opem.
and-by-what to-be-caught I-could, cunning she-knew the-means.
A, quotiens sani capitis mentita dolores
Ah, how-often of-sound head having-feigned pains
cunctantem tardo iussit abire pede!
me-lingering with-slow ordered to-go-away foot!
A, quotiens finxit culpam, quantumque licebat
Ah, how-often she-feigned guilt, and-as-much-as was-allowed
insonti, speciem praebuit esse nocens!
to-the-innocent, the-appearance offered to-be guilty!
Sic ubi vexarat tepidosque refoverat ignis,
So when she-had-harassed and-lukewarm had-rekindled fires,
rursus erat votis comis et apta meis.
again she-was to-prayers kind and fitted my.
Quas mihi blanditias, quam dulcia verba parabat
What to-me blandishments, how sweet words she-prepared
oscula, di magni, qualia quotque dabat!
kisses, gods great, what-kind and-how-many she-gave!
Tu quoque, quae nostros rapuisti nuper ocellos,
You too, who our have-snatched lately little-eyes,

saepe time insidias, saepe rogata nega;
often fear snares, often asked refuse;
et sine me ante tuos proiectum in limine postis
and allow me before your thrown-down on threshold doorposts
longa pruinosa frigora nocte pati.
long frosty chills in-night to-suffer.
Sic mihi durat amor longosque adolescit in annos;
So for-me endures love and-long grows into years;
hoc iuvat; haec animi sunt alimenta mei.
this pleases; these of-mind are nourishments my.
Pinguis amor nimiumque patens in taedia nobis
Rich love and-too open into tediums for-us
vertitur et, stomacho dulcis ut esca, nocet.
is-turned and, to-stomach sweet like food, harms.
Si numquam Danaen habuisset aenea turris,
If never Danae had-held bronze tower,
non esset Danae de Iove facta parens;
not would-be Danae by Jupiter made parent;
dum servat Iuno mutatam cornibus Ion,
while guards Juno changed with-horns Io,
facta est, quam fuerat, gratior illa Iovi.
made was, than she-had-been, more-pleasing she to-Jupiter.
Quod licet et facile est quisquis cupit, arbore frondis
What is-allowed and easy is whoever desires, from-tree leaves
carpat et e magno flumine potet aquam.
let-him-pluck and from great river let-him-drink water.
Siqua volet regnare diu, deludat amantem.
If-any-woman will-wish to-reign long, let-her-mock the-lover.
Ei mihi, ne monitis torquear ipse meis!
Ah me, lest by-warnings I-be-tortured myself my!

Quidlibet eveniat, nocet indulgentia nobis —
Whatever may-happen, harms indulgence us
quod sequitur, fugio; quod fugit, ipse sequor.
what follows, I-flee; what flees, myself I-follow.
At tu, formosae nimium secure puellae,
But you, of-beautiful too carefree girl,
incipe iam prima claudere nocte forem.
begin now at-first to-shut night door.
Incipe, quis totiens furtim tua limina pulset,
Begin, who so-often stealthily your threshold knocks,
quaerere, quid latrent nocte silente canes,
to-ask, why bark in-night silent dogs,
quas ferat et referat sollers ancilla tabellas,
what carries and carries-back the-skilled maid tablets,
cur totiens vacuo secubet ipsa toro.
why so-often in-empty she-sleeps-apart herself bed.
Mordeat ista tuas aliquando cura medullas,
Let-gnaw that your sometime care marrow,
daque locum nostris materiamque dolis.
and-give room to-our and-material tricks.
Ille potest vacuo furari litore harenas,
He can from-empty to-steal shore sands,
uxorem stulti siquis amare potest.
the-wife of-a-fool if-anyone to-love can.
Iamque ego praemoneo: nisi tu servare puellam
And-now I forewarn: unless you to-guard the-girl
incipis, incipiet desinere esse mea!
begin, she-will-begin to-cease to-be mine!
Multa diuque tuli; speravi saepe futurum,
Many-things and-long I-have-borne; I-hoped often it-would-come,

cum bene servasses, ut bene verba darem.
when well you-had-guarded, that well words I-might-give.
Lentus es et pateris nulli patienda marito;
Slow you-are and you-suffer by-no to-be-suffered husband;
at mihi concessi finis amoris erit!
but to-me of-granted the-end love will-be!
Scilicet infelix numquam prohibebor adire?
Doubtless unhappy never shall-I-be-prevented to-approach?
Nox mihi sub nullo vindice semper erit?
Night to-me under no avenger always will-be?
Nil metuam? per nulla traham suspiria somnos?
Nothing shall-I-fear? through no shall-I-draw sighs sleep?
Nil facies, cur te iure perisse velim?
Nothing will-you-do, why you rightly to-have-perished I-may-wish?
Quid mihi cum facili, quid cum lenone marito?
What to-me with easy, what with pimp husband?
Corrumpit vitio gaudia nostra suo.
He-spoils by-fault joys our his-own.
Quin alium, quem tanta iuvat patientia, quaeris?
Why-not another, whom so-great pleases patience, do-you-seek?
Me tibi rivalem si iuvat esse, veta!
Me to-you a-rival if it-pleases to-be, forbid!

BOOK III

III.1 · ELEGY AND TRAGEDY

In an ancient grove Ovid meets Elegy, graceful and lame in one foot, and Tragedy, stern in her buskins. Tragedy urges him to give up trivial love poetry and write a greater work. Elegy answers that she has taught Corinna to deceive her guards, and that she gave Ovid his first success. He asks Tragedy for a little more time; his greater work will follow.

Stat vetus et multos incaedua silva per annos;
Stands old and many uncut a-wood through years;
credibile est illi numen inesse loco.
believable it-is that divinity to-be-in place.
Fons sacer in medio speluncaque pumice pendens,
A-spring sacred in middle and-a-cave with-pumice hanging,
et latere ex omni dulce queruntur aves.
and side from every sweetly complain birds.
Hic ego dum spatior tectus nemoralibus umbris —
Here I while I-stroll covered by-woodland shadows
quod mea, quaerebam, Musa moveret opus —
what my, I-was-asking, Muse should-set-in-motion work
venit odoratos Elegeia nexa capillos,
came perfumed Elegy bound hair,
et, puto, pes illi longior alter erat.
and, I-think, foot to-her longer one was.
Forma decens, vestis tenuissima, vultus amantis,
Form becoming, garment finest, face of-one-loving,
et pedibus vitium causa decoris erat.
and in-the-feet the-fault cause of-grace was.

Venit et ingenti violenta Tragoedia passu:
Came also with-huge violent Tragedy stride:
fronte comae torva, palla iacebat humi;
on-brow hair grim, robe was-lying on-the-ground;
laeva manus sceptrum late regale movebat,
left hand scepter widely royal was-moving,
Lydius alta pedum vincla cothurnus erat.
Lydian high of-feet bindings buskin was.
Et prior 'ecquis erit,' dixit, 'tibi finis amandi,
And first 'is-there-any will-be,' she-said, 'for-you end of-loving,
o argumenti lente poeta tui?
O of-subject slow poet your?
Nequitiam vinosa tuam convivia narrant,
Naughtiness wine-soaked your banquets tell,
narrant in multas conpita secta vias.
tell into many crossroads cut ways.
Saepe aliquis digito vatem designat euntem,
Often someone with-finger the-poet marks going,
atque ait "hic, hic est, quem ferus urit Amor!"
and says "this-one, this-one is, whom fierce burns Love!"
Fabula, nec sentis, tota iactaris in urbe,
A-story, nor do-you-feel, whole you-are-bandied in city,
dum tua praeterito facta pudore refers.
while your with-past deeds shame you-recount.
Tempus erat, thyrso pulsum graviore moveri;
Time it-was, by-thyrsus struck heavier to-be-moved;
cessatum satis est — incipe maius opus!
idled enough it-is begin greater work!
Materia premis ingenium. cane facta virorum.
By-matter you-crush genius. sing deeds of-men.

"Haec animo," dices, "area facta meo est!"
"This for-mind," you-will-say, "field made my is!"
Quod tenerae cantent, lusit tua Musa, puellae,
What tender may-sing, has-played your Muse, girls,
primaque per numeros acta iuventa suos.
and-first through measures spent youth its-own.
Nunc habeam per te Romana Tragoedia nomen!
Now let-me-have through you Roman Tragedy a-name!
Inplebit leges spiritus iste meas.' 30
Will-fill laws spirit that my.'
Hactenus, et movit pictis innixa cothurnis
Thus-far, and she-moved on-painted leaning buskins
densum caesarie terque quaterque caput.
thick with-hair and-three-times and-four-times head.
Altera, si memini, limis subrisit ocellis —
The-other, if I-remember, sidelong smiled with-little-eyes
fallor, an in dextra myrtea virga fuit?
am-I-deceived, or in right-hand myrtle wand was?
'Quid gravibus verbis, animosa Tragoedia,' dixit, 35
'Why with-heavy words, spirited Tragedy,' she-said,
'me premis? an numquam non gravis esse potes?
'me do-you-crush? or never not heavy to-be can-you?
Inparibus tamen es numeris dignata moveri;
In-unequal still you-have measures deigned to-move;
in me pugnasti versibus usa meis.
against me you-fought verses having-used my.
Non ego contulerim sublimia carmina nostris;
Not I would-compare lofty songs with-ours;
obruit exiguas regia vestra fores. 40
overwhelms small palace your doors.

Sum levis, et mecum levis est, mea cura, Cupido;
I-am light, and with-me light is, my care, Cupid;
non sum materia fortior ipsa mea.
not am-I than-matter stronger myself my.
Rustica sit sine me lascivi mater Amoris;
Boorish would-be without me of-wanton mother Love;
huic ego proveni lena comesque deae.
for-her I came-forth as-bawd and-companion goddess.
Quam tu non poteris duro reserare cothurno,
Which you not will-be-able with-hard to-unbar buskin,
haec est blanditiis ianua laxa meis;
this is to-blandishments door open my;
et tamen emerui plus quam tu posse, ferendo
and still I-have-earned more than you to-be-able, by-bearing
multa supercilio non patienda tuo.
many-things by-brow not to-be-borne your.
Per me decepto didicit custode Corinna
Through me deceived has-learned with-guard Corinna
liminis adstricti sollicitare fidem,
of-threshold fastened to-tempt the-faith,
delabique toro tunica velata soluta
and-to-slip-down from-bed with-tunic veiled loosened
atque inpercussos nocte movere pedes.
and noiseless at-night to-move feet.
Vel quotiens foribus duris incisa pependi,
Or how-often on-door hard carved I-hung,
non verita a populo praetereunte legi!
not having-feared by the-people passing-by to-be-read!
Quin ego me memini, dum custos saevus abiret,
Nay I me remember, while guard savage went-away,

ancillae missam delituisse sinu.
of-a-maid sent to-have-lain-hidden in-bosom.
Quid, cum me munus natali mittis, at illa
What, when me as-gift for-birthday you-send, but she
rumpit et adposita barbara mersat aqua?
tears and in-placed barbarous drowns water?
Prima tuae movi felicia semina mentis;
First of-your I-stirred happy seeds mind;
munus habes, quod te iam petit ista, meum.'
gift you-have, that you now seeks that-one, mine.'
Desierat. coepi: 'per vos utramque rogamus,
She-had-ceased. I-began: 'by you both we-ask,
in vacuas aures verba timentis eant.
into empty ears words of-one-fearing may-go.
Altera me sceptro decoras altoque cothurno;
One me with-scepter you-grace and-with-high buskin;
iam nunc contacto magnus in ore sonus.
already now touched great in mouth sound.
Altera das nostro victurum nomen amori —
The-other you-give to-our about-to-live name love
ergo ades et longis versibus adde brevis!
so be-present and to-long verses add short!
Exiguum vati concede, Tragoedia, tempus!
A-little to-the-poet grant, Tragedy, time!
Tu labor aeternus; quod petit illa, breve est.'
You labor eternal; what seeks she, brief is.'
Mota dedit veniam — teneri properentur Amores,
Moved she-gave pardon tender let-be-hastened Loves,
dum vacat; a tergo grandius urguet opus!
while there-is-leisure; from behind grander presses work!

