LATIN SERIES · VOLUME 69

Epigrams

Martial

Epigrammata

Epigrams

Part One: The Book of the Games and Books I–VII

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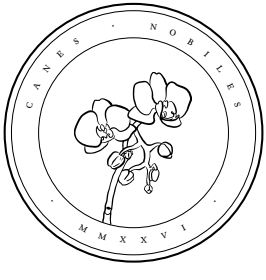
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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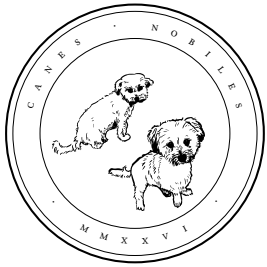

Volume 69 of the Canes Nobiles Latin interlinear texts

The Latin text follows Heraeus' Teubner text, Leipzig, 1925

Books I–VII set from the Perseus Digital Library's canonical Latin corpus,
with corrections; the Book of the Games set from Heraeus' printed text

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

∗∗∗ marks a gap and † a corrupt place. An epigram's
number skips where the volume leaves one out.

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MARTIAL

Liber Spectaculorum

The Book of the Games

EPIGRAMS 1–15

Let Memphis, Babylon, Delos, and the Mausoleum keep quiet: Caesar's amphitheater outdoes every wonder, and stands where Nero's lake and palace took the city from its people. Every race on earth comes to watch, and the informers are driven out across the sand. In the arena Pasiphae's bull is believed, Venus fights for Caesar as Mars does, and a woman kills a lion. Laureolus hangs on a real cross for a bear, a rhinoceros tosses a bull, a treacherous lion is killed, and a pregnant sow, speared, gives birth from the wound. Carpophorus kills a boar, a bear, a lion, and a leopard.

Barbara pyramidum sileat miracula Memphis, 1
Barbarous of-the-pyramids let-be-silent the-wonders Memphis,
Assyrius iactet nec Babylona labor;
Assyrian let-boast nor Babylon toil;
nec Triviae templo molles laudentur Iones,
nor of-Trivia at-the-temple soft let-be-praised the-Ionians,
dissimulet Delon cornibus ara frequens;
let-hide Delos with-horns the-altar thronged;
aëre nec vacuo pendentia Mausolea
in-the-air nor empty hanging the-Mausolea
laudibus inmodicis Cares in astra ferant.
with-praises immoderate the-Carians to the-stars let-carry.
Omnis Caesareo cedit labor amphitheatro,
All to-the-Caesarean yields toil amphitheater,
unum pro cunctis fama loquetur opus.
one instead-of all fame will-tell work.

2 Hic ubi sidereus propius videt astra colossus
Here where starry nearer sees the-stars the-colossus
et crescunt media pegmata celsa via,
and grow in-the-middle-of scaffolds tall the-road,
invidiosa feri radiabant atria regis
hated of-the-savage were-gleaming the-halls king's
unaque iam tota stabat in urbe domus.
and-one now whole stood in the-city house.
Hic ubi conspicui venerabilis amphitheatri
Here where of-the-conspicuous venerable amphitheater
erigitur moles, stagna Neronis erant.
is-raised the-mass, the-pools of-Nero were.
Hic ubi miramur velocia munera thermas,
Here where we-admire swift gifts the-baths,
abstulerat miseris tecta superbus ager.
had-taken-away from-the-wretched their-dwellings a-proud estate.
Claudia diffusas ubi porticus explicat umbras,
the-Claudian spreading where colonnade unfolds shade,
ultima pars aulae deficientis erat.
the-last part of-the-palace failing was.
Reddita Roma sibi est et sunt te praeside, Caesar,
Restored Rome to-herself is and are with-you as-protector, Caesar,
deliciae populi, quae fuerant domini.
the-delights of-the-people, which had-been the-master's.

3 Quae tam seposita est, quae gens tam barbara, Caesar,
What so remote is, what race so barbarous, Caesar,
ex qua spectator non sit in urbe tua?
from which a-spectator not is in city your?

Venit ab Orpheo cultor Rhodopeïus Haemo,
Comes from Orphean the-tiller Rhodopean Haemus,
venit et epoto Sarmata pastus equo,
comes also with-drunk the-Sarmatian fed horse,
et qui prima bibit deprensi flumina Nili,
and he-who the-first drinks of-the-found-out the-streams Nile,
et quem supremae Tethyos unda ferit;
and he-whom of-farthest Tethys the-wave strikes;
festinavit Arabs, festinavere Sabaei,
has-hurried the-Arab, have-hurried the-Sabaeans,
et Cilices nimbis hic maduere suis.
and the-Cilicians with-showers here have-been-drenched their-own.
Crinibus in nodum tortis venere Sygambri,
With-hair in a-knot twisted have-come the-Sygambri,
atque aliter tortis crinibus Aethiopes.
and otherwise twisted with-hair the-Ethiopians.
Vox diversa sonat populorum, tum tamen una est,
The-voice different sounds of-the-peoples, then yet one it-is,
cum verus patriae diceris esse pater.
when true of-the-fatherland you-are-called to-be the-father.

Turba gravis paci placidaeque inimica quieti, 4
The-throng heavy to-peace and-to-calm hostile quiet,
quae semper miseras sollicitabat opes,
which always wretched was-troubling wealth,
traducta est †getulis nec cepit harena nocentis:
led-out was Getulian nor did-hold the-arena the-guilty:
et delator habet quod dabat exilium.
and the-informer has what he-gave exile.

Exulat Ausonia profugus delator ab urbe:
Is-exiled Ausonian a-fugitive the-informer from the-city:
haec licet inpensis principis adnumeres.
this you-may among-the-expenses of-the-emperor count.

5 Iunctam Pasiphaen Dictaeo credite tauro:
Joined Pasiphae to-the-Dictaean believe bull:
vidimus, accepit fabula prisca fidem.
we-have-seen, has-received the-tale ancient belief.
Nec se miretur, Caesar, longaeva vetustas:
Nor itself let-marvel, Caesar, long-lived antiquity:
quidquid fama canit, praestat harena tibi.
whatever fame sings, provides the-arena for-you.

6 Belliger invictis quod Mars tibi servit in armis,
Warlike unconquered that Mars for-you serves in arms,
non satis est, Caesar, servit et ipsa Venus.
not enough is, Caesar, serves also herself Venus.

6b Prostratum vasta Nemees in valle leonem
Laid-low vast of-Nemea in valley the-lion
nobile et Herculeum fama canebat opus.
a-noble and Herculean fame sang work.
Prisca fides taceat: nam post tua munera, Caesar,
Ancient belief let-be-silent: for after your shows, Caesar,
hoc iam femineo Marte fatemur agi.
this now with-female Mars we-confess to-be-done.

Qualiter in Scythica religatus rupe Prometheus 7
As in Scythian bound on-a-crag Prometheus
adsiduam nimio pectore pavit avem,
the-constant with-his-too-great breast fed bird,
nuda Caledonio sic viscera praebuit urso
naked to-a-Caledonian thus his-entrails offered bear
non falsa pendens in cruce Laureolus.
not false hanging on cross Laureolus.
Vivebant laceri membris stillantibus artus
Were-living the-torn with-limbs dripping joints
inque omni nusquam corpore corpus erat.
and-in all nowhere body a-body was.
Denique supplicium dignum tulit: ille parentis
In-short the-punishment worthy he-bore: he of-a-parent
vel domini iugulum foderat ense nocens,
or of-a-master the-throat had-pierced with-sword guilty,
templa vel arcano demens spoliaverat auro,
temples or of-hidden mad had-robbed gold,
subdiderat saevas vel tibi, Roma, faces.
had-set-under savage or for-you, Rome, torches.
Vicerat antiquae sceleratus crimina famae,
He-had-outdone of-ancient the-wicked-one the-crimes story,
in quo, quae fuerat fabula, poena fuit.
in whom, what had-been a-tale, punishment was.

Daedale, Lucano cum sic lacereris ab urso, 8
Daedalus, Lucanian when so you-are-torn by bear,
quam cuperes pinnas nunc habuisse tuas!
how you-would-want wings now to-have-had your-own!

9 Praestitit exhibitus tota tibi, Caesar, harena
Displayed exhibited in-the-whole for-you, Caesar, arena
quae non promisit proelia rhinoceros.
which not it-promised battles the-rhinoceros.
O quam terribilis exarsit pronus in iras!
O how terrible it-blazed headlong into rages!
Quantus erat taurus, cui pila taurus erat!
How-great was the-bull, for-whom a-dummy the-bull was!

10 Laeserat ingrato leo perfidus ore magistrum,
Had-wounded with-ungrateful the-lion treacherous mouth his-master,
ausus tam notas contemerare manus,
having-dared so familiar to-defile hands,
sed dignas tanto persolvit crimine poenas,
but worthy for-so-great he-paid crime penalties,
et qui non tulerat verbera, tela tulit.
and who not had-borne blows, weapons bore.
Quos decet esse hominum tali sub principe mores,
What ought to-be of-men such under an-emperor ways,
qui iubet ingenium mitius esse feris!
who orders the-temper gentler to-be in-beasts!

11 Praeceps sanguinea dum se rotat ursus harena,
Headlong on-the-bloody while itself whirls a-bear arena,
inplicitam visco perdidit ille fugam.
entangled with-birdlime lost it flight.

Splendida iam tecto cessent venabula ferro,
Shining now with-covered let-cease the-hunting-spears iron,
nec volet excussa lancea torta manu;
nor let-fly shaken-out the-lance hurled from-the-hand;
deprendat vacuo venator in aëre praedam,
let-catch empty the-hunter in air prey,
si captare feras aucupis arte placet.
if to-catch beasts with-the-fowler's art it-pleases.

Inter Caesareae discrimina saeva Dianae 12
Amid of-Caesarean the-perils savage Diana
fixisset gravidam cum levis hasta suem,
had-pierced pregnant when a-light spear sow,
exiluit partus miserae de vulnere matris.
leapt-out the-offspring of-the-wretched from the-wound mother.
O Lucina ferox, hoc peperisse fuit?
O Lucina fierce, this to-have-given-birth was-it?
Pluribus illa mori voluisset saucia telis,
By-more she to-die would-have-wished wounded weapons,
omnibus ut natis triste pateret iter.
for-all that her-young sad might-lie-open the-way.

Quis negat esse satum materno funere Bacchum? 13
Who denies to-have-been born from-a-mother's death Bacchus?
Sic genitum numen credite: nata fera est.
So born a-divinity believe: born from-a-beast it-is.

Icta gravi telo confossaque vulnere mater
Struck by-a-heavy weapon and-pierced by-the-wound the-mother
sus pariter vitam perdidit atque dedit.
the-sow equally life lost and gave.
O quam certa fuit librato dextera ferro!
O how sure was with-poised the-right-hand iron!
Hanc ego Lucinae credo fuisse manum.
This I of-Lucina believe to-have-been the-hand.
Experta est numen moriens utriusque Dianae,
Experienced has the-divinity dying of-each Diana,
quaque soluta parens quaque perempta fera est.
by-which released a-parent by-which slain the-beast is.

14 Sus fera iam gravior maturi pignore ventris
The-sow wild now heavier of-the-ripe with-the-pledge womb
emisit fetum, vulnere facta parens;
sent-out her-young, by-a-wound made a-parent;
nec iacuit partus, sed matre cadente cucurrit.
nor lay the-offspring, but with-its-mother falling ran.
O quantum est subitis casibus ingenium!
O how-much is in-sudden chances wit!

15 Summa tuae, Meleagre, fuit quae gloria famae,
The-height of-your, Meleager, was which the-glory of-fame,
quanta est Carpophori portio, fusus aper!
how-great is of-Carpophorus a-portion, the-felled boar!