At the Circus Ovid sits beside a girl and watches her, not the horses. He wishes he were the charioteer she favors, brushes the dust from her dress, fans her, and admires her legs. When the procession of gods passes he prays to Venus for her favor. Her charioteer nearly loses, then wins on the restart; she laughs and promises something with her eyes.

‘Non ego nobilium sedeo studiosus equorum;
‘Not I of-noble sit eager horses;
cui tamen ipsa faves, vincat ut ille, precor.
to-whom still yourself you-favor, may-win that he, I-pray.
Ut loquerer tecum veni, tecumque sederem,
That I-might-talk with-you I-came, and-with-you might-sit,
ne tibi non notus, quem facis, esset amor.
lest to-you not known, which you-cause, be love.
Tu cursus spectas, ego te; spectemus uterque
You the-races watch, I you; let-us-watch each
quod iuvat, atque oculos pascat uterque suos.
what pleases, and eyes let-feed each his-own.
O, cuicumque faves, felix agitator equorum!
O, whomever you-favor, happy driver of-horses!
Ergo illi curae contigit esse tuae?
So to-him a-care has-it-befallen to-be your?
Hoc mihi contingat, sacro de carcere missis
This to-me may-befall, the-sacred from starting-gate let-loose
insistam forti mente vehendus equis,
I-shall-press-on with-brave mind to-be-carried by-horses,
et modo lora dabo, modo verbere terga notabo,
and now reins I-shall-give, now with-whip backs shall-mark,

nunc stringam metas interiore rota.
now I-shall-graze the-turning-posts with-inner wheel.
Si mihi currenti fueris conspecta, morabor,
If by-me running you-are seen, I-shall-delay,
deque meis manibus lora remissa fluent.
and-from my hands reins slackened will-flow.
At quam paene Pelops Pisaea concidit hasta,
But how almost Pelops by-Pisaean fell spear,
dum spectat vultus, Hippodamia, tuos!
while he-watches face, Hippodamia, your!
Nempe favore suae vicit tamen ille puellae.
Surely by-favor of-his-own won still he girl.
Vincamus dominae quisque favore suae!
Let-us-win of-mistress each by-favor his-own!
Quid frustra refugis? cogit nos linea iungi.
Why vainly do-you-draw-back? compels us the-line to-be-joined.
Haec in lege loci commoda circus habet —
These in the-law of-the-place advantages the-circus has
tu tamen a dextra, quicumque es, parce puellae;
you still on the-right, whoever you-are, spare the-girl;
contactu lateris laeditur ista tui.
by-the-contact of-side is-hurt she your.
Tu quoque, qui spectas post nos, tua contrahe crura,
You too, who watch behind us, your draw-in legs,
si pudor est, rigido nec preme terga genu!
if shame there-is, with-rigid nor press back knee!
Sed nimium demissa iacent tibi pallia terra.
But too let-down lie of-yours the-cloak on-the-ground.
Collige — vel digitis en ego tollo meis!
Gather-it or with-fingers behold I raise mine!

Invida vestis eras, quae tam bona crura tegebas;
Envious garment you-were, which so good legs were-covering;
quoque magis spectes — invida vestis eras!
and-by-what more you-watch envious garment you-were!
Talia Milanion Atalantes crura fugacis
Such Milanion of-Atalanta legs fleeing
optavit manibus sustinuisse suis.
wished with-hands to-have-held-up his-own.
Talia pinguntur succinctae crura Dianae
Such are-painted of-girt-up the-legs Diana
cum sequitur fortes, fortior ipsa, feras.
when she-follows brave, braver herself, beasts.
His ego non visis arsi; quid fiet ab ipsis?
With-these I not seen burned; what will-become from the-very-ones?
In flammam flammas, in mare fundis aquas.
On flame flames, into sea you-pour waters.
Suspicor ex istis et cetera posse placere,
I-suspect from those also the-rest to-be-able to-please,
quae bene sub tenui condita veste latent.
which well under fine hidden garment lie-hid.
Vis tamen interea faciles arcessere ventos?
Do-you-wish still meanwhile easy to-summon breezes?
Quos faciet nostra mota tabella manu.
Which will-make with-our moved tablet hand.
An magis hic meus est animi, non aeris aestus,
Or more here my is of-mind, not of-air heat,
captaque femineus pectora torret amor?
and-captured feminine breast scorches love?
Dum loquor, alba levi sparsa est tibi pulvere vestis.
While I-speak, white light sprinkled is of-yours with-dust garment.

Sordide de niveo corpore pulvis abi!
Foul from snowy body dust go-away!
Sed iam pompa venit — linguis animisque favete!
But now the-procession comes with-tongues and-hearts be-favorable!
Tempus adest plausus — aurea pompa venit.
The-time is-here of-applause golden procession comes.
Prima loco fertur passis Victoria pinnis —
First in-place is-borne with-spread Victory wings
huc ades et meus hic fac, dea, vincat amor!
hither come and my this see-to-it, goddess, win love!
Plaudite Neptuno, nimium qui creditis undis!
Applaud Neptune, too-much who trust waves!
Nil mihi cum pelago; me mea terra capit.
Nothing to-me with sea; me my land holds.
Plaude tuo Marti, miles! nos odimus arma;
Applaud your Mars, soldier! we hate arms;
pax iuvat et media pace repertus amor.
peace pleases and in-mid peace found love.
Auguribus Phoebus, Phoebe venantibus adsit!
To-augurs Phoebus, Phoebe to-hunters may-be-present!
Artifices in te verte, Minerva, manus!
Skilled toward you turn, Minerva, hands!
Ruricolae Cereri teneroque adsurgite Baccho!
Country-dwellers to-Ceres and-tender rise-up-for Bacchus!
Pollucem pugiles, Castora placet eques!
Pollux boxers, Castor let-appease the-horseman!
Nos tibi, blanda Venus, puerisque potentibus arcu
We to-you, charming Venus, and-to-boys mighty with-bow
plaudimus; inceptis adnue, diva, meis
applaud; to-the-undertakings nod, goddess, my

daque novae mentem dominae! patiatur amari!
and-give to-new a-mind mistress! let-her-allow to-be-loved!
Adnuit et motu signa secunda dedit.
She-nodded and by-movement signs favorable gave.
Quod dea promisit, promittas ipsa, rogamus;
What the-goddess promised, promise yourself, we-ask;
pace loquar Veneris, tu dea maior eris.
by-leave I-will-speak of-Venus, you goddess greater will-be.
Per tibi tot iuro testes pompamque deorum,
By to-you so-many I-swear witnesses and-procession of-gods,
te dominam nobis tempus in omne peti!
you as-mistress by-us time for all to-be-sought!
Sed pendent tibi crura. potes, si forte iuvabit,
But hang of-yours the-legs. you-can, if perhaps it-will-please,
cancellis primos inseruisse pedes.
in-the-railings the-tips to-have-inserted feet.
Maxima iam vacuo praetor spectacula circo
Greatest now in-empty the-praetor spectacles circus
quadriiugos aequo carcere misit equos.
four-horse from-equal starting-gate has-sent horses.
Cui studeas, video. vincet, cuicumque favebis.
Whom you-favor, I-see. he-will-win, whomever you-will-favor.
Quid cupias, ipsi scire videntur equi.
What you-desire, the-very to-know seem horses.
Me miserum, metam spatioso circuit orbe!
Me wretched, the-turning-post he-goes-round with-wide circle!
Quid facis? admoto proxumus axe subit.
What are-you-doing? with-moved-near the-nearest axle comes-up.
Quid facis, infelix? perdis bona vota puellae.
What are-you-doing, unhappy? you-ruin good prayers of-the-girl.

Tende, precor, valida lora sinistra manu!
Pull, I-pray, with-strong reins left hand!
Favimus ignavo — sed enim revocate, Quirites,
We-have-favored a-sluggard but indeed recall, Quirites,
et date iactatis undique signa togis!
and give waved from-all-sides signals with-togas!
En, revocant! — at, ne turbet toga mota capillos,
Behold, they-recall! but, lest may-disturb toga moved hair,
in nostros abdas te licet usque sinus.
into our hide yourself you-may right bosom.
Iamque patent iterum reserato carcere postes;
And-now lie-open again unbarred with-starting-gate posts;
evolat admissis discolor agmen equis.
flies-out loosed many-colored column with-horses.
Nunc saltem supera spatioque insurge patenti!
Now at-least win and-into-space rise open!
Sint mea, sint dominae fac rata vota meae!
May-be my, may-be of-mistress see-to-it ratified prayers my!
Sunt dominae rata vota meae, mea vota supersunt.
Are of-mistress ratified prayers my, my prayers remain.
Ille tenet palmam; palma petenda mea est.'
He holds the-palm; palm to-be-sought my is.'
Risit, et argutis quiddam promisit ocellis.
She-laughed, and with-speaking something promised little-eyes.
'Hoc satis hic; alio cetera redde loco!'
'This enough here; in-another the-rest give-back place!'

His mistress has sworn falsely, yet her beauty is untouched. Ovid concludes either that the gods are a name, or that they love beautiful girls and let them break oaths while men suffer for them. Jupiter strikes his own groves rather than her. He ends by asking her to use the gods' indulgence more moderately, or at least to spare his eyes.

Esse deos, i, crede — fidem iurata fefellit,
To-be gods, go, believe faith having-sworn she-has-broken,

et facies illi, quae fuit ante, manet!
and the-beauty to-her, which was before, remains!

Quam longos habuit nondum periura capillos,
As long she-had not-yet forsworn hair,

tam longos, postquam numina laesit, habet.
so long, after the-divinities she-wronged, she-has.

Candida candorem roseo suffusa rubore
Fair whiteness rosy suffused with-blush

ante fuit — niveo lucet in ore rubor.
before she-was snowy shines on face blush.

Pes erat exiguus — pedis est artissima forma.
The-foot was small of-foot is most-dainty the-form.

Longa decensque fuit — longa decensque manet.
Tall and-graceful she-was tall and-graceful she-remains.

Argutos habuit — radiant ut sidus ocelli,
Bright she-had shine like a-star little-eyes,

per quos mentita est perfida saepe mihi.
through which lied has the-faithless often to-me.

Scilicet aeterno falsum iurare puellis
Doubtless for-eternity falsely to-swear to-girls

di quoque concedunt, formaque numen habet.
gods too grant, and-beauty divinity has.

Perque suos illam nuper iurasse recordor
And-by her-own her lately to-have-sworn I-recall
perque meos oculos: et doluere mei!
and-by my eyes: and have-ached mine!
Dicite, di, si vos inpune fefellerat illa,
Say, gods, if you with-impunity had-deceived she,
alterius meriti cur ego damna tuli?
of-another of-deserving why I losses have-borne?
An non invidiae vobis Cepheia virgo est,
Or not to-envy for-you the-Cephean maiden is,
pro male formosa iussa parente mori?
for badly beautiful ordered parent to-die?
Non satis est, quod vos habui sine pondere testis,
Not enough is-it, that you I-had without weight as-witnesses,
et mecum lusos ridet inulta deos?
and with-me mocked laughs-at unpunished gods?
Ut sua per nostram redimat periuria poenam,
That her-own through our may-buy-off perjuries penalty,
victima deceptus decipientis ero?
a-victim deceived of-the-deceiver shall-I-be?
Aut sine re nomen deus est frustraque timetur
Either without reality a-name god is and-vainly is-feared
et stulta populos credulitate movet;
and with-foolish peoples credulity moves;
aut, siquis deus est, teneras amat ille puellas
or, if-any god is, tender loves he girls
et nimium solas omnia posse iubet.
and too-much alone everything to-be-able bids.
Nobis fatifero Mavors accingitur ense;
For-us with-fate-bearing Mavors is-girt sword;

nos petit invicta Palladis hasta manu.
us seeks with-unconquered of-Pallas spear hand.
Nobis flexibiles curvantur Apollinis arcus;
For-us flexible are-bent of-Apollo bows;
in nos alta Iovis dextera fulmen habet.
against us high of-Jupiter right-hand thunderbolt has.
Formosas superi metuunt offendere laesi
The-beautiful the-gods-above fear to-offend wronged
atque ultro, quae se non timuere, timent.
and further, those-who them not have-feared, they-fear.
Et quisquam pia tura focis inponere curat?
And anyone dutiful incense on-hearths to-place cares?
Certe plus animi debet inesse viris!
Surely more of-spirit ought to-be-in men!
Iuppiter igne suo lucos iaculatur et arces
Jupiter with-fire his-own groves hurls-at and citadels
missaque periuras tela ferire vetat.
and-sent the-forsworn weapons to-strike forbids.
Tot meruere peti — Semele miserabilis arsit!
So-many deserved to-be-struck Semele pitiable burned!
Officio est illi poena reperta suo;
By-service is to-her punishment found her-own;
at si venturo se subduxisset amanti,
but if from-coming herself she-had-withdrawn lover,
non pater in Baccho matris haberet opus.
not father in Bacchus of-mother would-have work.
Quid queror et toto facio convicia caelo?
Why do-I-complain and to-whole make reproaches heaven?
Di quoque habent oculos, di quoque pectus habent!
Gods too have eyes, gods too breast have!

Si deus ipse forem, numen sine fraude liceret
If god myself I-were, divinity without fraud it-would-be-allowed
femina mendaci falleret ore meum;
woman with-lying should-deceive mouth my;
ipse ego iurarem verum iurare puellas
myself I would-swear truly to-swear girls
et non de tetricis dicerer esse deus.
and not of the-gloomy should-be-said to-be god.
Tu tamen illorum moderatius utere dono —
You still of-those more-moderately use gift
aut oculis certe parce, puella, meis!
or eyes surely spare, girl, my!

III.4 · TO A JEALOUS HUSBAND

Ovid advises a husband that guarding his wife is useless: she is chaste only if she chooses to be, and the forbidden only tempts. Argus and Danae's tower failed; Penelope stayed chaste unguarded. A wife valued for her husband's watchfulness becomes a prize. Rome's founders were born of an adultery; the husband should relax and enjoy his wife's friends.

Dure vir, inposito tenerae custode puellae
Hard husband, with-placed-over of-tender guard girl
nil agis; ingenio est quaeque tuenda suo.
nothing you-achieve; by-nature is each to-be-guarded her-own.
Siqua metu dempto casta est, ea denique casta est;
If-any with-fear removed chaste is, she at-last chaste is;
quae, quia non liceat, non facit, illa facit!
who, because not it-is-allowed, not does, she does!
Ut iam servaris bene corpus, adultera mens est;
Though now you-have-guarded well the-body, adulterous the-mind is;

nec custodiri, ne velit, ulla potest.
nor to-be-guarded, lest she-wish, any can.

Nec corpus servare potes, licet omnia claudas;
Nor body to-guard can-you, though everything you-shut;

omnibus exclusis intus adulter erit.
with-all shut-out within the-adulterer will-be.

Cui peccare licet, peccat minus; ipsa potestas
To-whom to-sin is-allowed, sins less; very power

semina nequitiae languidiora facit.
the-seeds of-naughtiness more-languid makes.

Desine, crede mihi, vitia inritare vetando;
Cease, believe me, vices to-provoke by-forbidding;

obsequio vinces aptius illa tuo.
by-compliance you-will-conquer more-fittingly them your.

Vidi ego nuper equum contra sua vincla tenacem
Saw I lately a-horse against its-own bonds stubborn

ore reluctanti fulminis ire modo;
with-mouth resisting of-lightning to-go in-manner;

constitit ut primum concessas sensit habenas
he-stood as first allowed he-felt reins

frenaque in effusa laxa iacere iuba!
and-bridle on loose slack to-lie mane!

Nitimur in vetitum semper cupimusque negata;
We-strive toward the-forbidden always and-desire things-denied;

sic interdictis imminet aeger aquis.
so at-forbidden presses the-sick-man waters.

Centum fronte oculos, centum cervice gerebat
A-hundred on-brow eyes, a-hundred on-neck was-bearing

Argus — et hos unus saepe fefellit Amor;
Argus and these one often deceived Love;

in thalamum Danae ferro saxoque perennem
into the-chamber Danae with-iron and-stone everlasting
quae fuerat virgo tradita, mater erat;
who had-been a-maiden handed-over, a-mother was;
Penelope mansit, quamvis custode carebat,
Penelope remained, although guard she-lacked,
inter tot iuvenes intemerata procos.
among so-many young unviolated suitors.
Quidquid servatur cupimus magis, ipsaque furem
Whatever is-guarded we-desire more, and-very the-thief
cura vocat; pauci, quod sinit alter, amant.
care calls; few, what allows another, love.
Nec facie placet illa sua, sed amore mariti;
Nor by-beauty pleases she her-own, but by-love of-husband;
nescio quid, quod te ceperit, esse putant.
I-know-not what, which you has-captured, to-be they-think.
Non proba fit, quam vir servat, sed adultera cara;
Not honest becomes, whom husband guards, but adulteress dear;
ipse timor pretium corpore maius habet.
very fear price than-body greater has.
Indignere licet, iuvat inconcessa voluptas;
You-may-be-indignant it-is-allowed, pleases unpermitted pleasure;
sola placet, 'timeo!' dicere siqua potest.
alone pleases, 'I-fear!' to-say if-any can.
Nec tamen ingenuam ius est servare puellam —
Nor still a-freeborn right is to-guard girl
hic metus externae corpora gentis agat!
this fear foreign the-bodies of-race may-drive!
Scilicet ut possit custos 'ego' dicere 'feci,'
Doubtless that may-be-able guard 'I' to-say 'did-it,'

in laudem servi casta sit illa tui?
in praise of-slave chaste be she your?

Rusticus est nimium, quem laedit adultera coniunx,
Boorish is-he too, whom hurts adulterous wife,

et notos mores non satis urbis habet
and known character not enough of-the-city has

in qua Martigenae non sunt sine crimine nati
in which Mars-begotten not are without crime born

Romulus Iliades Iliadesque Remus.
Romulus son-of-Ilia and-son-of-Ilia Remus.

Quo tibi formosam, si non nisi casta placebat?
To-what-end for-you a-beautiful-one, if not except chaste pleased?

Non possunt ullis ista coire modis.
Not can in-any those to-come-together ways.

Si sapis, indulge dominae vultusque severos
If you-are-wise, indulge mistress and-face stern

exue, nec rigidi iura tuere viri,
put-off, nor of-rigid rights maintain husband,

et cole quos dederit — multos dabit — uxor amicos.
and cultivate whom she-will-have-given many she-will-give wife friends.

Gratia sic minimo magna labore venit;
Favor so with-least great labor comes;

sic poteris iuvenum convivia semper inire
so you-will-be-able of-young-men banquets always to-enter

et, quae non dederis, multa videre domi.
and, what not you-gave, many-things to-see at-home.

Ovid dreams of a white heifer in a meadow beside her bull; a crow pecks her breast, and she leaves the bull to join another herd, a black bruise on her breast. An interpreter explains: the heifer is his mistress and the bull Ovid, the crow an old bawd who works on her, and the bruise the stain of her adultery. At this the blood drains from Ovid's face.

'Nox erat, et somnus lassos submisit ocellos;
'Night it-was, and sleep weary lowered little-eyes;
terruerunt animum talia visa meum:
terrified mind such visions my:
colle sub aprico creberrimus ilice lucus
a-hill below sunny very-thick with-ilex a-grove
stabat, et in ramis multa latebat avis.
stood, and in branches many lay-hidden bird.
Area gramineo suberat viridissima prato,
A-space with-grassy lay-below greenest meadow,
umida de guttis lene sonantis aquae.
moist from drops gently sounding water.
Ipse sub arboreis vitabam frondibus aestum —
Myself under of-trees I-was-avoiding leaves the-heat
fronde sub arborea sed tamen aestus erat —
leaves under of-trees but still heat there-was
ecce! petens variis inmixtas floribus herbas
behold! seeking with-various mingled flowers grasses
constitit ante oculos candida vacca meos,
stood before eyes white a-cow my,
candidior nivibus, tunc cum cecidere recentes,
whiter than-snows, then when they-have-fallen fresh,

in liquidas nondum quas mora vertit aquas;
into liquid not-yet which delay has-turned waters;
candidior, quod adhuc spumis stridentibus albet
whiter, than-what still with-foam hissing is-white
et modo siccatam, lacte, reliquit ovem.
and just-now drained, milk, has-left sheep.
Taurus erat comes huic, feliciter ille maritus,
A-bull was companion to-her, happily he husband,
cumque sua teneram coniuge pressit humum.
and-with his-own tender mate pressed ground.
Dum iacet et lente revocatas ruminat herbas
While he-lies and slowly recalled chews grasses
atque iterum pasto pascitur ante cibo,
and again on-fed is-fed former food,
visus erat, somno vires adimente ferendi,
seemed he-had, with-sleep strength taking-away of-bearing,
cornigerum terra deposuisse caput.
horn-bearing on-the-ground to-have-laid-down head.
Huc levibus cornix pinnis delapsa per auras
Hither with-light a-crow wings having-glided-down through airs
venit et in viridi garrula sedit humo,
came and on green chattering sat ground,
terque bovis niveae petulanti pectora rostro
and-three-times of-the-cow snowy with-wanton the-breast beak
fodit et albentis abstulit ore iubas.
dug and white carried-off in-mouth tufts.
Illa locum taurumque diu cunctata relinquit —
She the-place and-the-bull long having-hesitated leaves
sed niger in vaccae pectore livor erat;
but black on of-the-cow breast a-bruise was;

utque procul vidit carpentes pabula tauros —
and-when far she-saw cropping fodder bulls
carpebant tauri pabula laeta procul —
were-cropping bulls fodder glad far
illuc se rapuit gregibusque inmiscuit illis
thither herself she-snatched and-with-herds mingled those
et petiit herbae fertilioris humum.
and sought of-grass more-fertile ground.
Dic age, nocturnae, quicumque es, imaginis augur,
Say come, of-the-nocturnal, whoever you-are, vision interpreter,
siquid habent veri, visa quid ista ferant.'
if-anything they-have of-truth, visions what those may-bring.'
Sic ego; nocturnae sic dixit imaginis augur,
So I; of-the-nocturnal so said vision interpreter,
expendens animo singula dicta suo:
weighing in-mind each words his-own:
'Quem tu mobilibus foliis vitare volebas,
'Which you with-mobile leaves to-avoid wished,
sed male vitabas, aestus amoris erat.
but badly were-avoiding, the-heat of-love was.
Vacca puella tua est — aptus color ille puellae;
The-cow girl your is fitting color that for-a-girl;
tu vir et in vacca conpare taurus eras.
you a-man and in cow mate bull were.
Pectora quod rostro cornix fodiebat acuto,
Breast that with-beak the-crow was-digging sharp,
ingenium dominae lena movebat anus.
the-character of-mistress bawd was-moving old-woman.
Quod cunctata diu taurum sua vacca reliquit,
That having-hesitated long the-bull his-own cow left,

frigidus in viduo destituere toro.
cold in widowed you-will-be-deserted bed.
Livor et adverso maculae sub pectore nigrae
The-bruise and front the-spots under breast black
pectus adulterii labe carere negant.'
breast of-adultery stain to-be-free deny.'
Dixerat interpres. gelido mihi sanguis ab ore
Had-spoken the-interpreter. icy from-me blood from face
fugit, et ante oculos nox stetit alta meos.
fled, and before eyes night stood deep my.