Ille et praecipiti venabula condidit urso,
He both in-the-headlong his-hunting-spears buried bear,
primus in Arctoi qui fuit arce poli,
the-first in of-the-Arctic who was the-summit pole,
stravit et ignota spectandum mole leonem,
laid-low and of-unknown to-be-seen bulk a-lion,
Herculeas potuit qui decuisse manus,
Herculean could which have-befitted hands,
et volucrem longo porrexit vulnere pardum
and the-flying with-a-long laid-out wound leopard

* * *

(lacuna)

Praemia cum laudem ferret, at hic pateram.
The-prizes when praise he-was-bearing, yet he a-dish.

EPIGRAMS 16–33

A bull carries Alcides to the stars, as a bull once carried Europa over the sea; an elephant adores Caesar unbidden; a tigress kills a lion; a bull that tossed dummies is killed by an elephant. Caesar settles the crowd's quarrel over two gladiators with both hands. Orpheus' woods and beasts are staged, and a bear tears the singer; a rhinoceros tosses a bear; Carpophorus kills twenty beasts and outdoes Hercules. The arena is flooded for sea fights and Nereids' displays, and Leander is spared by Caesar's water. Priscus and Verus fight to a draw and both are freed, a doe takes refuge at Caesar's feet, and the poet asks pardon for haste.

Raptus abît media quod ad aethera taurus harena, 16
Snatched-away went from-the-middle-of that to the-heavens a-bull arena,
non fuit hoc artis, sed pietatis opus.
not was this of-art, but of-piety a-work.

16b Vexerat Europen fraterna per aequora taurus:
Had-carried Europa his-brother's through the-seas a-bull:
at nunc Alciden taurus in astra tulit.
but now Alcides a-bull to the-stars has-carried.
Caesaris atque Iovis confer nunc, fama, iuvencos:
of-Caesar and of-Jupiter compare now, Fame, the-bullocks:
par onus ut tulerint, altius iste tulit.
equal the-load though they-bore, higher this-one bore.

17 Quod pius et supplex elephas te, Caesar, adorat
That dutiful and suppliant the-elephant you, Caesar, adores
hic modo qui tauro tam metuendus erat,
this-one lately who to-the-bull so to-be-feared was,
non facit hoc iussus nulloque docente magistro:
not he-does this ordered and-with-no teaching trainer:
crede mihi, nostrum sentit et ille deum.
believe me, our feels also he god.

18 Lambere securi dextram consueta magistri
To-lick of-the-untroubled the-right-hand accustomed trainer
tigris, ab Hyrcano gloria rara iugo,
a-tigress, from the-Hyrcanian the-glory rare ridge,
saeva ferum rabido laceravit dente leonem:
savage a-wild with-raging tore tooth lion:
res nova, non ullis cognita temporibus.
a-thing new, not by-any known times.

Ausa est tale nihil, silvis dum vixit in altis:
Dared has such nothing, forests while she-lived in high:
postquam inter nos est, plus feritatis habet.
after among us she-is, more of-wildness she-has.

Qui modo per totam flammis stimulatus harenam 19
He-who lately over the-whole by-flames goaded arena
sustulerat raptas taurus in astra pilas,
had-lifted snatched the-bull to the-stars the-dummies,
occubuit tandem cornuta mole petitus,
fell at-last by-a-horned mass attacked,
dum facilem tolli sic elephanta putat.
while easy to-be-lifted so the-elephant he-thinks.

Cum peteret pars haec Myrinum, pars illa Triumphum, 20
When sought part this Myrinus, part that Triumphus,
promisit pariter Caesar utraque manu.
promised equally Caesar with-each hand.
Non potuit melius litem finire iocosam.
Not he-could better the-dispute to-end playful.
O dulce invicti principis ingenium!
O sweet of-the-unconquered emperor wit!

Quidquid in Orpheo Rhodope spectasse theatro 21
Whatever on Orphean Rhodope to-have-watched stage
dicitur, exhibuit, Caesar, harena tibi.
is-said, displayed, Caesar, the-arena for-you.

Repserunt scopuli mirandaque silva cucurrit,
Crept the-rocks and-a-wondrous forest ran,
quale fuisse nemus creditur Hesperidum.
such-as to-have-been the-grove is-believed of-the-Hesperides.
Adfuit inmixtum pecori genus omne ferarum
Was-present mixed with-the-flock the-race every of-beasts
et supra vatem multa pependit avis,
and above the-bard many hung bird,
ipse sed ingrato iacuit laceratus ab urso.
he-himself but ungrateful lay torn by bear.
Haec tantum res est facta παρ' ἱστορίαν
This only thing is done against history

21b Orphea quod subito tellus emisit hiatu,
Orpheus that sudden the-earth sent-out with-a-gap,
versa (miramur?) venit ab Eurydice.
turned-around (we-marvel?) he-came from Eurydice.

22 Sollicitant pavidi dum rhinocerota magistri
Provoke the-fearful while the-rhinoceros trainers
seque diu magnae colligit ira ferae,
and-itself long of-the-great gathers the-anger beast,
desperabantur promissi proelia Martis;
were-despaired-of of-the-promised the-battles Mars;
sed tandem rediit cognitus ante furor.
but at-last returned known before fury.

Namque gravem cornu gemino sic extulit ursum,
For a-heavy with-horn double so it-tossed bear,
iactat ut inpositas taurus in astra pilas:
tosses as placed-on a-bull to the-stars dummies:

Norica tam certo venabula derigit ictu 23
Norican so with-sure hunting-spears aims blow
fortis adhuc teneri dextera Carpophori.
the-brave still young the-right-hand of-Carpophorus.
Ille tulit geminos facili cervice iuvencos,
He bore the-twin with-easy neck bullocks,
illi cessit atrox bubalus atque vison:
to-him yielded fierce the-buffalo and bison:
hunc leo cum fugeret, praeceps in tela cucurrit.
this-one a-lion when fleeing, headlong onto the-spears ran.
I nunc et lentas corripe, turba, moras.
Go now and slow chide, crowd, delays.

Si quis ades longis serus spectator ab oris, 24
If anyone you-are-present far late spectator from shores,
cui lux prima sacri muneris ista fuit,
to-whom the-light first of-the-sacred show this was,
ne te decipiat ratibus navalis Enyo
lest you deceive with-ships naval Enyo
et par unda fretis, hic modo terra fuit.
and like the-wave to-the-straits, here lately land was.

Non credis? specta, dum lassant aequora Martem:
Not do-you-believe? look, while weary the-waters Mars:
parva mora est, dices 'Hic modo pontus erat.'
small delay is, you-will-say 'Here lately sea was.'

25 Quod nocturna tibi, Leandre, pepercerit unda,
That by-night for-you, Leander, has-spared the-wave,
desine mirari: Caesaris unda fuit.
cease to-wonder: Caesar's wave it-was.

25b Cum peteret dulces audax Leandros amores
When seeking sweet bold Leander his-love
et fessus tumidis iam premeretur aquis,
and weary by-swelling now was-pressed waters,
sic miser instantes adfatus dicitur undas:
so wretched the-pressing to-have-addressed is-said waves:
'Parcite dum propero, mergite cum redeo.'
'Spare-me while I-hurry, drown-me when I-return.'

26 Lusit Nereïdum docilis chorus aequore toto
Played of-the-Nereids the-skilled troupe on-the-sea whole
et vario faciles ordine pinxit aquas.
and in-various easy order painted the-waters.
Fuscina dente minax recto fuit, ancora curvo:
A-trident with-tooth threatening straight was, an-anchor with-curved:

credidimus remum credidimusque ratem,
we-believed an-oar and-we-believed a-ship,
et gratum nautis sidus fulgere Laconum
and welcome to-sailors the-star to-shine of-the-Laconians
lataque perspicuo vela tumere sinu.
and-broad in-clear the-sails to-swell fold.
Quis tantas liquidis artes invenit in undis?
Who such liquid arts devised in waves?
Aut docuit lusus hos Thetis aut didicit.
Either taught games these Thetis or learned-them.

Cum traheret Priscus, traheret certamina Verus, 27
When was-drawing-out Priscus, was-drawing-out the-contests Verus,
esset et aequalis Mars utriusque diu,
was and equal Mars of-each long,
missio saepe viris magno clamore petita est;
discharge often for-the-men with-great shouting sought was;
sed Caesar legi paruit ipse suae: —
but Caesar law obeyed himself his-own:—
lex erat, ad digitum posita concurrere parma: —
the-law was, to the-finger with-placed to-fight shield:—
quod licuit, lances donaque saepe dedit.
what he-was-allowed, platters and-gifts often he-gave.
Inventus tamen est finis discriminis aequi:
Found yet was an-end of-the-crisis equal:
pugnavere pares, subcubuere pares.
they-fought equals, they-yielded equals.
Misit utrique rudes et palmas Caesar utrique:
He-sent to-each wooden-swords and palms Caesar to-each:

hoc pretium virtus ingeniosa tulit.
this reward valor ingenious bore.
Contigit hoc nullo nisi te sub principe, Caesar:
Befell this no except you under emperor, Caesar:
cum duo pugnarent, victor uterque fuit.
when two fought, the-victor each was.

28 Saecula Carpophorum, Caesar, si prisca tulissent,
The-ages Carpophorus, Caesar, if ancient had-borne,
monstra quibus fudit barbara terra fera,
monsters in-which poured-out barbarous the-land savage,
non Marathon taurum, Nemee frondosa leonem,
not Marathon its-bull, Nemea leafy its-lion,
Arcas Maenalium non timuisset aprum.
the-Arcadian Maenalian not would-have-feared boar.
Hoc armante manus hydrae mors una fuisset,
This-one arming his-hands of-the-hydra the-death one would-have-been,
huic percussa foret tota Chimaera semel.
by-him struck would-have-been the-whole Chimaera once.
Igniferos possit sine Colchide iungere tauros,
The-fire-bearing he-could without the-Colchian to-yoke bulls,
possit utramque feram vincere Pasiphaës.
he-could both beasts to-conquer of-Pasiphae.
Si vetus aequorei revocetur fabula monstri,
If old of-the-sea be-recalled the-tale monster,
Hesionen solvet solus et Andromedan.
Hesione he-will-free alone and Andromeda.

Herculeae laudis numeretur gloria: plus est
of-Herculean praise let-be-counted the-glory: more it-is
bis denas pariter perdomuisse feras.
twice ten together to-have-tamed beasts.
Fucinus et diri taceantur stagna Neronis:
the-Fucine and of-dire let-be-silent the-pools Nero:
hanc norint unam saecula naumachiam.
this let-know one the-ages naval-battle.

Concita veloces fugeret cum damma Molossos 29
Roused swift was-fleeing when a-doe the-Molossian-hounds
et varia lentas necteret arte moras,
and various slow was-weaving by-art delays,
Caesaris ante pedes supplex similisque roganti
of-Caesar before the-feet suppliant and-like to-one-begging
constitit, et praedam non tetigere canes.
stood, and the-prey not did-touch the-dogs.

* * *

(lacuna)

Haec intellecto principe dona tulit.
She understood the-emperor gifts bore.
Numen habet Caesar, sacra est haec, sacra potestas,
Divinity has Caesar, sacred is this, sacred power,
credite: mentiri non didicere ferae.
believe: to-lie not have-learned beasts.