III.6 · THE FLOODED RIVER

On the way to his mistress Ovid is stopped by a swollen river. He wishes for Perseus' wings or Triptolemus' chariot, then flatters the river with tales of river gods who loved: Inachus, Alpheus, Achelous, the Nile, and the Anio, who took Ilia as his bride when she threw herself into his stream. The river only rises, and Ovid curses it as a nameless torrent of rain and melted snow.

Amnis harundinibus limosas obsite ripas,
River with-reeds muddy covered banks,
ad dominam propero — siste parumper aquas!
to mistress I-hasten stop for-a-little waters!
Nec tibi sunt pontes nec quae sine remigis ictu
Nor to-you are bridges nor which without of-rower stroke
concava traiecto cumba rudente vehat.
hollow across-drawn skiff with-rope may-carry.
Parvus eras, memini, nec te transire refugi,
Small you-were, I-remember, nor you to-cross did-I-shrink,
summaque vix talos contigit unda meos.
and-highest hardly ankles touched wave my.

Nunc ruis adposito nivibus de monte solutis
Now you-rush placed-near with-snows from mountain melted
et turpi crassas gurgite volvis aquas.
and with-foul thick whirlpool you-roll waters.
Quid properasse iuvat, quid parca dedisse quieti
What to-have-hastened does-it-help, what scanty to-have-given to-rest
tempora, quid nocti conseruisse diem,
times, what to-night to-have-joined day,
si tamen hic standum est, si non datur artibus ullis
if still here to-be-stood is, if not is-given by-arts any
ulterior nostro ripa premenda pedi?
further by-our bank to-be-pressed foot?
Nunc ego, quas habuit pinnas Danaeius heros,
Now I, which had wings the-Danaean hero,
terribili densum cum tulit angue caput,
with-terrible thick when he-carried snake head,
nunc opto currum, de quo Cerealia primum
now I-wish-for the-chariot, from which of-Ceres first
semina venerunt in rude missa solum.
seeds came into raw sent soil.
Prodigiosa loquor veterum mendacia vatum;
Marvelous-things I-speak of-old lies of-poets;
nec tulit haec umquam nec feret ulla dies.
nor has-brought these ever nor will-bring any day.
Tu potius, ripis effuse capacibus amnis —
You rather, beyond-banks poured capacious river
sic aeternus eas — labere fine tuo!
so eternal may-you-go glide within-bounds your!
Non eris invidiae, torrens, mihi crede, ferendae,
Not you-will-be of-ill-will, torrent, me believe, to-be-borne,

si dicar per te forte retentus amans.
if I-be-said through you perhaps held-back a-lover.
Flumina deberent iuvenes in amore iuvare;
Rivers ought young-men in love to-help;
flumina senserunt ipsa, quid esset amor.
rivers felt themselves, what was love.
Inachus in Melie Bithynide pallidus isse
Inachus for Melie Bithynian pale to-have-gone
dicitur et gelidis incaluisse vadis.
is-said and in-icy to-have-grown-warm shallows.
Nondum Troia fuit lustris obsessa duobus,
Not-yet Troy was for-lustra besieged two,
cum rapuit vultus, Xanthe, Neaera tuos.
when snatched face, Xanthus, Neaera your.
Quid? non Alpheon diversis currere terris
What? not Alpheus in-different to-run lands
virginis Arcadiae certus adegit amor?
for-a-maiden Arcadian fixed drove love?
Te quoque promissam Xutho, Penee, Creusam
You too promised to-Xuthus, Peneus, Creusa
Phthiotum terris occuluisse ferunt.
of-the-Phthiotians in-lands to-have-hidden they-say.
Quid referam Asopon, quem cepit Martia Thebe,
Why should-I-tell of-Asopus, whom captured Martial Thebe,
natarum Thebe quinque futura parens?
of-daughters Thebe five about-to-be parent?
Cornua si tua nunc ubi sint, Acheloe, requiram,
Horns if your now where they-may-be, Achelous, I-should-ask,
Herculis irata fracta querere manu;
of-Hercules by-angry broken you-will-complain hand;

nec tanti Calydon nec tota Aetolia tanti,
neither of-such-worth Calydon nor whole Aetolia of-such-worth,
una tamen tanti Deianira fuit.
one still of-such-worth Deianira was.
Ille fluens dives septena per ostia Nilus,
That flowing rich seven through mouths Nile,
qui patriam tantae tam bene celat aquae,
who the-fatherland of-so-great so well hides water,
fertur in Euanthe collectam Asopide flammam
is-said in Evanthe gathered Asopus'-daughter flame
vincere gurgitibus non potuisse suis.
to-conquer with-floods not to-have-been-able his-own.
Siccus ut amplecti Salmonida posset Enipeus,
Dry that to-embrace Salmoneus'-daughter might-be-able Enipeus,
cedere iussit aquam; iussa recessit aqua.
to-withdraw ordered water; ordered withdrew water.
Nec te praetereo, qui per cava saxa volutans
Nor you do-I-pass-over, who through hollow rocks rolling
Tiburis Argei pomifera arva rigas,
of-Tibur Argive fruit-bearing fields water,
Ilia cui placuit, quamvis erat horrida cultu,
Ilia to-whom was-pleasing, although she-was rough in-dress,
ungue notata comas, ungue notata genas.
with-nail marked as-to-hair, with-nail marked as-to-cheeks.
Illa gemens patruique nefas delictaque Martis
She groaning both-uncle's crime and-the-offenses of-Mars
errabat nudo per loca sola pede.
was-wandering with-bare through places lonely foot.
Hanc Anien rapidis animosus vidit ab undis
Her Anio swift spirited saw from waves

raucaque de mediis sustulit ora vadis
and-hoarse from mid lifted face shallows
atque ita 'quid nostras' dixit 'teris anxia ripas,
and thus 'why our' he-said 'do-you-wear anxious banks,
Ilia, ab Idaeo Laumedonte genus?
Ilia, from Idaean Laomedon race?
Quo cultus abiere tui? quid sola vagaris,
Where adornments have-gone your? why alone do-you-wander,
vitta nec evinctas inpedit alba comas?
fillet nor bound binds white hair?
Quid fles et madidos lacrimis corrumpis ocellos
Why do-you-weep and wet with-tears spoil little-eyes
pectoraque insana plangis aperta manu?
and-breast with-mad beat bared hand?
Ille habet et silices et vivum in pectore ferrum,
He has both flints and living in breast iron,
qui tenero lacrimas lentus in ore videt.
who tender tears unmoved on face sees.
Ilia, pone metus! tibi regia nostra patebit,
Ilia, lay-aside fears! to-you palace our will-lie-open,
teque colent amnes. Ilia, pone metus!
and-you will-worship streams. Ilia, lay-aside fears!
Tu centum aut plures inter dominabere nymphas;
You a-hundred or more among will-rule nymphs;
nam centum aut plures flumina nostra tenent.
for a-hundred or more streams our hold.
Ne me sperne, precor, tantum, Troiana propago;
Not me spurn, I-pray, only, Trojan offspring;
munera promissis uberiora feres.'
gifts than-promises richer you-will-receive.'

Dixerat. illa oculos in humum deiecta modestos
He-had-spoken. she eyes on ground cast-down modest
spargebat teneros flebilis imbre sinus.
was-sprinkling tender tearful with-shower bosom.
Ter molita fugam ter ad altas restitit undas,
Three-times having-attempted flight three-times at high stopped waves,
currendi vires eripiente metu.
of-running strength snatching-away with-fear.
Sera tamen scindens inimico pollice crinem
Late still tearing with-hostile thumb hair
edidit indignos ore tremente sonos:
uttered unworthy with-mouth trembling sounds:
'O utinam mea lecta forent patrioque sepulcro
'O would-that my gathered were and-in-paternal tomb
condita, cum poterant virginis ossa legi!
buried, when could of-a-maiden bones to-be-gathered!
Cur, modo Vestalis, taedas invitor ad ullas
Why, just-now a-Vestal, torches am-I-invited to any
turpis et Iliacis infitianda focis?
disgraced and by-Ilian to-be-disowned hearths?
Quid moror et digitis designor adultera vulgi?
Why do-I-delay and with-fingers am-I-marked adulteress of-the-crowd?
Desint famosus quae notet ora pudor!'
May-be-gone notorious which may-brand face shame!'
Hactenus, et vestem tumidis praetendit ocellis
Thus-far, and garment to-swollen held-before little-eyes
atque ita se in rapidas perdita misit aquas.
and so herself into swift despairing sent waters.
Supposuisse manus ad pectora lubricus amnis
To-have-placed-beneath hands to breast the-slippery river

dicitur et socii iura dedisse tori.
is-said and of-shared rights to-have-given bed.

Te quoque credibile est aliqua caluisse puella;
You too believable it-is for-some to-have-burned girl;

sed nemora et silvae crimina vestra tegunt.
but groves and woods crimes your hide.

Dum loquor, increvit latis spatiosior undis,
While I-speak, it-has-grown with-wide more-spacious waves,

nec capit admissas alveus altus aquas.
nor holds let-in channel deep waters.

Quid mecum, furiose, tibi? quid mutua differs
What with-me, raging, to-you? why mutual put-off

gaudia? quid coeptum, rustice, rumpis iter?
joys? why begun, boor, break journey?

Quid? si legitimum flueres, si nobile flumen,
What? if lawful you-flowed, if noble river,

si tibi per terras maxima fama foret —
if to-you through lands greatest fame were

nomen habes nullum, rivis collecte caducis,
name you-have none, from-streams gathered falling,

nec tibi sunt fontes nec tibi certa domus!
nor to-you are springs nor to-you fixed home!

Fontis habes instar pluviamque nivesque solutas,
Of-a-spring you-have in-place-of both-rain and-snows melted,

quas tibi divitias pigra ministrat hiemps;
which to-you riches sluggish supplies winter;

aut lutulentus agis brumali tempore cursus,
either muddy you-drive in-winter time courses,

aut premis arentem pulverulentus humum.
or you-press dry dusty ground.

Quis te tum potuit sitiens haurire viator?
Who you then could thirsty to-drink traveler?
Quis dixit grata voce 'perennis eas'?
Who said with-grateful voice 'everlasting may-you-go'?
Damnosus pecori curris, damnosior agris.
Harmful to-the-flock you-run, more-harmful to-the-fields.
Forsitan haec alios; me mea damna movent.
Perhaps these-things others; me my losses move.
Huic ego, vae! demens narrabam fluminum amores!
To-this I, alas! mad was-telling of-rivers loves!
Iactasse indigne nomina tanta pudet.
To-have-boasted unworthily names so-great shames-me.
Nescio quem hunc spectans Acheloon et Inachon amnem
I-know-not what this looking-at Achelous and Inachus river
et potui nomen, Nile, referre tuum!
and I-could the-name, Nile, to-recount your!
At tibi pro meritis, opto, non candide torrens,
But to-you for deserts, I-wish, not fair torrent,
sint rapidi soles siccaque semper hiemps!
may-be scorching suns and-dry always winter!

Ovid lay with a beautiful girl who did all she could, but his body failed him. He wonders whether he has been bewitched, remembers his past feats with others, and rebukes the part that revives now, too late. She mocked him, asked whether a witch or another woman had worn him out, and, so that her maids would not know, hid the disgrace by splashing herself with water.

At non formosa est, at non bene culta puella,
But not beautiful is-she, but not well dressed the-girl,
at, puto, non votis saepe petita meis!
but, I-think, not in-prayers often sought my!
Hanc tamen in nullos tenui male languidus usus,
Her still for no I-held badly languid uses,
sed iacui pigro crimen onusque toro;
but I-lay on-sluggish a-reproach and-burden bed;
nec potui cupiens, pariter cupiente puella,
nor could-I desiring, equally desiring with-the-girl,
inguinis effeti parte iuvante frui.
of-groin exhausted with-the-part helping to-enjoy.
Illa quidem nostro subiecit eburnea collo
She indeed to-our put-under ivory neck
bracchia Sithonia candidiora nive,
arms than-Sithonian whiter snow,
osculaque inseruit cupide luctantia linguis
and-kisses she-inserted eagerly struggling with-tongues
lascivum femori supposuitque femur,
wanton under-thigh and-she-placed thigh,
et mihi blanditias dixit dominumque vocavit,
and to-me endearments said and-master called,

et quae praeterea publica verba iuvant.
and what besides common words please.
Tacta tamen veluti gelida mea membra cicuta
Touched still as-if by-icy my members hemlock
segnia propositum destituere meum;
sluggish purpose abandoned my;
truncus iners iacui, species et inutile pondus,
a-trunk inert I-lay, a-show and useless weight,
et non exactum, corpus an umbra forem.
and not determined, body or shade I-were.
Quae mihi ventura est, siquidem ventura, senectus,
What to-me about-to-come is, if-indeed about-to-come, old-age,
cum desit numeris ipsa iuventa suis?
when is-lacking in-numbers very youth its-own?
A, pudet annorum cum me iuvenemque virumque
Ah, it-shames-me of-years when me both-young and-a-man
nec iuvenem nec me sensit amica virum!
neither young nor me felt my-girl a-man!
Sic flammas aditura pias aeterna sacerdos
So flames about-to-approach holy eternal priestess
surgit et a caro fratre verenda soror.
rises and from dear brother revered sister.
At nuper bis flava Chlide, ter candida Pitho,
But lately twice golden Chlide, three-times fair Pitho,
ter Libas officio continuata meo est;
three-times Libas by-service kept-busy my was;
exigere a nobis angusta nocte Corinnam
to-exact from us in-short night Corinna
me memini numeros sustinuisse novem.
me I-remember numbers to-have-sustained nine.

Num mea Thessalico languent devota veneno
Surely-not my by-Thessalian languish bewitched poison
corporа? num misero carmen et herba nocent,
body? surely-not wretched-me spell and herb harm,
sagave poenicea defixit nomina cera
or-a-witch with-crimson has-fixed names wax
et medium tenuis in iecur egit acus?
and mid fine into liver has-driven needles?
Carmine laesa Ceres sterilem vanescit in herbam,
By-spell harmed Ceres barren vanishes into grass,
deficiunt laesi carmine fontis aquae,
fail harmed by-spell of-the-spring waters,
ilicibus glandes cantataque vitibus uva
from-ilexes acorns and-enchanted from-vines grape
decidit, et nullo poma movente fluunt.
falls, and with-no-one fruits moving fall.
Quid vetat et nervos magicas torpere per artes?
What forbids also sinews magic to-be-numb through arts?
Forsitan inpatiens sit latus inde meum.
Perhaps impotent may-be flank thence my.
Huc pudor accessit facti; pudor ipse nocebat;
To-this shame was-added of-the-deed; shame itself was-harming;
ille fuit vitii causa secunda mei.
it was of-the-fault the-cause second my.
At qualem vidi tantum tetigique puellam!
But what-kind I-saw only and-touched a-girl!
Sic etiam tunica tangitur illa sua.
So also by-tunic is-touched she her-own.
Illius ad tactum Pylius iuvenescere possit
Of-her at the-touch the-Pylian to-grow-young could

Tithonosque annis fortior esse suis.
and-Tithonus than-years stronger to-be his-own.
Haec mihi contigerat; sed vir non contigit illi.
She to-me had-fallen-to; but a-man not fell-to her.
Quas nunc concipiam per nova vota preces?
What now shall-I-frame through new vows prayers?
Credo etiam magnos, quo sum tam turpiter usus,
I-believe even great, which I-have so shamefully used,
muneris oblati paenituisse deos.
the-gift offered to-have-repented gods.
Optabam certe recipi — sum nempe receptus;
I-wished surely to-be-received I-was of-course received;
oscula ferre — tuli; proximus esse — fui.
kisses to-take I-took; next to-be I-was.
Quo mihi fortunae tantum? quo regna sine usu?
To-what-end for-me of-fortune so-much? to-what-end realms without use?
Quid, nisi possedi dives avarus opes?
What, except I-possessed rich miser wealth?
Sic aret mediis taciti vulgator in undis
So thirsts mid of-the-silent the-betrayer in waves
pomaque, quae nullo tempore tangat, habet.
and-fruits, which at-no time he-may-touch, has.
A tenera quisquam sic surgit mane puella,
From tender does-anyone so rise in-the-morning girl,
protinus ut sanctos possit adire deos?
at-once that holy he-may-be-able to-approach gods?
Sed, puto, non blande, non optima perdidit in me
But, I-think, not coaxingly, not best-ones she-wasted on me
oscula; non omni sollicitavit ope!
kisses; not with-every she-stirred means!

Illa graves potuit quercus adamantaque durum
She heavy could oaks and-adamant hard
surdaque blanditiis saxa movere suis.
and-deaf with-blandishments rocks to-move her-own.
Digna movere fuit certe vivosque virosque;
Worthy to-move she-was surely both-living-ones and-men;
sed neque tum vixi nec vir, ut ante, fui.
but neither then I-lived nor a-man, as before, I-was.
Quid iuvet, ad surdas si cantet Phemius aures?
What would-it-help, to deaf if may-sing Phemius ears?
Quid miserum Thamyran picta tabella iuvat?
What wretched Thamyras painted tablet helps?
At quae non tacita formavi gaudia mente!
But what not in-silent I-shaped joys mind!
Quos ego non finxi disposuique modos!
What I not imagined and-arranged ways!
Nostra tamen iacuere velut praemortua membra
Our still lay as-if dead-before members
turpiter hesterna languidiora rosa —
shamefully than-yesterday's more-limp rose
quae nunc, ecce, vigent intempestiva valentque,
which now, behold, thrive untimely and-are-strong,
nunc opus exposcunt militiamque suam.
now work demand and-warfare their-own.
Quin istic pudibunda iaces, pars pessima nostri?
Why-not there ashamed you-lie, part worst of-us?
Sic sum pollicitis captus et ante tuis.
So I-was by-promises taken also before your.
Tu dominum fallis; per te deprensus inermis
You the-master deceive; through you caught unarmed

tristia cum magno damna pudore tuli.
grim with great losses shame I-bore.
Hanc etiam non est mea dedignata puella
It also not has my disdained girl
molliter admota sollicitare manu;
gently with-moved-near to-rouse hand;
sed postquam nullas consurgere posse per artes
but after no to-rise to-be-able by arts
inmemoremque sui procubuisse videt,
and-unmindful of-itself to-have-lain-prostrate she-sees,
'Quid me ludis?' ait, 'quis te, male sane, iubebat
'Why me do-you-mock?' she-says, 'who you, badly sane, bade
invitum nostro ponere membra toro?
unwilling on-our to-lay members bed?
Aut te traiectis Aeaea venefica lanis
Either you with-pierced the-Aeaean sorceress wools
devovet, aut alio lassus amore venis.'
curses, or from-another weary love you-come.'
Nec mora, desiluit tunica velata soluta —
Nor delay, she-leapt-down with-tunic veiled loosened
et decuit nudos proripuisse pedes! —
and it-became-her bare to-have-hurried-forth feet!
neve suae possent intactam scire ministrae,
and-lest her-own could untouched to-know maids,
dedecus hoc sumpta dissimulavit aqua.
disgrace this taken she-hid with-water.

His mistress has shut her door on Ovid the poet and preferred a newly rich knight who won his fortune in war. Poetry is worth nothing now and gold everything; even Jupiter won Danae with it. In Saturn's age gold lay hidden underground and the earth gave its fruits freely. Ovid prays that a god avenge neglected lovers and turn ill-gotten wealth to dust.

Et quisquam ingenuas etiamnunc suspicit artes,
And anyone liberal even-now looks-up-to arts,
aut tenerum dotes carmen habere putat?
or tender a-dowry song to-have thinks?
Ingenium quondam fuerat pretiosius auro;
Genius once had-been more-precious than-gold;
at nunc barbaria est grandis, habere nihil.
but now barbarism is great, to-have nothing.
Cum pulchrae dominae nostri placuere libelli,
When to-beautiful mistress our pleased books,
quo licuit libris, non licet ire mihi;
where it-was-allowed for-books, not it-is-allowed to-go for-me;
cum bene laudavit, laudato ianua clausa est.
when well she-has-praised, to-the-praised door closed is.
Turpiter huc illuc ingeniosus eo.
Shamefully here there talented I-go.
Ecce, recens dives parto per vulnera censu
Behold, newly rich with-gained through wounds wealth
praefertur nobis sanguine pastus eques!
is-preferred to-us on-blood fed knight!
Hunc potes amplecti formosis, vita, lacertis?
Him can-you to-embrace with-beautiful, life, arms?

Huius in amplexu, vita, iacere potes?
Of-him in embrace, life, to-lie can-you?
Si nescis, caput hoc galeam portare solebat;
If you-do-not-know, head this helmet to-carry was-wont;
ense latus cinctum, quod tibi servit, erat;
with-sword side girt, which to-you serves, was;
laeva manus, cui nunc serum male convenit aurum,
left hand, to-which now late badly suits gold,
scuta tulit; dextram tange — cruenta fuit!
shield carried; right-hand touch bloody it-was!
Qua periit aliquis, potes hanc contingere dextram?
By-which perished someone, can-you this to-touch right-hand?
Heu, ubi mollities pectoris illa tui?
Alas, where softness of-breast that your?
Cerne cicatrices, veteris vestigia pugnae —
See scars, of-old traces battle
quaesitum est illi corpore, quidquid habet.
acquired was by-him with-body, whatever he-has.
Forsitan et, quotiens hominem iugulaverit, ille
Perhaps also, how-often a-man he-has-slain, he
indicet! hoc fassas tangis, avara, manus?
may-reveal! this having-confessed do-you-touch, greedy, hands?
Ille ego Musarum purus Phoebique sacerdos
That-same I of-the-Muses pure and-of-Phoebus priest
ad rigidas canto carmen inane fores?
to stiff do-I-sing song empty doors?
Discite, qui sapitis, non quae nos scimus inertes,
Learn, who are-wise, not what we know idle,
sed trepidas acies et fera castra sequi
but trembling battle-lines and fierce camps to-follow

proque bono versu primum deducite pilum!
and-instead-of good verse first lead the-pike!
Hoc tibi, si velles, posset, Homere, dari.
This to-you, if you-wished, could, Homer, to-be-given.
Iuppiter, admonitus nihil esse potentius auro,
Jupiter, warned nothing to-be more-powerful than-gold,
corruptae pretium virginis ipse fuit.
of-corrupted the-price maiden himself was.
Dum merces aberat, durus pater, ipsa severa,
While reward was-lacking, hard father, she-herself stern,
aerati postes, ferrea turris erat;
bronze doorposts, iron tower was;
sed postquam sapiens in munera venit adulter,
but after wise in gifts came adulterer,
praebuit ipsa sinus et dare iussa dedit.
offered herself bosom and to-give ordered gave.
At cum regna senex caeli Saturnus haberet,
But when realms old of-heaven Saturn held,
omne lucrum tenebris alta premebat humus.
all gain in-darkness deep was-pressing earth.
Aeraque et argentum cumque auro pondera ferri
And-bronze and silver and-with gold weights of-iron
manibus admorat, nullaque massa fuit.
to-the-shades he-had-moved-near, and-no mass was.
At meliora dabat — curvo sine vomere fruges
But better-things he-gave curved without plowshare crops
pomaque et in quercu mella reperta cava.
and-fruits and in oak honey found hollow.
Nec valido quisquam terram scindebat aratro,
Nor with-strong anyone earth was-cleaving plow,

signabat nullo limite mensor humum,
was-marking with-no boundary the-surveyor ground,
non freta demisso verrebant eruta remo;
not seas dipped were-sweeping dug-up with-oar;
ultima mortali tum via litus erat.
the-last for-a-mortal then way shore was.
Contra te sollers, hominum natura, fuisti
Against yourself skillful, of-men nature, you-were
et nimium damnis ingeniosa tuis.
and too to-losses ingenious your.
Quo tibi, turritis incingere moenibus urbes?
To-what-end for-you, with-towered to-gird walls cities?
Quo tibi, discordes addere in arma manus?
To-what-end for-you, discordant to-add for arms hands?
Quid tibi cum pelago — terra contenta fuisses!
What to-you with sea with-land content you-should-have-been!
Cur non et caelum, tertia regna, petis?
Why not also heaven, the-third realm, do-you-seek?
Qua licet, adfectas caelum quoque — templa Quirinus,
Where it-is-allowed, you-aspire-to heaven too temples Quirinus,
Liber et Alcides et modo Caesar habent.
Liber and Alcides and lately Caesar have.
Eruimus terra solidum pro frugibus aurum.
We-dig-up from-earth solid instead-of crops gold.
Possidet inventas sanguine miles opes.
Possesses found with-blood soldier wealth.
Curia pauperibus clausa est — dat census honores;
The-senate-house to-the-poor closed is gives wealth honors;
inde gravis iudex, inde severus eques!
thence weighty judge, thence stern knight!