30 Augusti labor hic fuerat committere classes
of-Augustus the-labor this had-been to-engage fleets
et freta navali sollicitare tuba.
and the-straits with-naval to-trouble trumpet.
Caesaris haec nostri pars est quota? vidit in undis
of-Caesar this our part is how-small? saw in the-waves
et Thetis ignotas et Galatea feras;
both Thetis unknown and Galatea beasts;
vidit in aequoreo ferventes pulvere currus
saw on the-sea's glowing dust the-chariots
et domini Triton isse putavit equos:
and of-his-master Triton to-have-gone thought the-horses:
dumque parat saevis ratibus fera proelia Nereus,
and-while prepares for-savage ships fierce battles Nereus,
horruit in liquidis ire pedestris aquis.
he-shuddered on liquid to-go on-foot waters.
Quidquid et in circo spectatur et amphitheatro,
Whatever both in the-circus is-watched and in-the-amphitheater,
dives, Caesar, io, praestitit unda tibi.
rich, Caesar, hurrah, has-provided the-wave for-you.

31 Da veniam subitis: non displicuisse meretur,
Grant pardon to-sudden-things: not to-have-displeased deserves,
festinat, Caesar, qui placuisse tibi.
hurries, Caesar, who to-have-pleased you.

Cedere maiori virtutis fama secunda est. 32
To-yield to-the-greater of-valor fame second is.
Illa gravis palma est, quam minor hostis habet.
That heavy palm is, which the-lesser enemy has.

Flavia gens, quantum tibi tertius abstulit heres! 33
Flavian race, how-much from-you the-third has-taken heir!
Paene fuit tanti, non habuisse duos.
Almost it-was of-such-worth, not to-have-had two.

MARTIAL

Epigrammata

Epigrams I–VII

BOOK I

PREFACE AND EPIGRAMS 1–16

In prose Martial claims his jokes spare persons, defends the frank words of epigram by Catullus and others, and bars Cato from his theater. The book begins: this is the Martial known the world over; a pocket edition is sold by Secundus behind the Temple of Peace; the little book is warned of Rome's sneering noses; Caesar is asked to read it with the face he turns on the mimes. The eagle that carried a boy unharmed is matched by the lions that spare a hare. Stella's dove outdoes Catullus' sparrow, Decianus is praised for living, Arria hands Paetus the sword, a colonnade falls just after Regulus has passed, and Julius is told to live today.

Spero me secutum in libellis meis tale temperamentum, ut pr
I-hope myself to-have-followed in little-books my such moderation that
de illis queri non possit quisquis de se bene senserit,
about them to-complain not can whoever about himself well has-thought
cum salva infimarum quoque personarum reverentia ludant;
since with-safe of-the-lowest also persons respect they-play
quae adeo antiquis auctoribus defuit, ut nominibus non
which so-much to-ancient authors was-lacking that names not
tantum veris abusi sint, sed et magnis. Mihi fama vilius
only real they-misused have but also great To-me fame more-cheaply
constet et probetur in me novissimum ingenium. Absit
let-cost and let-be-approved in me the-last talent Let-be-absent
a iocorum nostrorum simplicitate malignus interpres nec
from of-jokes our simplicity a-malicious interpreter nor
epigrammata mea scribat: inprobe facit qui in alieno
epigrams my let-him-write wickedly he-acts who in another's
libro ingeniosus est. Lascivam verborum veritatem, id est
book clever is Wanton of-words truthfulness that is
epigrammaton linguam, excusarem, si meum esset exemplum:
of-epigrams the-language I-would-excuse if mine were the-example

sic scribit Catullus, sic Marsus, sic Pedo, sic Gaetulicus, sic
so writes Catullus so Marsus so Pedo so Gaetulicus so
quicumque perlegitur. Si quis tamen tam ambitiose tristis
whoever is-read-through If anyone yet so ostentatiously gloomy
est, ut apud illum in nulla pagina latine loqui fas sit, potest
is that with him in no page Latin to-speak right be he-can
epistula vel potius titulo contentus esse. Epigrammata
with-the-letter or rather with-the-title content to-be Epigrams
illis scribuntur, qui solent spectare Florales. Non intret
for-those are-written who are-wont to-watch the-Floralia Let-not enter
Cato theatrum meum, aut si intraverit, spectet. Videor
Cato theater my or if he-has-entered let-him-watch I-seem
mihi meo iure facturus, si epistulam versibus clusero:
to-myself by-my-own right about-to-act if the-letter with-verses I-shall-close

Nosses iocosae dulce cum sacrum Florae
You-knew of-merry the-sweet since rite Flora
festosque lusus et licentiam volgi,
and-festal games and the-license of-the-crowd,
cur in theatrum, Cato severe, venisti?
why into the-theater, Cato stern, did-you-come?
An ideo tantum veneras, ut exires?
Or for-this only had-you-come, that you-might-go-out?

1 Hic est quem legis ille, quem requiris,
Here is whom you-read he, whom you-seek,
toto notus in orbe Martialis
whole known in the-world Martial
argutis epigrammaton libellis:
for-witty of-epigrams little-books:

cui, lector studiose, quod dedisti
to-whom, reader eager, what you-have-given
viventi decus atque sentienti,
living the-honor and feeling,
rari post cineres habent poetae.
few after ashes have poets.

Qui tecum cupis esse meos ubicumque libellos 2
You-who with-you wish to-be my anywhere little-books
et comites longae quaeris habere viae,
and as-companions of-a-long you-seek to-have journey,
hos eme, quos artat brevibus membrana tabellis:
these buy, which squeezes into-brief parchment tablets:
scrinia da magnis, me manus una capit.
book-boxes give to-the-great, me a-hand one holds.
Ne tamen ignores ubi sim venalis, et erres
Lest yet you-be-ignorant where I-am for-sale, and wander
urbe vagus tota, me duce certus eris:
through-the-city roving whole, with-me as-guide sure you-will-be:
libertum docti Lucensis quaere Secundum
the-freedman of-learned Lucensis seek Secundus
limina post Pacis Palladiumque forum.
the-thresholds behind of-Peace and-of-Pallas' forum.

Argiletanas mavis habitare tabernas, 3
the-Argiletan you-prefer to-dwell-in shops,
cum tibi, parve liber, scrinia nostra vacent.
though for-you, little book, book-boxes our are-empty.

Nescis, heu, nescis dominae fastidia Romae:
You-know-not, alas, you-know-not of-mistress the-disdain Rome:
crede mihi, nimium Martia turba sapit.
believe me, too-much the-Martian crowd is-wise.
Maiores nusquam rhonchi: iuvenesque senesque
Greater nowhere sneers: and-young-men and-old-men
et pueri nasum rhinocerotis habent.
and boys the-nose of-the-rhinoceros have.
Audieris cum grande sophos, dum basia iactas,
You-will-hear when a-great bravo, while kisses you-throw,
ibis ab excusso missus in astra sago.
you-will-go from shaken sent to the-stars the-blanket.
Sed tu ne totiens domini patiare lituras
But you lest so-often of-the-master you-should-suffer the-erasures
neve notet lusus tristis harundo tuos,
nor-should mark games the-stern reed your,
aetherias, lascive, cupis volitare per auras:
heavenly, wanton-one, you-desire to-fly through breezes:
i, fuge; sed poteras tutior esse domi.
go, flee; but you-could safer be at-home.

4 Contigeris nostros, Caesar, si forte libellos,
You-shall-have-touched our, Caesar, if by-chance little-books,
terrarum dominum pone supercilium.
of-the-lands the-master lay-aside the-frown.
Consuevere iocos vestri quoque ferre triumphi,
Have-been-accustomed jokes your also to-bear triumphs,
materiam dictis nec pudet esse ducem.
as-material for-sayings nor is-it-shameful to-be a-general.

Qua Thymelen spectas derisoremque Latinum,
With-which Thymele you-watch and-the-mocker Latinus,
illa fronte precor carmina nostra legas.
with-that brow I-pray poems our may-you-read.
Innocuos censura potest permittere lusus:
Harmless the-censorship can permit games:
lasciva est nobis pagina, vita proba.
wanton is to-us the-page, the-life upright.

Do tibi naumachiam, tu das epigrammata nobis: 5
I-give to-you a-naval-battle, you give epigrams to-us:
vis, puto, cum libro, Marce, natare tuo.
you-wish, I-think, with book, Marcus, to-swim your.

Aetherias aquila puerum portante per auras 6
The-heavenly with-the-eagle the-boy carrying through breezes
inlaesum timidis unguibus haesit onus:
unharmed with-timid claws clung the-burden:
nunc sua Caesareos exorat praeda leones,
now its-own Caesarian begs-mercy-from prey lions,
tutus et ingenti ludit in ore lepus.
safe and huge plays in mouth the-hare.
Quae maiora putas miracula? summus utrisque
Which greater do-you-think the-marvels? the-highest of-both
auctor adest: haec sunt Caesaris, illa Iovis.
author is-present: these are Caesar's, those Jupiter's.

7 Stellae delicium mei columba,
of-Stella the-darling my the-dove,
Verona licet audiente dicam,
Verona though hearing I-shall-say,
vicit, Maxime, passerem Catulli.
has-beaten, Maximus, the-sparrow of-Catullus.
Tanto Stella meus tuo Catullo
By-so-much Stella my than-your Catullus
quanto passere maior est columba.
by-as-much-as than-the-sparrow greater is the-dove.

8 Quod magni Thraseae consummatique Catonis
That of-great Thrasea and-of-consummate Cato
dogmata sic sequeris, salvos ut esse velis,
the-doctrines so you-follow, safe that to-be you-wish,
pectore nec nudo strictos incurris in ensis,
with-breast nor bare drawn you-run onto swords,
quod fecisse velim te, Deciane, facis.
what to-have-done I-would-wish you, Decianus, you-do.
Nolo virum facili redimit qui sanguine famam,
I-do-not-want a-man with-easy buys who blood fame,
hunc volo, laudari qui sine morte potest.
this-one I-want, to-be-praised who without death can.

9 Bellus homo et magnus vis idem, Cotta, videri:
A-pretty man and great you-wish the-same, Cotta, to-seem:
sed qui bellus homo est, Cotta, pusillus homo est.
but who a-pretty man is, Cotta, a-puny man is.

10

Petit Gemellus nuptias Maronillae
Seeks Gemellus marriage with-Maronilla
et cupit et instat et precatur et donat.
and he-desires and presses and begs and gives-gifts.
Adeone pulchra est? immo foedius nil est.
So pretty is-she? nay more-foul nothing is.
Quid ergo in illa petitur et placet? Tussit.
What then in her is-sought and pleases? She-coughs.

11

Cum data sint equiti bis quina nomismata, quare
When given are to-a-knight twice five tokens, why
bis decies solus, Sextiliane, bibis?
twice ten-times alone, Sextilianus, do-you-drink?
Iam defecisset portantis calda ministros,
Now would-have-run-short carrying the-hot-water the-servants,
si non potares, Sextiliane, merum.
if not you-were-drinking, Sextilianus, neat-wine.

12

Itur ad Herculeas gelidi qua Tiburis arces
One-goes to the-Herculean of-cool where Tibur heights
canaque sulphureis Albula fumat aquis,
and-white with-sulfurous Albula smokes waters,
rura nemusque sacrum dilectaque iugera Musis
the-fields and-grove sacred and-the-beloved acres to-the-Muses
signat vicina quartus ab urbe lapis.
marks neighboring the-fourth from the-city stone.

Hic rudis aestivas praestabat porticus umbras,
Here rough summer was-providing a-colonnade shade,
heu quam paene novum porticus ausa nefas!
alas how nearly a-new the-colonnade dared crime!
Nam subito conlapsa ruit, cum mole sub illa
For suddenly collapsed fell, when the-mass under that
gestatus biiugis Regulus esset equis.
carried by-a-pair Regulus was horses.
Nimirum timuit nostras Fortuna querellas,
Doubtless feared our Fortune complaints,
quae par tam magnae non erat invidiae.
which equal to-so great not was odium.
Nunc et damna iuvant; sunt ipsa pericula tanti:
Now even losses please; are the-very dangers of-such-worth:
stantia non poterant tecta probare deos.
standing not could roofs prove the-gods.