Omnia possideant; illis Campusque forumque
Everything let-them-possess; for-them and-the-Campus and-the-forum
serviat, hi pacem crudaque bella gerant —
let-serve, they peace and-raw wars let-wage
tantum ne nostros avidi liceantur amores,
only lest our greedy they-bid-for loves,
et — satis est — aliquid pauperis esse sinant!
and enough it-is something of-a-poor-man to-be let-them-allow!
At nunc, exaequet tetricas licet illa Sabinas,
But now, may-equal gloomy though she Sabine-women,
imperat ut captae qui dare multa potest;
commands as over-captive he-who to-give much can;
me prohibet custos, in me timet illa maritum.
me forbids the-guard, for me fears she husband.
Si dederim, tota cedet uterque domo!
If I-gave, whole will-yield each house!
O si neclecti quisquam deus ultor amantis
O if of-neglected any god avenger lover
tam male quaesitas pulvere mutet opes!
so badly gotten into-dust may-change wealth!

Ovid calls on Elegy to mourn Tibullus. Cupid comes with broken bow and quenched torch, and Venus grieves as she did for Adonis. If poets are sacred, death profanes them as it took Orpheus and Linus; only their poems escape the pyre. His mother and sister mourn him, and Delia and Nemesis quarrel at his pyre. If anything survives, he is in Elysium, and Ovid bids Calvus, Catullus, and Gallus meet him.

Memnona si mater, mater ploravit Achillem,
Memnon if mother, mother bewailed Achilles,
et tangunt magnas tristia fata deas,
and touch great grim fates goddesses,
flebilis indignos, Elegeia, solve capillos!
tearful undeserving, Elegy, loosen hair!
A, nimis ex vero nunc tibi nomen erit! —
Ah, too from truth now for-you the-name will-be!
Ille tui vates operis, tua fama, Tibullus
He of-your the-poet work, your fame, Tibullus
ardet in extructo, corpus inane, rogo.
burns on piled, body lifeless, pyre.
Ecce, puer Veneris fert eversamque pharetram
Behold, the-boy of-Venus carries both-overturned quiver
et fractos arcus et sine luce facem;
and broken bows and without light torch;
adspice, demissis ut eat miserabilis alis
look, lowered how he-goes pitiable with-wings
pectoraque infesta tundat aperta manu!
and-breast with-hostile he-beats bared hand!
Excipiunt lacrimas sparsi per colla capilli,
Receive tears scattered over neck hair,

oraque singultu concutiente sonant.
and-mouth with-sobbing shaking resounds.
Fratris in Aeneae sic illum funere dicunt
Of-brother at Aeneas' so him funeral they-say
egressum tectis, pulcher Iule, tuis;
having-gone-out from-house, handsome Iulus, your;
nec minus est confusa Venus moriente Tibullo,
nor less is distraught Venus dying with-Tibullus,
quam iuveni rupit cum ferus inguen aper.
than to-the-youth burst when fierce groin boar.
At sacri vates et divum cura vocamur;
But sacred poets and of-the-gods care we-are-called;
sunt etiam qui nos numen habere putent.
there-are even who us divinity to-have think.
Scilicet omne sacrum mors inportuna profanat,
Doubtless all sacred death untimely profanes,
omnibus obscuras inicit illa manus!
on-all dark lays she hands!
Quid pater Ismario, quid mater profuit Orpheo?
What father to-Ismarian, what mother profited Orpheus?
Carmine quid victas obstipuisse feras?
By-song what conquered to-have-stood-stunned beasts?
Et Linon in silvis idem pater 'aelinon!' altis
And Linus in woods the-same father 'ah-Linus!' deep
dicitur invita concinuisse lyra.
is-said unwilling to-have-sung with-lyre.
Adice Maeoniden, a quo ceu fonte perenni
Add Maeonides, from whom as-if from-spring perennial
vatum Pieriis ora rigantur aquis —
of-poets with-Pierian mouths are-watered waters

hunc quoque summa dies nigro submersit Averno.
him too the-last day in-black sank Avernus.
Defugiunt avidos carmina sola rogos;
Escape greedy songs alone pyres;
durat opus vatum, Troiani fama laboris
endures the-work of-poets, of-Trojan the-fame toil
tardaque nocturno tela retexta dolo.
and-slow by-nightly web unwoven trick.
Sic Nemesis longum, sic Delia nomen habebunt,
So Nemesis long, so Delia name will-have,
altera cura recens, altera primus amor.
one care recent, the-other first love.
Quid vos sacra iuvant? quid nunc Aegyptia prosunt
What you rites help? what now Egyptian profit
sistra? quid in vacuo secubuisse toro?
sistrums? what in empty to-have-slept-apart bed?
Cum rapiunt mala fata bonos — ignoscite fasso! —
When snatch evil fates the-good pardon me-having-confessed!
sollicitor nullos esse putare deos.
I-am-tempted none to-be to-think gods.
Vive pius — moriere; pius cole sacra — colentem
Live dutiful you-will-die; dutiful tend rites one-tending
mors gravis a templis in cava busta trahet;
death heavy from temples into hollow tombs will-drag;
carminibus confide bonis — iacet, ecce, Tibullus:
in-songs trust good lies, behold, Tibullus:
vix manet e toto, parva quod urna capit!
hardly remains from whole, small what urn holds!
Tene, sacer vates, flammae rapuere rogales
You-whether, sacred poet, flames have-snatched of-the-pyre

pectoribus pasci nec timuere tuis?
on-breast to-feed nor feared your?
Aurea sanctorum potuissent templa deorum
Golden of-holy they-could-have temples gods
urere, quae tantum sustinuere nefas!
to-burn, which so-great have-sustained crime!
Avertit vultus, Erycis quae possidet arces;
Turned-away face, of-Eryx she-who holds citadels;
sunt quoque, qui lacrimas continuisse negant.
there-are too, who tears to-have-held-back deny.
Sed tamen hoc melius, quam si Phaeacia tellus
But still this better, than if Phaeacian land
ignotum vili supposuisset humo.
unknown with-cheap had-placed-beneath ground.
Hinc certe madidos fugientis pressit ocellos
From-here surely wet of-the-fleeing pressed little-eyes
mater et in cineres ultima dona tulit;
mother and on ashes last gifts brought;
hinc soror in partem misera cum matre doloris
from-here sister for a-share wretched with mother of-grief
venit inornatas dilaniata comas,
came unadorned torn as-to-hair,
cumque tuis sua iunxerunt Nemesisque priorque
and-with your their-own joined both-Nemesis and-the-former
oscula nec solos destituere rogos.
kisses nor alone deserted pyres.
Delia descendens 'felicius' inquit 'amata
Delia going-away 'more-happily' she-says 'loved
sum tibi; vixisti, dum tuus ignis eram.'
I-was by-you; you-lived, while your fire I-was.'

Cui Nemesis 'quid' ait 'tibi sunt mea damna dolori?
To-whom Nemesis 'why' she-says 'to-you are my losses for-grief?
Me tenuit moriens deficiente manu.'
Me he-held dying with-failing hand.'
Si tamen e nobis aliquid nisi nomen et umbra
If still from us anything except name and shade
restat, in Elysia valle Tibullus erit.
remains, in Elysian valley Tibullus will-be.
Obvius huic venias hedera iuvenalia cinctus
To-meet him may-you-come with-ivy youthful girt
tempora cum Calvo, docte Catulle, tuo;
temples with Calvus, learned Catullus, your;
tu quoque, si falsum est temerati crimen amici,
you too, if false is of-violated the-charge friend,
sanguinis atque animae prodige Galle tuae.
of-blood and life lavish Gallus your.
His comes umbra tua est; siqua est modo corporis umbra,
To-these companion shade your is; if-any is only of-body shade,
auxisti numeros, culte Tibulle, pios.
you-have-increased the-numbers, refined Tibullus, dutiful.
Ossa quieta, precor, tuta requiescite in urna,
Bones quiet, I-pray, safe rest in urn,
et sit humus cineri non onerosa tuo!
and be the-earth to-ash not burdensome your!

During Ceres' yearly festival his mistress must sleep alone. Ovid complains that the goddess who taught men to farm should not delight in lovers' tears, and recalls that she herself loved Iasius in Crete: while she lingered with him in the woods, the crops failed everywhere but in Crete. Since her own daughter has been found, she should allow Venus and wine to share the feast.

Annua venerunt Cerealis tempora sacri;
Yearly have-come of-Ceres' the-times rite;
secubat in vacuo sola puella toro.
sleeps-apart in empty alone the-girl bed.
Flava Ceres, tenues spicis redimita capillos,
Golden Ceres, slender with-ears-of-grain crowned hair,
cur inhibes sacris commoda nostra tuis?
why do-you-restrain by-rites pleasures our your?
Te, dea, munificam gentes ubiquaque loquuntur,
You, goddess, bountiful the-peoples everywhere speak-of,
nec minus humanis invidet ulla bonis.
nor less human begrudges any goods.
Ante nec hirsuti torrebant farra coloni,
Before neither shaggy were-parching spelt farmers,
nec notum terris area nomen erat,
nor known to-lands threshing-floor name was,
sed glandem quercus, oracula prima, ferebant;
but acorns oaks, the-oracles first, were-bearing;
haec erat et teneri caespitis herba cibus.
this was and of-tender turf grass food.
Prima Ceres docuit turgescere semen in agris
First Ceres taught to-swell seed in fields

falce coloratas subsecuitque comas;
with-sickle colored and-cut-from-below tresses;
prima iugis tauros supponere colla coegit,
first to-yokes bulls to-place-under necks she-compelled,
et veterem curvo dente revellit humum.
and old with-curved tooth tore-up ground.
Hanc quisquam lacrimis laetari credit amantum
Her anyone at-tears to-rejoice believes of-lovers
et bene tormentis secubituque coli?
and well by-torments and-sleeping-apart to-be-worshiped?
Nec tamen est, quamvis agros amet illa feraces,
Nor still is-she, although fields may-love she fruitful,
rustica nec viduum pectus amoris habet.
boorish nor bereft breast of-love has.
Cretes erunt testes — nec fingunt omnia Cretes.
Cretans will-be witnesses nor invent everything Cretans.
Crete nutrito terra superba Iove.
Crete with-nursed land proud Jupiter.
Illic, sidereum mundi qui temperat arcem,
There, starry of-the-world he-who tempers citadel,
exiguus tenero lac bibit ore puer.
small with-tender milk drank mouth a-boy.
Magna fides testi: testis laudatur alumno.
Great faith in-the-witness: the-witness is-praised by-the-foster-child.
Fassuram Cererem crimina nostra puto.
About-to-confess Ceres crimes our I-think.
Viderat Iasium Cretaea diva sub Ida
Had-seen Iasius the-Cretan goddess under Ida
figentem certa terga ferina manu.
piercing with-sure backs of-wild-beasts hand.