13 Casta suo gladium cum traderet Arria Paeto,
Chaste to-her-own the-sword when was-handing Arria Paetus,
quem de visceribus strinxerat ipsa suis,
which from the-vitals had-drawn she-herself her-own,
'Si qua fides, vulnus quod feci non dolet,' inquit,
'If any faith, the-wound which I-have-made not hurts,' she-said,
'sed tu quod facies, hoc mihi, Paete, dolet.'
'but you that you-will-make, this to-me, Paetus, hurts.'

Delicias, Caesar, lususque iocosque leonum 14
The-delights, Caesar, and-games and-jokes of-lions
vidimus — hoc etiam praestat harena tibi —
we-have-seen —this also provides the-arena for-you—
cum prensus blando totiens a dente rediret
when caught coaxing so-often from tooth returned
et per aperta vagus curreret ora lepus.
and through open roving ran mouths the-hare.
Unde potest avidus captae leo parcere praedae?
Whence can greedy the-captured a-lion spare prey?
Sed tamen esse tuus dicitur: ergo potest.
But yet to-be yours it-is-said: therefore it-can.

O mihi post nullos, Iuli, memorande sodales, 15
O to-me after no, Julius, to-be-remembered comrades,
si quid longa fides canaque iura valent,
if anything long faith and-gray rights avail,
bis iam paene tibi consul tricensimus instat,
twice now almost for-you the-consul thirtieth presses,
et numerat paucos vix tua vita dies.
and counts few scarcely your life days.
Non bene distuleris videas quae posse negari,
Not well you-would-put-off you-may-see what could be-refused,
et solum hoc ducas, quod fuit, esse tuum.
and only this you-may-reckon, which has-been, to-be your-own.
Expectant curaeque catenatique labores,
Await-you both-cares and-chained labors,
gaudia non remanent, sed fugitiva volant.
joys not remain, but fleeing fly-away.

Haec utraque manu conplexuque adsere toto:
These with-both hand and-embrace claim whole:
saepe fluunt imo sic quoque lapsa sinu.
often they-flow from-the-deepest so even slipped fold.
Non est, crede mihi, sapientis dicere 'Vivam':
Not is, believe me, of-a-wise-man to-say 'I-will-live':
sera nimis vita est crastina: vive hodie.
late too-much life is tomorrow's: live today.

16 Sunt bona, sunt quaedam mediocria, sunt mala plura
There-are good-things, there-are certain middling-things, there-are bad-ones more
quae legis hic: aliter non fit, Avite, liber.
which you-read here: otherwise not is-made, Avitus, a-book.

Titus urges Martial to plead cases as a great thing; a great thing, Martial answers, is what a farmer makes. Tucca spoils Falernian with Vatican must; Aelia's four teeth went two to a cough; Caecilianus eats the mushrooms alone and is wished Claudius' mushroom. Mucius' mistaken hand earned more fame than a true blow. The lion spares the hare, and the Dacian boy need not fear Caesar's arms. Cotta invites only men he has bathed with; a shaggy moralist was married yesterday as a bride. Faustinus is urged to publish. Fidentinus recites Martial's poems as his own. Sabidius is disliked for no reason, Gellia weeps only before witnesses, Lesbia sins with the door open, Cornelius is told jesting verse needs its prick, and two brothers would each die first for the other.

Cogit me Titus actitare causas 17
Forces me Titus to-keep-pleading cases
et dicit mihi saepe 'Magna res est.'
and says to-me often 'A-great thing it-is.'
Res magna est, Tite, quam facit colonus.
A-thing great it-is, Titus, which makes a-farmer.

Quid te, Tucca, iuvat vetulo miscere Falerno 18
Why you, Tucca, does-it-please with-old to-mix Falernian
in Vaticanis condita musta cadis?
in Vatican stored musts jars?
Quid tantum fecere boni tibi pessima vina?
What so-much have-done of-good to-you the-worst wines?
Aut quid fecerunt optima vina mali?
Or what have-done the-best wines of-ill?

De nobis facile est, scelus est iugulare Falernum
Of us easy it-is, a-crime it-is to-murder Falernian
et dare Campano toxica saeva mero.
and to-give to-Campanian poisons savage neat-wine.
Convivae meruere tui fortasse perire:
The-guests have-deserved your perhaps to-perish:
amphora non meruit tam pretiosa mori.
a-jar not deserved so precious to-die.

19 Si memini, fuerant tibi quattuor, Aelia, dentes:
If I-remember, there-were for-you four, Aelia, teeth:
expulit una duos tussis et una duos.
drove-out one two a-cough and one two.
Iam secura potes totis tussire diebus:
Now untroubled you-can for-whole cough days:
nil istic quod agat tertia tussis habet.
nothing there which to-do a-third cough has.

20 Dic mihi, quis furor est? turba spectante vocata
Tell me, what madness is-it? with-the-crowd watching invited
solus boletos, Caeciliane, voras.
alone mushrooms, Caecilianus, you-devour.
Quid dignum tanto tibi ventre gulaque precabor?
What worthy of-so-great for-you a-belly and-gullet shall-I-pray?
Boletum qualem Claudius edit, edas.
A-mushroom such-as Claudius ate, may-you-eat.

Cum peteret regem, decepta satellite dextra 21
When seeking the-king, deceived by-the-attendant the-right-hand
ingessit sacris se peritura focis.
thrust-itself on-the-sacred itself about-to-perish braziers.
Sed tam saeva pius miracula non tulit hostis
But so savage dutiful marvels not bore the-enemy
et raptum flammis iussit abire virum:
and snatched from-the-flames ordered to-go-away the-man:
urere quam potuit contempto Mucius igne,
to-burn which could with-scorned Mucius the-fire,
hanc spectare manum Porsena non potuit.
this to-watch hand Porsena not could.
Maior deceptae fama est et gloria dextrae:
Greater of-the-deceived the-fame is and glory right-hand:
si non errasset, fecerat illa minus.
if not it-had-erred, had-done it less.

Quid nunc saeva fugis placidi lepus ora leonis? 22
Why now the-savage do-you-flee of-the-placid hare mouth lion?
Frangere tam parvas non didicere feras.
To-break so small not they-have-learned beasts.
Servantur magnis isti cervicibus ungues
Are-kept for-great those necks claws
nec gaudet tenui sanguine tanta sitis.
nor rejoices in-thin blood so-great a-thirst.
Praeda canum lepus est, vastos non implet hiatus:
The-prey of-dogs the-hare is, the-vast not it-fills gapes:
non timeat Dacus Caesaris arma puer.
let-not fear a-Dacian Caesar's arms boy.

23 Invitas nullum nisi cum quo, Cotta, lavaris
You-invite no-one except with whom, Cotta, you-bathe
et dant convivam balnea sola tibi.
and give a-guest the-baths alone to-you.
Mirabar, quare numquam me, Cotta, vocasses:
I-wondered, why never me, Cotta, you-had-invited:
iam scio, me nudum displicuisse tibi.
now I-know, me naked to-have-displeased you.

24 Aspicis incomptis illum, Deciane, capillis,
You-see with-unkempt him, Decianus, hair,
cuius et ipse times triste supercilium,
whose even yourself you-fear stern brow,
qui loquitur Curios adsertoresque Camillos?
who speaks of-Curii and-the-champions Camilli?
Nolito fronti credere: nupsit heri.
Do-not to-his-brow trust: he-was-married yesterday.

25 Ede tuos tandem populo, Faustine, libellos
Publish your at-last to-the-people, Faustinus, little-books
et cultum docto pectore profer opus,
and the-polished from-learned breast bring-forth work,
quod nec Cecropiae damnent Pandionis arces
which neither Cecropian would-condemn of-Pandion the-heights
nec sileant nostri praetereantque senes.
nor would-be-silent-about our and-pass-by old-men.

Ante fores stantem dubitas admittere Famam
Before the-doors standing do-you-hesitate to-admit Fame
teque piget curae praemia ferre tuae?
and-you it-irks of-care the-rewards to-bear your?
Post te victurae per te quoque vivere chartae
After you about-to-live through you also to-live pages
incipiant: cineri gloria sera venit.
let-begin: to-ashes glory late comes.

Sextiliane, bibis quantum subsellia quinque 26
Sextilianus, you-drink as-much-as benches five
solus: aqua totiens ebrius esse potes;
alone: on-water so-often drunk to-be you-can;
nec consessorum vicina nomismata tantum,
nor of-those-sitting-with-you the-neighboring tokens only,
aera sed a cuneis ulteriora petis.
coppers but from the-wedges farther you-seek.
Non haec Paelignis agitur vindemia prelis
Not this with-Paelignian is-done vintage presses
uva nec in Tuscis nascitur ista iugis,
the-grape nor on Tuscan grows that ridges,
testa sed antiqui felix siccatur Opimi,
the-jar but of-old fortunate is-drained Opimius,
egerit et nigros Massica cella cados.
empties and black Massic the-cellar jars.
A copone tibi faex Laletana petatur,
From the-tavern-keeper for-you the-dregs Laletanian let-be-sought,
si plus quam decies, Sextiliane, bibis.
if more than ten-times, Sextilianus, you-drink.

27 Hesterna tibi nocte dixeramus,
Yesterday's to-you at-night we-had-said,
quincunces puto post decem peractos,
five-measures I-think after ten finished,
cenares hodie, Procille, mecum.
you-should-dine today, Procillus, with-me.
Tu factam tibi rem statim putasti
You made for-yourself the-thing at-once thought
et non sobria verba subnotasti
and not sober words noted-down
exemplo nimium periculoso:
by-an-example too dangerous:
μισῶ μνάμονα συμπόταν, Procille.
I-hate with-a-memory drinking-companion, Procillus.

28 Hesterno fetere mero qui credit Acerram,
With-yesterday's to-stink neat-wine who believes Acerra,
fallitur: in lucem semper Acerra bibit.
is-deceived: till daylight always Acerra drinks.

29 Fama refert nostros te, Fidentine, libellos
Rumor reports our you, Fidentinus, little-books
non aliter populo quam recitare tuos.
not otherwise to-the-people than to-recite your-own.
Si mea vis dici, gratis tibi carmina mittam:
If mine you-wish them-to-be-called, free to-you poems I-will-send:
si dici tua vis, hoc eme, ne mea sint.
if to-be-called yours you-wish, this buy, that-not mine they-be.

Chirurgus fuerat, nunc est vispillo Diaulus. 30
A-surgeon he-had-been, now is an-undertaker Diaulus.
Coepit quo poterat clinicus esse modo.
He-began in-what he-could clinician to-be way.

Non amo te, Sabidi, nec possum dicere quare: 32
Not I-love you, Sabidius, nor can-I say why:
hoc tantum possum dicere, non amo te.
this only I-can say, not I-love you.

Amissum non flet cum sola est Gellia patrem, 33
The-lost not weeps-for when alone is Gellia father,
si quis adest, iussae prosiliunt lacrimae.
if anyone is-present, ordered leap-forth the-tears.
Non luget quisquis laudari, Gellia, quaerit,
Not mourns whoever to-be-praised, Gellia, seeks,
ille dolet vere, qui sine teste dolet.
he grieves truly, who without witness grieves.

Incustoditis et apertis, Lesbia, semper 34
With-unguarded and open, Lesbia, always
liminibus peccas nec tua furta tegis,
thresholds you-sin nor your thefts do-you-cover,
et plus spectator quam te delectat adulter
and more the-onlooker than you delights the-lover
nec sunt grata tibi gaudia si qua latent.
nor are pleasing to-you joys if any are-hidden.

At meretrix abigit testem veloque seraque
But the-harlot drives-off the-witness both-with-curtain and-bolt
raraque Submemmi fornice rima patet.
and-rare in-Submemmius' vault a-chink lies-open.
A Chione saltem vel ab Iade disce pudorem:
From Chione at-least or from Ias learn shame:
abscondunt spurcas et monumenta lupas.
hide filthy even tombs whores.
Numquid dura tibi nimium censura videtur?
Surely-not harsh to-you too a-censure seems?
Deprendi veto te, Lesbia, non futui.
To-be-caught I-forbid you, Lesbia, not to-be-fucked.

35 Versus scribere me parum severos
Verses to-write me too-little severe
nec quos praelegat in schola magister,
and-not which may-read-out in school a-master,
Corneli, quereris: sed hi libelli,
Cornelius, you-complain: but these little-books,
tamquam coniugibus suis mariti,
as-though to-wives their-own husbands,
non possunt sine mentula placere.
not can without a-prick please.
Quid si me iubeas talassionem
What if me you-should-order a-wedding-song
verbis dicere non talassionis?
in-words to-say not of-a-wedding-song?

Quis Floralia vestit et stolatum
Who the-Floralia clothes and stole-wearing
permittit meretricibus pudorem?
allows to-harlots modesty?
Lex haec carminibus data est iocosis,
The-law this to-poems given is merry,
ne possint, nisi pruriant, iuvare.
that-not they-can, unless they-itch, please.
Quare deposita severitate
Wherefore laid-aside severity
parcas lusibus et iocis rogamus,
spare games and jests we-ask,
nec castrare velis meos libellos.
nor to-geld wish my little-books.
Gallo turpius est nihil Priapo.
than-a-Gallus more-foul is nothing a-Priapus.

36

Si, Lucane, tibi vel si tibi, Tulle, darentur
If, Lucanus, to-you or if to-you, Tullus, were-given
qualia Ledaei fata Lacones habent,
such-as Ledaean fates the-Spartans have,
nobilis haec esset pietatis rixa duobus,
noble this would-be of-devotion a-quarrel for-the-two,
quod pro fratre mori vellet uterque prior,
that for his-brother to-die would-wish each first,
diceret infernas et qui prior isset ad umbras:
he-would-say infernal and he-who first had-gone to shades:
'Vive tuo, frater, tempore, vive meo.'
'Live for-your-own, brother, time, live for-mine.'

Bassus relieves himself into gold and drinks from glass. Fidentinus recites Martial's book badly, so it becomes his. Decianus is the rare friend of the old faith. Caecilius thinks himself a wit and is a street hawker's equal. Porcia, denied a sword, swallows burning coals. Mancinus' sixty guests were shown one tiny boar and given nothing of it. The hares among the lions are told twice, and Stella, if that seems too much, is asked to serve Martial hare twice. Diaulus, once a doctor, is now an undertaker, and does the same work. Licinianus is sent home to Bilbilis with a picture of the Spanish life that awaits him: hunting, rivers, sleep, and no clients.

37 Ventris onus misero, nec te pudet, excipis auro,
Of-the-belly the-load in-wretched, nor you does-it-shame, you-receive gold,
Basse, bibis vitro: carius ergo cacas.
Bassus, you-drink from-glass: more-dearly therefore you-shit.

38 Quem recitas meus est, o Fidentine, libellus:
Which you-recite mine is, O Fidentinus, the-little-book:
sed male cum recitas, incipit esse tuus.
but badly when you-recite, it-begins to-be yours.

39 Si quis erit raros inter numerandus amicos,
If anyone shall-be rare among to-be-counted friends,
quales prisca fides famaque novit anus,
such-as ancient faith and-fame knew old,
si quis Cecropiae madidus Latiaeque Minervae
if anyone of-Cecropian soaked and-of-Latian Minerva
artibus et vera simplicitate bonus,
in-the-arts and in-true simplicity good,

si quis erit recti custos, mirator honesti
if anyone shall-be of-the-right a-guardian, an-admirer of-the-honorable
et nihil arcano qui roget ore deos,
and nothing in-secret who would-ask with-voice the-gods,
si quis erit magnae subnixus robore mentis:
if anyone shall-be of-a-great supported by-the-strength mind:
dispeream, si non hic Decianus erit.
may-I-perish, if not this Decianus shall-be.

Qui ducis vultus et non legis ista libenter, 40
You-who draw your-face and not read these gladly,
omnibus invideas, livide, nemo tibi.
all may-you-envy, envious-one, no-one you.

Urbanus tibi, Caecili, videris. 41
Witty to-yourself, Caecilius, you-seem.
Non es, crede mihi. Quid ergo? verna,
Not you-are, believe me. What then? a-home-born-slave,
hoc quod transtiberinus ambulator,
that which a-Trastevere peddler,
qui pallentia sulphurata fractis
who pale sulfur-matches for-broken
permutat vitreis, quod otiosae
exchanges glass-pieces, that the-idle
vendit qui madidum cicer coronae,
sells who soaked chickpeas to-the-crowd,
quod custos dominusque viperarum,
that the-keeper and-master of-vipers,

quod viles pueri salariorum,
that the-cheap boys of-the-salt-fish-dealers,
quod fumantia qui tomacla raucus
that smoking who sausages hoarse
circumfert tepidis cocus popinis,
carries-round in-warm the-cook cookshops,
quod non optimus urbicus poeta,
that not the-best city poet,
quod de Gadibus improbus magister,
that from Gades the-shameless trainer,
quod bucca est vetuli dicax cinaedi.
that the-mouth is of-an-old witty catamite.
Quare desine iam tibi videri,
Wherefore cease now to-yourself to-seem,
quod soli tibi, Caecili, videris,
what alone to-yourself, Caecilius, you-seem,
qui Gabbam salibus tuis et ipsum
who Gabba in-wit your and himself
posses vincere Tettium Caballum.
could conquer Tettius Caballus.
Non cuicumque datum est habere nasum:
Not to-just-anyone given it-is to-have a-nose:
ludit qui stolida procacitate,
he-plays who with-stupid impudence,
non est Tettius ille, sed caballus.
not is Tettius he, but a-nag.

Coniugis audisset fatum cum Porcia Bruti 42
Of-her-husband had-heard the-fate when Porcia Brutus'
et subtracta sibi quaereret arma dolor,
and withdrawn from-her was-seeking arms her-grief,
'Nondum scitis' ait 'mortem non posse negari?
'Not-yet do-you-know' she-says 'death not can be-refused?
Credideram, fatis hoc docuisse patrem.'
I-had-believed, by-his-fate this to-have-taught my-father.'
Dixit et ardentis avido bibit ore favillas.
She-said and burning with-greedy drank mouth ashes.
I nunc et ferrum, turba molesta, nega.
Go now and steel, troublesome crowd, deny.

Bis tibi triceni fuimus, Mancine, vocati 43
Twice for-you thirty we-were, Mancinus, invited
et positum est nobis nil here praeter aprum,
and set was for-us nothing yesterday except a-boar,
non quae de tardis servantur vitibus uvae
not which from late are-kept vines grapes
dulcibus aut certant quae melimela favis,
with-sweet or vie which honey-apples honeycombs,
non pira quae longa pendent religata genesta
not pears which long hang tied-up by-broom
aut imitata brevis Punica grana rosas,
or imitating short the-Punic seeds roses,
rustica lactantes nec misit Sassina metas
rustic milky nor sent Sassina cones
nec de Picenis venit oliva cadis:
nor from Picene came the-olive jars:

nudus aper, sed et hic minimus qualisque necari
a-naked boar, but even this the-tiniest and-such-as to-be-killed
a non armato pumilione potest.
by not armed a-dwarf it-can.
Et nihil inde datum est; tantum spectavimus omnes:
And nothing thence given was; only we-watched all:
ponere aprum nobis sic et harena solet.
to-serve a-boar for-us so also the-arena is-wont.
Ponatur tibi nullus aper post talia facta,
Let-be-served for-you no boar after such deeds,
sed tu ponaris cui Charidemus apro.
but you may-be-served to-whom Charidemus to-the-boar.

44 Lascivos leporum cursus lususque leonum
The-wanton of-the-hares runs and-the-games of-lions
quod maior nobis charta minorque gerit
which greater for-us page and-smaller carries
et bis idem facimus, nimium si, Stella, videtur
and twice the-same we-do, too-much if, Stella, it-seems
hoc tibi, bis leporem tu quoque pone mihi.
this to-you, twice a-hare you also serve to-me.

45 Edita ne brevibus pereat mihi cura libellis,
Published lest by-brief should-perish for-me the-care little-books,
dicatur potius Τὸν δ' ἀπαμειβόμενος.
let-be-said rather Him and replying.

Nuper erat medicus, nunc est vispillo Diaulus: 47
Lately he-was a-doctor, now is an-undertaker Diaulus:
quod vispillo facit, fecerat et medicus.
what the-undertaker does, had-done also the-doctor.

Rictibus his tauros non eripuere magistri, 48
From-jaws these bulls not have-snatched the-trainers,
per quos praeda fugax itque reditque lepus;
through which the-prey fleeing both-goes and-returns the-hare;
quodque magis mirum, velocior exit ab hoste
and-what more wondrous, swifter goes-out from the-enemy
nec nihil a tanta nobilitate refert.
nor nothing from so-great nobility brings-back.
Tutior in sola non est cum currit harena,
Safer in lonely not is when it-runs arena,
nec caveae tanta conditur ille fide.
nor of-the-cage with-such is-hidden he safety.
Si vitare canum morsus, lepus inprobe, quaeris,
If to-avoid of-dogs the-bites, hare shameless, you-seek,
ad quae confugias ora leonis habes.
to which you-may-flee the-mouth of-a-lion you-have.

49 Vir Celtiberis non tacende gentibus
A-man by-the-Celtiberian not to-be-unmentioned races
nostraeque laus Hispaniae,
and-of-our the-praise Spain,
videbis altam, Liciniane, Bilbilin,
you-will-see high, Licinianus, Bilbilis,
equis et armis nobilem,
for-horses and arms famous,
senemque Caium nivibus, et fractis sacrum
and-old Caius with-snows, and broken sacred
Vadaveronem montibus,
Vadavero with-mountains,
et delicati dulce Boterdi nemus,
and of-delicate sweet Boterdus the-grove,
Pomona quod felix amat.
Pomona which fruitful loves.
Tepidi natabis lene Congedi vadum
Of-warm you-will-swim the-gentle Congedus shallow
mollesque Nympharum lacus,
and-soft of-the-Nymphs lakes,
quibus remissum corpus adstringes brevi
by-which relaxed your-body you-will-tighten in-the-shallow
Salone, qui ferrum gelat.
Salo, which iron chills.
Praestabit illic ipsa figendas prope
Will-provide there herself to-be-pierced nearby
Voberca prandenti feras.
Voberca to-you-lunching beasts.

Aestus serenos aureo franges Tago
The-heats clear in-golden you-will-break Tagus
obscurus umbris arborum;
dim with-shades of-trees;
avidam rigens Derceita placabit sitim
your-greedy cold Derceita will-quench thirst
et Nutha, quae vincit nives.
and Nutha, which outdoes snows.
At cum December canus et bruma impotens
But when December gray and winter-solstice uncontrolled
aquilone rauco mugiet,
with-north-wind hoarse shall-bellow,
aprica repetes Tarraconis litora
the-sunny you-will-seek-again of-Tarraco shores
tuamque Laletaniam.
and-your Laletania.
Ibi inligatas mollibus dammas plagis
There entangled in-soft does nets
mactabis et vernas apros
you-will-slaughter and home-bred boars
leporemque forti callidum rumpes equo,
and-the-hare with-strong cunning you-will-burst horse,
cervos relinques vilico.
the-stags you-will-leave to-the-steward.
Vicina in ipsum silva descendet focum
The-neighboring into the-very forest will-come-down hearth
infante cinctum sordido.
by-children girded dirty.