Vidit, et ut tenerae flammam rapuere medullae,
She-saw, and when tender flame seized marrow,
hinc pudor, ex illa parte trahebat amor.
on-this-side shame, from that side was-drawing love.
Victus amore pudor; sulcos arere videres
Conquered by-love shame; furrows to-be-dry you-would-have-seen
et sata cum minima parte redire sui.
and sown-crops with least part to-return of-itself.
Cum bene iactati pulsarant arva ligones,
When well thrown had-struck fields hoes,
ruperat et duram vomer aduncus humum,
had-broken and hard plowshare hooked ground,
seminaque in latos ierant aequaliter agros,
and-seeds into wide had-gone evenly fields,
inrita decepti vota colentis erant.
vain of-the-deceived prayers tiller were.
Diva potens frugum silvis cessabat in altis;
The-goddess powerful over-crops woods idled in deep;
deciderant longae spicea serta comae.
had-fallen-off from-long of-ears-of-grain garlands hair.
Sola fuit Crete fecundo fertilis anno;
Alone was Crete in-fruitful fertile year;
omnia, qua tulerat se dea, messis erat;
everything, where had-borne herself the-goddess, harvest was;
ipse locus nemorum, canebat frugibus Ide,
itself the-place of-groves, was-white with-crops Ida,
et ferus in silva farra metebat aper.
and fierce in wood spelt reaped boar.
Optavit Minos similes sibi legifer annos;
Wished Minos like for-himself the-lawgiver years;

optavit, Cereris longus ut esset amor.
he-wished, of-Ceres long that might-be love.
Quod tibi secubitus tristes, dea flava, fuissent,
Because to-you sleepings-apart sad, goddess golden, had-been,
hoc cogor sacris nunc ego ferre tuis?
this am-I-compelled at-rites now I to-bear your?
Cur ego sim tristis, cum sit tibi nata reperta
Why I should-be sad, when is to-you daughter found
regnaque quam Iuno sorte minore regat?
and-realms which Juno by-lot lesser rules?
Festa dies Veneremque vocat cantusque merumque;
Festal day both-Venus calls and-songs and-wine;
haec decet ad dominos munera ferre deos.
these befits to masters gifts to-bring gods.

III.11A · FREE AT LAST

Ovid declares that he has broken his chains: he will no longer lie at her door, watch rivals leave, or believe her lies. He has endured her pretended illnesses and her signals to young men at dinner. His ship is safe in harbor with its votive garland, and her blandishments will not work on him again.

Multa diuque tuli; vitiis patientia victa est;
Many-things and-long I-have-borne; by-faults patience conquered is;
cede fatigato pectore, turpis amor!
yield from-wearied breast, shameful love!
Scilicet adserui iam me fugique catenas,
Doubtless I-have-freed now myself and-I-have-fled chains,
et quae non puduit ferre, tulisse pudet.
and what not it-shamed to-bear, to-have-borne shames.

Vicimus et domitum pedibus calcamus amorem;
We-have-conquered and tamed under-feet we-trample love;
venerunt capiti cornua sera meo.
have-come to-head horns late my.
Perfer et obdura! dolor hic tibi proderit olim;
Endure and hold-out! pain this to-you will-be-useful sometime;
saepe tulit lassis sucus amarus opem.
often has-brought to-the-weary juice bitter help.
Ergo ego sustinui, foribus tam saepe repulsus,
So I endured, from-door so often repulsed,
ingenuum dura ponere corpus humo?
freeborn on-hard to-lay body ground?
Ergo ego nescio cui, quem tu conplexa tenebas,
So I I-know-not for-whom, whom you embraced were-holding,
excubui clausam servus ut ante domum?
kept-watch shut slave like before house?
Vidi, cum foribus lassus prodiret amator,
I-saw, when from-door weary came-out the-lover,
invalidum referens emeritumque latus;
weak carrying-back and-worn-out flank;
hoc tamen est levius, quam quod sum visus ab illo —
this still is lighter, than that I-was seen by him
eveniat nostris hostibus ille pudor!
may-befall our foes that shame!
Quando ego non fixus lateri patienter adhaesi,
When I not fixed to-side patiently clung,
ipse tuus custos, ipse vir, ipse comes?
myself your guard, myself husband, myself companion?
Scilicet et populo per me comitata placebas;
Doubtless also to-the-people by me accompanied you-pleased;

causa fuit multis noster amoris amor.
cause was to-many our of-love love.
Turpia quid referam vanae mendacia linguae
Shameful why should-I-tell of-empty lies tongue
et periuratos in mea damna deos?
and forsworn to my losses gods?
Quid iuvenum tacitos inter convivia nutus
Why of-young-men silent among banquets nods
verbaque conpositis dissimulata notis?
and-words in-arranged disguised signs?
Dicta erat aegra mihi — praeceps amensque cucurri;
Said she-was sick to-me headlong and-mindless I-ran;
veni, et rivali non erat aegra meo!
I-came, and to-rival not was-she sick my!
His et quae taceo duravi saepe ferendis;
These and what I-keep-silent-about I-endured often by-bearing;
quaere alium pro me, qui queat ista pati.
seek another instead-of me, who can those to-suffer.
Iam mea votiva puppis redimita corona
Already my with-votive ship crowned garland
lenta tumescentes aequoris audit aquas.
unmoved swelling of-the-sea hears waters.
Desine blanditias et verba, potentia quondam,
Cease blandishments and words, powerful once,
perdere — non ego sum stultus, ut ante fui!
to-waste not I am foolish, as before I-was!

Love and hate struggle within him, and love wins. He hates her character and loves her body; he can live neither with her nor without her. He begs her, by their bed, the gods, her face, and her eyes, to choose whether he will love her willingly or by compulsion; he would rather sail with a following wind and love her willingly.

Luctantur pectusque leve in contraria tendunt
Struggle and-breast fickle in contrary-directions pull
hac amor hac odium, sed, puto, vincit amor.
this-way love that-way hatred, but, I-think, conquers love.
Odero, si potero; si non, invitus amabo.
I-shall-hate, if I-shall-be-able; if not, unwilling I-shall-love.
Nec iuga taurus amat; quae tamen odit, habet.
Nor yoke bull loves; which still he-hates, he-has.
Nequitiam fugio — fugientem forma reducit;
Naughtiness I-flee fleeing beauty brings-back;
aversor morum crimina — corpus amo.
I-turn-from of-character the-crimes body I-love.
Sic ego nec sine te nec tecum vivere possum,
So I neither without you nor with-you to-live can,
et videor voti nescius esse mei.
and I-seem of-prayer ignorant to-be my.
Aut formosa fores minus, aut minus inproba, vellem;
Either beautiful you-were less, or less shameless, I-would-wish;
non facit ad mores tam bona forma malos.
not suits for character so good beauty bad.
Facta merent odium, facies exorat amorem —
Deeds deserve hatred, beauty wins-by-prayer love
me miserum, vitiis plus valet illa suis!
me wretched, than-vices more avails she her-own!

Parce, per o lecti socialia iura, per omnis
Spare, by O of-bed nuptial rights, by all
qui dant fallendos se tibi saepe deos,
who give to-be-deceived themselves to-you often gods,
perque tuam faciem, magni mihi numinis instar,
and-by your face, of-great to-me divinity the-equal,
perque tuos oculos, qui rapuere meos!
and-by your eyes, which have-snatched mine!
Quidquid eris, mea semper eris; tu selige tantum,
Whatever you-will-be, mine always you-will-be; you choose only,
me quoque velle velis, anne coactus amem!
me too to-wish whether-you-will, or compelled I-should-love!
Lintea dem potius ventisque ferentibus utar,
Canvas I-may-give rather and-winds favoring use,
ut, quamvis nolim, cogar amare velim.
that, although I-be-unwilling, I-be-compelled to-love I-would-wish.

III.12 · TOO WELL PRAISED

Ovid's own poems have made his mistress famous, and now he fears he must share her with many: he has been her pimp. He wishes the Muses had turned away from him. Readers should not take poets as witnesses: the poets invented Scylla, Medusa, Tityus, Proteus, and all the transformations of myth. They should have taken his praise of her as fiction too.

Quis fuit ille dies, quo tristia semper amanti
What was that day, on-which grim always to-the-lover
omina non albae concinuistis aves?
omens not white you-sang birds?
Quodve putem sidus nostris occurrere fatis,
Or-what should-I-think star to-our to-meet fates,

quosve deos in me bella movere querar?
or-which gods against me wars to-stir should-I-complain?
Quae modo dicta mea est, quam coepi solus amare,
She-who lately called mine has-been, whom I-began alone to-love,
cum multis vereor ne sit habenda mihi.
with many I-fear lest she-be to-be-shared by-me.
Fallimur, an nostris innotuit illa libellis?
Am-I-deceived, or by-our has-become-known she books?
Sic erit — ingenio prostitit illa meo.
So it-will-be by-genius has-been-put-on-sale she my.
Et merito! quid enim formae praeconia feci?
And rightly! why indeed of-beauty proclamations did-I-make?
Vendibilis culpa facta puella mea est.
Salable by-fault made girl my is.
Me lenone placet, duce me perductus amator,
With-me as-pimp she-pleases, as-guide with-me led-on lover,
ianua per nostras est adaperta manus.
the-door by our is opened hands.
An prosint, dubium, nocuerunt carmina semper;
Whether they-help, doubtful, have-harmed songs always;
invidiae nostris illa fuere bonis.
envy to-our they were goods.
Cum Thebe, cum Troia foret, cum Caesaris acta,
When Thebes, when Troy were-there, when of-Caesar the-deeds,
ingenium movit sola Corinna meum.
genius moved only Corinna my.
Aversis utinam tetigissem carmina Musis,
With-averse would-that I-had-touched songs Muses,
Phoebus et inceptum destituisset opus!
Phoebus and begun had-abandoned work!

Nec tamen ut testes mos est audire poetas;
Nor still as witnesses custom is to-hear poets;
malueram verbis pondus abesse meis.
I-had-preferred to-words weight to-be-absent my.
Per nos Scylla patri caros furata capillos
Through us Scylla from-father dear having-stolen hair
pube premit rapidos inguinibusque canes;
with-groin presses ravening and-loins dogs;
nos pedibus pinnas dedimus, nos crinibus angues;
we to-feet wings gave, we to-hair snakes;
victor Abantiades alite fertur equo.
victorious the-descendant-of-Abas on-winged is-borne horse.
Idem per spatium Tityon porreximus ingens,
The-same through space Tityus we-stretched-out huge,
et tria vipereo fecimus ora cani;
and three to-viperous we-made mouths dog;
fecimus Enceladon iaculantem mille lacertis,
we-made Enceladus hurling with-a-thousand arms,
ambiguae captos virginis ore viros.
of-ambiguous captured maiden by-voice men.
Aeolios Ithacis inclusimus utribus Euros;
Aeolian in-Ithacan we-shut bags East-winds;
proditor in medio Tantalus amne sitit.
the-betrayer in mid Tantalus river thirsts.
De Niobe silicem, de virgine fecimus ursam.
From Niobe a-flint, from a-maiden we-made a-bear.
Concinit Odrysium Cecropis ales Ityn;
Sings Odrysian the-Cecropian bird Itys;
Iuppiter aut in aves aut se transformat in aurum
Jupiter either into birds or himself transforms into gold

aut secat inposita virgine taurus aquas.
or cleaves with-placed-on maiden a-bull waters.
Protea quid referam Thebanaque semina, dentes;
Proteus why should-I-tell and-Theban seeds, teeth;
qui vomerent flammas ore, fuisse boves;
which would-vomit flames from-mouth, to-have-been oxen;
flere genis electra tuas, Auriga, sorores;
to-weep from-cheeks amber your, Charioteer, sisters;
quaeque rates fuerint, nunc maris esse deas;
and-which ships had-been, now of-the-sea to-be goddesses;
aversumque diem mensis furialibus Atrei,
and-turned-away day from-banquet frenzied of-Atreus,
duraque percussam saxa secuta lyram?
and-hard struck rocks to-have-followed lyre?
Exit in inmensum fecunda licentia vatum,
Goes-out into the-immense fruitful license of-poets,
obligat historica nec sua verba fide.
binds by-historical nor its-own words faith.
Et mea debuerat falso laudata videri
And my ought-to-have falsely praised to-seem
femina; credulitas nunc mihi vestra nocet.
woman; credulity now me your harms.