Vocabitur venator et veniet tibi
Will-be-invited the-hunter and will-come to-you
conviva clamatus prope.
a-guest called from-near.
Lunata nusquam pellis et nusquam toga
Crescent-marked nowhere a-shoe and nowhere a-toga
olidaeque vestes murice;
and-reeking clothes with-purple;
procul horridus Liburnus et querulus cliens,
far-off the-shaggy Liburnian and the-complaining client,
imperia viduarum procul;
the-commands of-widows far-off;
non rumpet altum pallidus somnum reus,
not will-break deep pale sleep the-defendant,
sed mane totum dormies.
but the-morning whole you-will-sleep.
Mereatur alius grande et insanum sophos:
Let-earn another a-great and mad bravo:
miserere tu felicium
pity you the-fortunate
veroque fruere non superbus gaudio,
and-true enjoy not proud joy,
dum Sura laudatur tuus.
while Sura is-praised your.
Non inpudenter vita quod relicum est petit,
Not shamelessly life what remaining is seeks,
cum fama quod satis est habet.
when fame what enough is has.

If Aemilianus' cook is Mistyllos, Martial's may be Taratalla. The hare is told it is too small for the lions' teeth. Quintianus is asked to defend Martial's books, kidnapped by a plagiarist; one page of Fidentinus' among them cries out his theft. Fuscus is asked for a place among his friends. Fronto hears Martial's wish for a small farm and its sordid ease. Flaccus asks what girl Martial wants: neither too easy nor too hard. Verona loves its learned poet, Mantua Maro, Corduba the Senecas and Lucan, and Bilbilis will have Licinianus and Martial. Chaste Laevina, at Baiae, leaves her husband for a youth. Celer wants to recite, not listen, Fabulla praises herself out of her charms, and the book thief is told that a known book cannot change its master.

50

Si tibi Mistyllos cocus, Aemiliane, vocatur,
If your Mistyllos cook, Aemilianus, is-called,
dicatur quare non Taratalla mihi?
let-be-called why not Taratalla mine?

51

Non facit ad saevos cervix, nisi prima, leones.
Not does for savage the-neck, unless first, lions.
Quid fugis hos dentes, ambitiose lepus?
Why do-you-flee these teeth, ambitious hare?
Scilicet a magnis ad te descendere tauris
Of-course from great to you to-come-down bulls
et quae non cernunt frangere colla velint.
and which they-do-not see to-break necks they-would-wish.
Desperanda tibi est ingentis gloria fati:
To-be-despaired-of for-you is of-a-huge the-glory fate:
non potes hoc tenuis praeda sub hoste mori.
not you-can this slight prey under enemy die.

52 Commendo tibi, Quintiane, nostros —
I-commend to-you, Quintianus, our—
nostros dicere si tamen libellos
our to-call if yet little-books
possum, quos recitat tuus poeta—:
I-can, which recites your poet—:
si de servitio gravi queruntur,
if of slavery heavy they-complain,
adsertor venias satisque praestes,
as-champion may-you-come and-enough provide-bail,
et, cum se dominum vocabit ille,
and, when himself master shall-call he,
dicas esse meos manuque missos.
may-you-say them-to-be mine and-by-hand set-free.
Hoc si terque quaterque clamitaris,
This if three-times and-four-times you-shall-have-shouted,
inpones plagiario pudorem.
you-will-put-on the-kidnapper shame.

53 Una est in nostris tua, Fidentine, libellis
One is in our your, Fidentinus, little-books
pagina, sed certa domini signata figura,
page, but by-sure of-its-master marked shape,
quae tua traducit manifesto carmina furto.
which your exposes in-manifest poems theft.
Sic interpositus villo contaminat uncto
So set-among with-nap fouls greasy
urbica Lingonicus Tyrianthina bardocucullus,
the-city the-Lingonian Tyrian-purples hooded-cloak,

sic Arretinae violant crystallina testae,
so Arretine violate crystals pots,
sic niger in ripis errat cum forte Caystri,
so black on the-banks wanders when by-chance of-Cayster,
inter Ledaeos ridetur corvus olores,
among Ledaean is-laughed-at the-crow swans,
sic ubi multisona fervet sacer Atthide lucus,
so where many-sounding throbs sacred with-the-Attic-bird grove,
inproba Cecropias offendit pica querellas.
shameless the-Cecropian offends magpie laments.
Indice non opus est nostris nec iudice libris,
An-informer not need is to-our nor a-judge books,
stat contra dicitque tibi tua pagina 'Fur es.'
stands opposite and-says to-you your page 'Thief you-are.'

54

Si quid, Fusce, vacas adhuc amari —
If anything, Fuscus, you-have-free still to-be-loved—
nam sunt hinc tibi, sunt et hinc amici—,
for there-are on-this-side to-you, there-are also on-that friends—,
unum, si superest, locum rogamus,
one, if remains, place we-ask,
nec me, quod tibi sim novus, recuses:
nor me, because to-you I-am new, may-you-refuse:
omnes hoc veteres tui fuerunt.
all this old-friends your were.
Tu tantum inspice qui novus paratur
You only examine who new is-prepared
an possit fieri vetus sodalis.
whether he-can become an-old comrade.

Vota tui breviter si vis cognoscere Marci,
The-wishes of-your briefly if you-wish to-know Marcus,
clarum militiae, Fronto, togaeque decus,
famous of-warfare, Fronto, and-of-the-toga glory,
hoc petit, esse sui nec magni ruris arator,
this he-seeks, to-be of-his-own not great land a-plowman,
sordidaque in parvis otia rebus amat.
and-sordid in small leisure things he-loves.
Quisquam picta colit Spartani frigora saxi
Does-anyone the-painted court of-Spartan the-chill marble
et matutinum portat ineptus Have,
and the-morning carry silly Hail,
cui licet exuviis nemoris rurisque beato
to-whom it-is-allowed with-the-spoils of-wood and-field blessed
ante focum plenas explicuisse plagas
before the-hearth full to-have-unrolled nets
et piscem tremula salientem ducere saeta
and a-fish with-quivering leaping to-draw hair
flavaque de rubro promere mella cado?
and-yellow from red to-bring-out honey jar?
Pinguis inaequales onerat cui vilica mensas
Fat unequal loads for-whom the-bailiff's-wife tables
et sua non emptus praeparat ova cinis?
and his-own not bought prepares eggs ash?
Non amet hanc vitam quisquis me non amat, opto,
Let-not love this life whoever me does-not love, I-wish,
vivat et urbanis albus in officiis.
let-him-live and urban pale in duties.

Continuis vexata madet vindemia nimbis: 56
By-continuous troubled is-soaked the-vintage rains:
non potes, ut cupias, vendere, copo, merum.
not you-can, though you-wish, to-sell, innkeeper, neat-wine.

Qualem, Flacce, velim quaeris nolimve puellam? 57
What-sort, Flaccus, I-would-want you-ask or-would-not girl?
Nolo nimis facilem difficilemque nimis.
I-do-not-want too easy and-difficult too.
Illud quod medium est atque inter utrumque probamus:
That which middle is and between both we-approve:
nec volo quod cruciat, nec volo quod satiat.
nor do-I-want what tortures, nor do-I-want what cloys.

Dat Baiana mihi quadrantes sportula centum. 59
Gives the-Baian to-me farthings dole a-hundred.
Inter delicias quid facit ista fames?
Amid the-delights what does that hunger?
Redde Lupi nobis tenebrosaque balnea Grylli:
Give-back Lupus' to-us and-the-murky baths of-Gryllus:
tam male cum cenem, cur bene, Flacce, laver?
so badly when I-dine, why well, Flaccus, should-I-bathe?

Intres ampla licet torvi lepus ora leonis, 60
You-may-enter the-ample though of-the-grim hare mouth lion,
esse tamen vacuo se leo dente putat.
to-be yet with-empty himself the-lion tooth thinks.

Quod ruet in tergum vel quos procumbet in armos,
What will-he-rush on back or what will-he-fall onto shoulders,
alta iuvencorum volnera figet ubi?
deep of-bullocks wounds will-he-fix where?
Quid frustra nemorum dominum regemque fatigas?
Why in-vain of-the-groves the-lord and-king do-you-weary?
Non nisi delecta pascitur ille fera.
Not except on-chosen is-fed he beast.

61 Verona docti syllabas amat vatis,
Verona of-the-learned the-syllables loves poet,
Marone felix Mantua est,
in-Maro fortunate Mantua is,
censetur Aponi Livio suo tellus
is-esteemed of-Aponus for-Livy its land
Stellaque nec Flacco minus,
and-for-Stella nor for-Flaccus less,
Apollodoro plaudit imbrifer Nilus,
for-Apollodorus applauds rain-bringing the-Nile,
Nasone Paeligni sonant,
with-Naso the-Paeligni resound,
duosque Senecas unicumque Lucanum
and-the-two Senecas and-the-unique Lucan
facunda loquitur Corduba,
eloquent tells Corduba,
gaudent iocosae Canio suo Gades,
rejoice merry in-Canius their-own Gades,
Emerita Deciano meo:
Emerita in-Decianus my:

te, Liciniane, gloriabitur nostra
in-you, Licinianus, will-glory our
nec me tacebit Bilbilis.
nor me will-be-silent-about Bilbilis.

Casta nec antiquis cedens Laevina Sabinis 62
Chaste nor to-the-ancient yielding Laevina Sabines
et quamvis tetrico tristior ipsa viro
and although than-grim sterner herself her-husband
dum modo Lucrino, modo se permittit Averno,
while now to-the-Lucrine, now herself she-entrusts to-Avernus,
et dum Baianis saepe fovetur aquis,
and while by-Baian often is-warmed waters,
incidit in flammas: iuvenemque secuta relicto
fell into the-flames: and-a-young-man following left
coniuge Penelope venit, abît Helene.
husband Penelope came, went-away Helen.

Ut recitem tibi nostra rogas epigrammata. Nolo. 63
That I-may-recite to-you our you-ask epigrams. I-will-not.
Non audire, Celer, sed recitare cupis.
Not to-hear, Celer, but to-recite you-desire.

Bella es, novimus, et puella, verum est, 64
Pretty you-are, we-know, and a-girl, true it-is,
et dives, quis enim potest negare?
and rich, who for can deny?

Sed cum te nimium, Fabulla, laudas,
But when you too-much, Fabulla, praise,
nec dives neque bella nec puella es.
neither rich nor pretty nor a-girl are-you.

65 Cum dixi ficus, rides quasi barbara verba
When I-said figs, you-laugh as-if barbarous words
et dici ficos, Laetiliane, iubes.
and figs to-be-said, Laetilianus, you-order.
Dicemus ficus, quas scimus in arbore nasci,
We-shall-say figs, which we-know on the-tree to-grow,
dicemus ficos, Caeciliane, tuos.
we-shall-say piles, Caecilianus, yours.

66 Erras, meorum fur avare librorum,
You-err, of-my thief greedy books,
fieri poetam posse qui putas tanti,
to-become a-poet to-be-able who you-think of-so-much-worth,
scriptura quanti constet et tomus vilis:
the-writing as-much-as costs and a-roll cheap:
non sex paratur aut decem sophos nummis.
not for-six is-got or ten bravo coins.
Secreta quaere carmina et rudes curas,
Secret seek poems and unpolished cares,
quas novit unus scrinioque signatas
which knows one and-in-the-book-box sealed
custodit ipse virginis pater chartae,
guards himself of-the-virgin the-father page,

quae trita duro non inhorruit mento.
which rubbed by-hard not has-bristled chin.
Mutare dominum non potest liber notus.
To-change master not can a-book known.
Sed pumicata fronte si quis est nondum
But with-pumiced brow if any is not-yet
nec umbilicis cultus atque membrana,
nor with-knobs adorned and parchment,
mercare: tales habeo; nec sciet quisquam.
buy: such I-have; nor will-know anyone.
Aliena quisquis recitat et petit famam,
Another's whoever recites and seeks fame,
non emere librum, sed silentium debet.
not to-buy a-book, but silence ought.

‘Liber homo es nimium’, dicis mihi, Ceryle, semper. 67
‘Free a-man you-are too-much’, you-say to-me, Cerylus, always.
In te qui dicit, Ceryle, liber homo est?
Against you who speaks, Cerylus, free a-man is?

Rufus talks of nothing but Naevia, and even greets his father with her name. The book is sent to greet Proculus for Martial, past the Temple of Castor and the Colossus to his open door. Martial toasts each girl with her cups of wine, and as none comes, calls on Sleep. Fidentinus is a poet by Martial's verses as Aegle has teeth by bought ones. Caecilianus' wife was wanted only once she was guarded. Flaccus is warned that the Muses pay nothing and the forum pays. Charinus stays pale whatever he does. Festus dies a Roman death, Regulus' colonnade falls harmlessly after he has passed, Quirinalis fills his house with slave-born sons, and an auctioneer's frankness spoils Marius' sale.

68 Quidquid agit Rufus, nihil est nisi Naevia Rufo.
Whatever does Rufus, nothing is except Naevia for-Rufus.
Si gaudet, si flet, si tacet, hanc loquitur.
If he-rejoices, if he-weeps, if he-is-silent, her he-speaks.
Cenat, propinat, poscit, negat, innuit: una est
He-dines, he-pledges, he-asks, he-refuses, he-nods: one is
Naevia; si non sit Naevia, mutus erit.
Naevia; if not there-be Naevia, mute he-will-be.
Scriberet hesterna patri cum luce salutem,
He-was-writing on-yesterday's to-his-father when light greeting,
'Naevia lux' inquit 'Naevia lumen, have.'
'Naevia my-light' he-said 'Naevia my-eye, hail.'
Haec legit et ridet demisso Naevia voltu.
This reads and laughs with-lowered Naevia face.
Naevia non una est: quid, vir inepte, furis?
Naevia not one is: why, man foolish, do-you-rage?

69

Coepit, Maxime, Pana quae solebat,
Began, Maximus, Pan which was-wont,
nunc ostendere Canium Tarentos.
now to-show Canius Tarentum.

70

Vade salutatum pro me, liber: ire iuberis
Go to-greet for me, book: to-go you-are-ordered
ad Proculi nitidos, officiose, lares.
to of-Proculus the-gleaming, dutiful, household-gods.
Quaeris iter, dicam. Vicinum Castora canae
You-ask the-way, I-will-tell. The-neighboring Castor of-gray
transibis Vestae virgineamque domum;
you-will-pass Vesta and-the-maidens' house;
inde sacro veneranda petes Palatia clivo,
thence by-the-sacred venerable you-will-seek the-Palatine slope,
plurima qua summi fulget imago ducis.
very-many where of-the-highest gleams the-image leader.
Nec te detineat miri radiata colossi
Nor you let-detain of-the-wondrous the-radiate colossus
quae Rhodium moles vincere gaudet opus.
which the-Rhodian mass to-outdo rejoices work.
Flecte vias hac qua madidi sunt tecta Lyaei
Turn your-way here where of-soaked are the-roofs of-Lyaeus
et Cybeles picto stat Corybante tholus.
and of-Cybele with-painted stands Corybant the-dome.
Protinus a laeva clari tibi fronte Penates
At-once on the-left the-famous for-you with-front Household-gods
atriaque excelsae sunt adeunda domus.
and-the-halls of-the-lofty are to-be-approached house.

Hanc pete: ne metuas fastus limenque superbum:
This seek: do-not fear haughtiness and-a-threshold proud:
nulla magis toto ianua poste patet,
none more in-whole a-door doorpost stands-open,
nec propior quam Phoebus amet doctaeque sorores.
nor nearer than Phoebus may-love and-the-learned sisters.
Si dicet 'Quare non tamen ipse venit?',
If he-will-say 'Why not yet himself came-he?',
sic licet excuses 'Quia qualiacumque leguntur
so you-may excuse 'Because of-whatever-kind are-read
ista, salutator scribere non potuit.'
those, a-greeter to-write not could.'

71 Laevia sex cyathis, septem Iustina bibatur,
Laevia with-six ladles, with-seven Justina let-be-drunk,
quinque Lycas, Lyde quattuor, Ida tribus.
with-five Lycas, Lyde with-four, Ida with-three.
Omnis ab infuso numeretur amica Falerno,
Every from poured let-be-counted girlfriend Falernian,
et quia nulla venit, tu mihi, Somne, veni.
and since none comes, you to-me, Sleep, come.

72 Nostris versibus esse te poetam,
By-our verses to-be yourself a-poet,
Fidentine, putas cupisque credi?
Fidentinus, you-think and-desire to-be-believed?

Sic dentata sibi videtur Aegle
So toothed to-herself seems Aegle
emptis ossibus Indicoque cornu;
with-bought bones and-Indian horn;
sic quae nigrior est cadente moro,
so who blacker is than-a-falling mulberry,
cerussata sibi placet Lycoris.
whitewashed to-herself pleases Lycoris.
Hac et tu ratione qua poeta es,
By-this also you method by-which a-poet you-are,
calvus cum fueris, eris comatus.
bald when you-shall-be, you-will-be hairy.

Nullus in urbe fuit tota qui tangere vellet 73
No-one in the-city was whole who to-touch would-wish
uxorem gratis, Caeciliane, tuam,
wife free, Caecilianus, your,
dum licuit: sed nunc positis custodibus ingens
while it-was-allowed: but now set guards a-huge
turba fututorum est: ingeniosus homo es.
crowd of-fuckers there-is: a-clever man you-are.

Moechus erat: poteras tamen hoc tu, Paula, negare. 74
An-adulterer he-was: you-could yet this you, Paula, deny.
Ecce vir est: numquid, Paula, negare potes?
Behold a-husband he-is: surely-not, Paula, to-deny can-you?

75 Dimidium donare Lino quam credere totum
The-half to-give to-Linus than to-trust the-whole
qui mavolt, mavolt perdere dimidium.
who prefers, he-prefers to-lose the-half.

76 O mihi curarum pretium non vile mearum,
O for-me of-cares the-reward not cheap my,
Flacce, Antenorei spes et alumne laris,
Flaccus, of-the-Antenorean the-hope and nursling household,
Pierios differ cantusque chorosque sororum;
Pierian put-off both-songs and-dances of-the-sisters;
aes dabit ex istis nulla puella tibi.
copper will-give of these no girl to-you.
Quid petis a Phoebo? nummos habet arca Minervae;
What do-you-seek from Phoebus? coins has the-chest of-Minerva;
haec sapit, haec omnes fenerat una deos.
she is-wise, she all lends-at-interest one the-gods.
Quid possunt hederae Bacchi dare? Pallados arbor
What can the-ivy of-Bacchus give? Pallas' tree
inclinat varias pondere nigra comas.
bends varied with-weight black leaves.
Praeter aquas Helicon et serta lyrasque dearum
Besides waters Helicon and garlands and-lyres of-the-goddesses
nil habet et magnum, sed perinane sophos.
nothing has and a-great, but very-empty bravo.
Quid tibi cum Cirrha? quid cum Permesside nuda?
What to-you with Cirrha? what with Permessis naked?
Romanum propius divitiusque forum est.
the-Roman nearer and-richer forum is.

Illic aera sonant: at circum pulpita nostra
There coppers ring: but around platforms our
et steriles cathedras basia sola crepant.
and barren chairs kisses alone crackle.

Pulchre valet Charinus, et tamen pallet. 77
Handsomely is-well Charinus, and yet he-is-pale.
Parce bibit Charinus, et tamen pallet.
Sparingly drinks Charinus, and yet he-is-pale.
Bene concoquit Charinus, et tamen pallet.
Well digests Charinus, and yet he-is-pale.
Sole utitur Charinus, et tamen pallet.
The-sun uses Charinus, and yet he-is-pale.
Tingit cutem Charinus, et tamen pallet.
Dyes his-skin Charinus, and yet he-is-pale.
Cunnum Charinus lingit, et tamen pallet.
Cunt Charinus licks, and yet he-is-pale.

Indignas premeret pestis cum tabida fauces 78
Unworthy pressed a-plague when wasting throat
inque ipsos vultus serperet atra lues,
and-onto the-very face crept black pestilence,
siccis ipse genis flentes hortatus amicos
with-dry himself cheeks weeping urging friends
decrevit Stygios Festus adire lacus.
resolved the-Stygian Festus to-approach lakes.

Nec tamen obscuro pia polluit ora veneno
Nor yet with-dark dutiful defiled his-mouth poison
aut torsit lenta tristia fata fame,
or tortured with-slow sad fate hunger,
sanctam Romana vitam sed morte peregit
his-holy Roman life but by-a-death completed
dimisitque animam nobiliore rogo.
and-sent-forth his-soul by-a-nobler pyre.
Hanc mortem fatis magni praeferre Catonis
This death to-the-fate of-great to-prefer Cato
fama potest: huius Caesar amicus erat.
fame can: of-this-man Caesar friend was.

79 Semper agis causas et res agis, Attale, semper:
Always you-plead cases and things you-do, Attalus, always:
est, non est quod agas, Attale, semper agis.
there-is, not there-is what you-may-do, Attalus, always you-do.
Si res et causae desunt, agis, Attale, mulas.
If things and cases are-lacking, you-drive, Attalus, mules.
Attale, ne quod agas desit, agas animam.
Attalus, lest what you-may-do be-lacking, do your-soul.

80 Sportula, Cane, tibi suprema nocte petita est
The-dole, Canus, for-you at-the-last night sought was
occidit puto te, Cane, quod una fuit.
it-killed I-think you, Canus, that one it-was.

A servo scis te genitum blandeque fateris, 81
By a-slave you-know you begotten and-coaxingly you-confess,
cum dicis dominum, Sosibiane, patrem.
when you-call master, Sosibianus, father.

Haec quae pulvere dissipata multo 82
This which by-dust scattered much
longas porticus explicat ruinas,
long colonnade unfolds ruins,
en quanto iacet absoluta casu.
look by-how-great lies released chance.
Tectis nam modo Regulus sub illis
The-roofs for lately Regulus under those
gestatus fuerat recesseratque,
carried had-been and-had-withdrawn,
victa est pondere cum suo repente,
conquered is by-weight with its-own suddenly,
et postquam domino nihil timebat,
and after for-its-master nothing it-feared,
securo ruit incruenta damno.
with-carefree fell bloodless loss.
Tantae, Regule, post metum querellae
Of-so-great, Regulus, after fear complaint
quis curam neget esse te deorum,
who care should-deny to-be you of-the-gods,
propter quem fuit innocens ruina?
on-account-of whom was innocent the-ruin?

83 Os et labra tibi lingit, Manneia, catellus:
The-mouth and lips for-you licks, Manneia, a-puppy:
non miror, merdas si libet esse cani.
not I-wonder, shit if it-pleases to-eat for-a-dog.

84 Uxorem habendam non putat Quirinalis,
A-wife to-be-had not thinks Quirinalis,
cum velit habere filios, et invenit
though he-wishes to-have sons, and he-has-found
quo possit istud more: futuit ancillas
by-what he-could that way: he-fucks the-slave-girls
domumque et agros implet equitibus vernis.
and-house and fields fills with-knights home-born.
Pater familiae verus est Quirinalis.
The-father of-the-family true is Quirinalis.