Ovid, whose wife is from Falerii, describes Juno's festival there: the ancient grove, the altar, the procession of white heifers, calves, a pig, and the flock's horned leader, and the boys who pelt the hated she-goat that betrayed the goddess. Girls in white carry the sacred objects. The rite is Argive, brought by Halaesus after Agamemnon's death.

Cum mihi pomiferis coniunx foret orta Faliscis,
When to-me from-fruit-bearing wife was sprung Falisci,
moenia contigimus victa, Camille, tibi.
the-walls we-reached conquered, Camillus, by-you.
Casta sacerdotes Iunoni festa parabant
Chaste the-priestesses for-Juno festival were-preparing
per celebres ludos indigenamque bovem;
through crowded games and-native cow;
grande morae pretium ritus cognoscere, quamvis
great of-delay the-reward the-rites to-learn, although
difficilis clivis huc via praebet iter.
difficult with-slopes hither the-road offers a-journey.
Stat vetus et densa praenubilus arbore lucus;
Stands old and with-dense dim tree a-grove;
adspice — concedas numen inesse loco.
look you-would-grant divinity to-be-in place.
Accipit ara preces votivaque tura piorum —
Receives the-altar prayers and-votive incense of-the-dutiful
ara per antiquas facta sine arte manus.
an-altar by ancient made without art hands.
Hinc, ubi praesonuit sollemni tibia cantu,
From-here, when has-sounded-first with-solemn the-pipe song,
it per velatas annua pompa vias;
goes through veiled yearly procession ways;

ducuntur niveae populo plaudente iuvencae,
are-led snowy with-the-people applauding heifers,
quas aluit campis herba Falisca suis,
which has-nourished on-fields grass Faliscan its-own,
et vituli nondum metuenda fronte minaces,
and calves not-yet to-be-feared with-brow threatening,
et minor ex humili victima porcus hara,
and lesser from lowly victim a-pig sty,
duxque gregis cornu per tempora dura recurvo.
and-leader of-the-flock with-horn over temples hard curved-back.
Invisa est dominae sola capella deae;
Hateful is to-the-mistress only she-goat goddess;
illius indicio silvis inventa sub altis
by-her information woods found under deep
dicitur inceptam destituisse fugam.
is-said the-begun to-have-abandoned flight.
Nunc quoque per pueros iaculis incessitur index
Now too by boys with-javelins is-attacked the-informer
et pretium auctori vulneris ipsa datur.
and as-prize to-the-author of-wound herself is-given.
Qua ventura dea est, iuvenes timidaeque puellae
Where about-to-come the-goddess is, young-men and-timid girls
praeverrunt latas veste iacente vias.
sweep-before wide with-garment lying ways.
Virginei crines auro gemmaque premuntur,
Maiden hair with-gold and-gem is-pressed,
et tegit auratos palla superba pedes;
and covers gilded robe proud feet;
more patrum Graio velatae vestibus albis
in-manner of-fathers Greek veiled in-garments white

tradita supposito vertice sacra ferunt.
handed-down with-placed-beneath head sacred-things they-carry.
Ore favent populi tunc cum venit aurea pompa,
With-mouth are-favorable the-peoples then when comes golden procession,
ipsa sacerdotes subsequiturque suas.
herself the-priestesses and-follows her-own.
Argiva est pompae facies; Agamemnone caeso
Argive is of-the-procession the-look; with-Agamemnon slain
et scelus et patrias fugit Halaesus opes
both crime and paternal fled Halaesus wealth
iamque pererratis profugus terraque fretoque
and-already having-wandered-through a-fugitive both-land and-sea
moenia felici condidit alta manu.
walls with-happy founded high hand.
Ille suos docuit Iunonia sacra Faliscos.
He his-own taught Junonian rites Faliscans.
Sint mihi, sint populo semper amica suo!
May-they-be to-me, may-they-be to-people always friendly their-own!

III.14 · ONLY DENY IT

Ovid does not ask his mistress to be faithful, only to hide her affairs. She should be wanton in bed and modest in public, and spare him the evidence: the letters, the rumpled bed, the love bite. When she confesses he feels faint. If he catches her in the act, she should deny it, and he will believe her words over his eyes.

Non ego, ne pecces, cum sis formosa, recuso,
Not I, that-not you-sin, since you-are beautiful, refuse,
sed ne sit misero scire necesse mihi;
but lest it-be for-wretched to-know necessary me;

nec te nostra iubet fieri censura pudicam,
nor you our bids to-become censorship chaste,
sed tamen, ut temptes dissimulare, rogat.
but still, that you-try to-dissemble, asks.
Non peccat, quaecumque potest peccasse negare,
Not sins, whoever can to-have-sinned to-deny,
solaque famosam culpa professa facit.
and-alone infamous guilt confessed makes.
Quis furor est, quae nocte latent, in luce fateri,
What madness is-it, what at-night lie-hid, in light to-confess,
et quae clam facias facta referre palam?
and what secretly you-do done to-report openly?
Ignoto meretrix corpus iunctura Quiriti
To-unknown a-harlot body about-to-join citizen
opposita populum summovet ante sera;
with-set-against people removes first bolt;
tu tua prostitues famae peccata sinistrae
you your will-expose to-reputation sins unlucky
commissi perages indiciumque tui?
of-committed will-you-carry-out and-information your?
Sit tibi mens melior, saltemve imitare pudicas,
Be to-you a-mind better, or-at-least imitate the-chaste,
teque probam, quamvis non eris, esse putem.
and-you honest, although not you-will-be, to-be may-I-think.
Quae facis, haec facito; tantum fecisse negato,
What you-do, these-things do; only to-have-done deny,
nec pudeat coram verba modesta loqui!
nor be-ashamed openly words modest to-speak!
Est qui nequitiam locus exigat; omnibus illum
There-is which naughtiness a-place may-demand; with-all it

deliciis inple, stet procul inde pudor!
delights fill, let-stand far thence shame!
Hinc simul exieris, lascivia protinus omnis
From-here as-soon-as you-have-gone-out, wantonness at-once all
absit, et in lecto crimina pone tuo.
be-away, and in bed crimes lay-down your.
Illic nec tunicam tibi sit posuisse pudori
There neither the-tunic to-you be to-have-laid-aside for-shame
nec femori inpositum sustinuisse femur;
nor on-thigh placed to-have-held-up thigh;
illic purpureis condatur lingua labellis,
there with-crimson be-bidden tongue little-lips,
inque modos Venerem mille figuret amor;
and-into ways Venus a-thousand may-shape love;
illic nec voces nec verba iuvantia cessent,
there neither cries nor words pleasing cease,
spondaque lasciva mobilitate tremat!
and-the-bed-frame with-wanton movement may-tremble!
Indue cum tunicis metuentem crimina vultum,
Put-on with tunics fearing crimes face,
et pudor obscenum diffiteatur opus;
and shame the-obscene may-deny work;
da populo, da verba mihi; sine nescius errem,
give to-people, give words to-me; allow ignorant I-may-err,
et liceat stulta credulitate frui!
and may-it-be-allowed with-foolish credulity to-enjoy!
Cur totiens video mitti recipique tabellas?
Why so-often do-I-see to-be-sent and-to-be-received tablets?
Cur pressus prior est interiorque torus?
Why pressed the-front is and-the-inner bed?

Cur plus quam somno turbatos esse capillos
Why more than by-sleep tousled to-be hair
collaque conspicio dentis habere notam?
and-neck do-I-see of-tooth to-have mark?
Tantum non oculos crimen deducis ad ipsos;
All but eyes the-crime you-lead to very;
si dubitas famae parcere, parce mihi!
if you-hesitate reputation to-spare, spare me!
Mens abit et morior quotiens peccasse fateris,
Mind goes and I-die as-often-as to-have-sinned you-confess,
perque meos artus frigida gutta fluit.
and-through my limbs cold drop flows.
Tunc amo, tunc odi frustra quod amare necesse est;
Then I-love, then I-hate in-vain what to-love necessary is;
tunc ego, sed tecum, mortuus esse velim!
then I, but with-you, dead to-be would-wish!
Nil equidem inquiram, nec quae celare parabis
Nothing for-my-part shall-I-inquire, nor what to-conceal you-will-prepare
insequar, et falli muneris instar erit.
shall-I-pursue, and to-be-deceived of-a-gift the-equal will-be.
Si tamen in media deprensa tenebere culpa,
If still in mid caught you-will-be-held fault,
et fuerint oculis probra videnda meis,
and have-been to-eyes disgraces to-be-seen my,
quae bene visa mihi fuerint, bene visa negato —
which well seen by-me have-been, well seen deny
concedent verbis lumina nostra tuis.
will-yield to-words eyes our your.
Prona tibi vinci cupientem vincere palma est,
Easy for-you to-be-conquered one-desiring to-conquer the-palm is,

sit modo 'non feci!' dicere lingua memor.
be only 'not I-did!' to-say tongue mindful.
Cum tibi contingat verbis superare duobus,
Since to-you it-befalls by-words to-win two,
etsi non causa, iudice vince tuo!
even-if not by-cause, by-judge win your!

III.15 · FAREWELL TO ELEGY

Ovid asks Venus to find a new poet: he has reached the end of the course. He is a knight of an old family, and as Mantua rejoices in Vergil and Verona in Catullus, he will be called the glory of the Paelignian people. A traveler will call little Sulmo great. Bacchus now calls him to a greater field, and he bids farewell to elegy, the work that will outlive him.

Quaere novum vatem, tenerorum mater Amorum!
Seek a-new poet, of-tender mother Loves!
Raditur hic elegis ultima meta meis;
Is-grazed here by-elegies the-last turning-post my;
quos ego conposui, Paeligni ruris alumnus —
which I composed, of-Paelignian countryside nursling
nec me deliciae dedecuere meae —
nor me delights have-disgraced my
siquid id est, usque a proavis vetus ordinis heres,
if-anything that is, right from great-grandfathers old of-the-order heir,
non modo militiae turbine factus eques.
not just-now of-warfare by-whirl made a-knight.
Mantua Vergilio, gaudet Verona Catullo;
Mantua in-Vergil, rejoices Verona in-Catullus;
Paelignae dicar gloria gentis ego,
of-Paelignian I-shall-be-called the-glory race I,

quam sua libertas ad honesta coegerat arma,
which its-own freedom to honorable had-compelled arms,
cum timuit socias anxia Roma manus.
when feared allied anxious Rome hands.
Atque aliquis spectans hospes Sulmonis aquosi
And some-one looking guest of-Sulmo watery
moenia, quae campi iugera pauca tenent,
at-the-walls, which of-plain acres few hold,
'Quae tantum' dicat 'potuistis ferre poetam,
'You-who so-great' he-may-say 'have-been-able to-bear poet,
quantulacumque estis, vos ego magna voco.'
however-small-soever you-are, you I great call.'
Culte puer puerique parens Amathusia culti,
Refined boy and-of-the-boy mother Amathusian refined,
aurea de campo vellite signa meo!
golden from field pluck standards my!
Corniger increpuit thyrso graviore Lyaeus:
Horned has-struck with-thyrsus heavier Lyaeus:
pulsanda est magnis area maior equis.
to-be-beaten is by-great field greater horses.
Inbelles elegi, genialis Musa, valete,
Unwarlike elegies, genial Muse, farewell,
post mea mansurum fata superstes opus!
after my about-to-remain fate surviving work!