85 Venderet excultos colles cum praeco facetus
Was-selling cultivated hills when an-auctioneer witty
atque suburbani iugera pulchra soli,
and of-a-suburban acres fine soil,
'Errat' ait 'si quis Mario putat esse necesse
'He-errs' he-says 'if anyone for-Marius thinks to-be necessity
vendere: nil debet, fenerat immo magis.'
to-sell: nothing he-owes, he-lends-at-interest nay rather.'
'Quae ratio est igitur?' 'Servos ibi perdidit omnes
'What reason is-it then?' 'Slaves there he-lost all
et pecus et fructus, non amat inde locum.'
and cattle and crops, not he-loves thence the-place.'

Quis faceret pretium nisi qui sua perdere vellet
Who would-make a-price except who his-own to-lose wished
omnia? Sic Mario noxius haeret ager.
all? So to-Marius harmful clings the-land.

EPIGRAMS 86–102

Novius lives next door yet is as far off as Terentianus, who governs Syene on the Nile. Fescennia's lozenges cannot hide last night's wine. Martial gives the slave boy Alcimus a grave of box and vine, not marble. Cinna whispers everything, even Caesar's praises. Bassa, seen with no man, turns out to be a woman's lover. Laelius carps at Martial's poems and publishes none. Aquinus and Fabricius lie together as friends. Aelius is paid to be silent, and Naevolus speaks only when everyone shouts. Calenus, rich, grows mean, and is wished more to starve on. The scribe Demetrius, freed as he died, dies a free man and calls Martial patron.

86

Vicinus meus est manuque tangi
Neighbor my is and-by-hand to-be-touched
de nostris Novius potest fenestris.
from our Novius can windows.
Quis non invideat mihi putetque
Who not would-envy me and-would-think
horis omnibus esse me beatum,
at-hours all to-be me blessed,
iuncto cui liceat frui sodale?
joined to-whom it-is-allowed to-enjoy a-comrade?
Tam longe est mihi quam Terentianus,
So far is-he from-me as Terentianus,
qui nunc Niliacam regit Syenen.
who now Nile's governs Syene.

Non convivere, nec videre saltem,
Not to-live-with, nor to-see at-least,
non audire licet, nec urbe tota
not to-hear it-is-allowed, nor in-the-city whole
quisquam est tam prope tam proculque nobis.
anyone is so near so and-far from-us.
Migrandum est mihi longius vel illi.
To-be-moved it-is for-me farther or for-him.
Vicinus Novio vel inquilinus
Neighbor to-Novius or lodger
sit, si quis Novium videre non volt.
let-be, if anyone Novius to-see not wishes.

87 Ne gravis hesterno fragres, Fescennia, vino,
Lest heavy with-yesterday's you-should-reek, Fescennia, wine,
pastillos Cosmi luxuriosa voras.
the-lozenges of-Cosmus luxurious you-devour.
Ista linunt dentes iantacula, sed nihil obstant,
Those smear the-teeth breakfasts, but nothing they-hinder,
extremo ructus cum redit a barathro.
the-lowest the-belch when returns from the-pit.
Quid quod olet gravius mixtum diapasmate virus
What that it-smells heavier mixed with-perfume-powder the-stench
atque duplex animae longius exit odor?
and double of-the-breath farther goes-out the-smell?
Notas ergo nimis fraudes deprensaque furta
Known therefore too frauds and-detected thefts
iam tollas et sis ebria simpliciter.
now may-you-remove and may-you-be drunk plainly.

Alcime, quem raptum domino crescentibus annis 88
Alcimus, whom snatched from-his-master in-growing years
Labicana levi caespite velat humus,
the-Labican with-light turf veils ground,
accipe non Pario nutantia pondera saxo,
receive not with-Parian tottering weights marble,
quae cineri vanus dat ruitura labor,
which to-ash vain gives about-to-fall labor,
sed faciles buxos et opacas palmitis umbras
but pliant box-trees and shady of-the-vine shades
quaeque virent lacrimis roscida prata meis
and-which grow-green with-tears dewy meadows my
accipe, care puer, nostri monimenta doloris:
receive, dear boy, of-our the-memorials grief:
hic tibi perpetuo tempore vivet honor.
this for-you in-everlasting time will-live honor.
Cum mihi supremos Lachesis pervenerit annos,
When to-me the-last Lachesis shall-have-reached years,
non aliter cineres mando iacere meos.
not otherwise ashes I-order to-lie my.

Garris in aurem semper omnibus, Cinna, 89
You-chatter into the-ear always to-all, Cinna,
garrire et illud teste quod licet turba.
to-chatter even that with-witness which is-allowed crowd.
Rides in aurem, quereris, arguis, ploras,
You-laugh into the-ear, you-complain, you-accuse, you-weep,
cantas in aurem, iudicas, taces, clamas,
you-sing into the-ear, you-judge, you-are-silent, you-shout,

adeoque penitus sedit hic tibi morbus,
and-so deeply has-sat this in-you disease,
ut saepe in aurem, Cinna, Caesarem laudes.
that often into the-ear, Cinna, Caesar you-praise.

Quod numquam maribus iunctam te, Bassa, videbam
That never to-males joined you, Bassa, I-saw
quodque tibi moechum fabula nulla dabat,
and-that to-you an-adulterer rumor no gave,
omne sed officium circa te semper obibat
every but service around you always performed
turba tui sexus, non adeunte viro,
a-crowd of-your sex, not approaching a-man,
esse videbaris, fateor, Lucretia nobis:
to-be you-seemed, I-confess, a-Lucretia to-us:
at tu, pro facinus, Bassa, fututor eras.
but you, oh the-crime, Bassa, a-fucker you-were.
Inter se geminos audes committere cunnos
Among yourselves twin you-dare to-join cunts
mentiturque virum prodigiosa Venus.
and-counterfeits the-man monstrous Venus.
Commenta es dignum Thebano aenigmate monstrum,
Devised you-have worthy of-a-Theban riddle a-portent,
hic ubi vir non est, ut sit adulterium.
here where a-man not is, that there-be adultery.

Cum tua non edas, carpis mea carmina, Laeli. 91
Since your-own not you-publish, you-carp-at my poems, Laelius.
Carpere vel noli nostra vel ede tua.
To-carp either do-not-wish our or publish your-own.

Fabricio iunctus fido requiescit Aquinus, 93
to-Fabricius joined faithful rests Aquinus,
qui prior Elysias gaudet adisse domos.
who earlier the-Elysian rejoices to-have-approached homes.
Ara duplex primi testatur munera pili:
An-altar double of-the-first attests the-offices javelin:
plus tamen est, titulo quod breviore legis:
more yet is, in-the-inscription which shorter you-read:
'Iunctus uterque sacro laudatae foedere vitae,
'Joined each by-the-sacred of-praised bond life,
famaque quod raro novit, amicus erat.'
and-fame what rarely has-known, a-friend he-was.'

Cantasti male, dum fututa es, Aegle. 94
You-sang badly, while fucked you-were, Aegle.
Iam cantas bene; basianda non es.
Now you-sing well; to-be-kissed not you-are.

Quod clamas semper, quod agentibus obstrepis, Aeli, 95
That you-shout always, that the-pleaders you-heckle, Aelius,
non facis hoc gratis: accipis, ut taceas.
not you-do this free: you-accept, that you-may-be-silent.

96 Si non molestum est teque non piget, scazon,
If not troublesome it-is and-you not it-irks, scazon,
nostro rogamus pauca verba Materno
to-our we-ask a-few words Maternus
dicas in aurem sic ut audiat solus.
you-may-say into the-ear so that he-may-hear alone.
Amator ille tristium lacernarum
The-lover that of-dark cloaks
et baeticatus atque leucophaeatus,
and Baetic-wool-clad and gray-clad,
qui coccinatos non putat viros esse
who scarlet-clad not thinks men to-be
amethystinasque mulierum vocat vestes,
and-violet of-women he-calls garments,
nativa laudet, habeat et licet semper
natural-shades let-him-praise, let-him-have and though always
fuscos colores, galbinos habet mores.
dark colors, greenish he-has ways.
Rogabit, unde suspicer virum mollem.
He-will-ask, whence I-should-suspect the-man soft.
Una lavamur: aspicit nihil sursum,
Together we-bathe: he-looks-at nothing upward,
sed spectat oculis devorantibus draucos
but watches with-eyes devouring athletes
nec otiosis mentulas videt labris.
nor with-idle pricks sees lips.
Quaeris quis hic sit? Excidit mihi nomen.
You-ask who this-one is? It-has-slipped from-me the-name.

Cum clamant omnes, loqueris tunc, Naevole, tantum, 97
When shout all, you-speak then, Naevolus, only,
et te patronum causidicumque putas.
and yourself a-patron and-pleader you-think.
Hac ratione potest nemo non esse disertus.
In-this way can no-one not be eloquent.
Ecce, tacent omnes: Naevole, dic aliquid.
Behold, are-silent all: Naevolus, say something.

Litigat et podagra Diodorus, Flacce, laborat. 98
Goes-to-law and with-gout Diodorus, Flaccus, suffers.
Sed nil patrono porrigit: haec cheragra est.
But nothing to-the-advocate he-holds-out: this hand-gout is.

Non plenum modo vicies habebas, 99
Not full only twenty-times you-did-have,
sed tam prodigus atque liberalis
but so prodigal and generous
et tam lautus eras, Calene, ut omnes
and so elegant you-were, Calenus, that all
optarent tibi centies amici.
wished for-you a-hundred-times your-friends.
Audît vota deus precesque nostras
Heard the-wishes the-god and-prayers our
atque intra, puto, septimas Kalendas
and within, I-think, the-seventh Kalends
mortes hoc tibi quattuor dederunt.
deaths this to-you four gave.

At tu sic quasi non foret relictum,
But you so as-if not it-had-been left,
sed raptum tibi centies, abisti
but snatched from-you a-hundred-times, you-went-away
in tantam miser esuritionem,
into such wretch starvation,
ut convivia sumptuosiora,
that dinners more-costly,
toto quae semel apparas in anno,
whole which once you-prepare in the-year,
nigrae sordibus explices monetae,
of-black with-the-dirt you-unfold coin,
et septem veteres tui sodales
and seven old your comrades
constemus tibi plumbea selibra.
we-cost you a-lead half-pound.
Quid dignum meritis precemur istis?
What worthy of-deserts should-we-pray these?
Optamus tibi milies, Calene.
We-wish for-you a-thousand-times, Calenus.
Hoc si contigerit, fame peribis.
This if it-has-befallen, by-hunger you-will-perish.

Mammas atque tatas habet Afra, sed ipsa tatarum
Mammas and daddies has Afra, but she of-the-daddies
dici et mammarum maxima mamma potest.
to-be-called and of-the-mammas the-greatest mamma can.

Illa manus quondam studiorum fida meorum 101
That hand once of-studies faithful my
et felix domino notaque Caesaribus,
and fortunate for-its-master and-known to-the-Caesars,
destituit primos viridis Demetrius annos:
left the-first green Demetrius years:
quarta tribus lustris addita messis erat.
the-fourth to-three lustres added harvest was.
Ne tamen ad Stygias famulus descenderet umbras,
Lest yet to the-Stygian the-servant should-descend shades,
ureret inplicitum cum scelerata lues,
burned enwrapped when wicked plague,
cavimus et domini ius omne remisimus aegro:
we-took-care and of-a-master the-right whole we-remitted to-the-sick-man:
munere dignus erat convaluisse meo.
by-the-gift worthy he-was to-have-recovered my.
Sensit deficiens sua praemia meque patronum
He-felt failing his rewards and-me patron
dixit ad infernas liber iturus aquas.
he-called to the-infernal free about-to-go waters.

Qui pinxit Venerem tuam, Lycori, 102
He-who painted Venus your, Lycoris,
blanditus, puto, pictor est Minervae.
flattered, I-think, the-painter has Minerva.

Scaevola, once poor, prayed for a million and lives meaner than ever on it. The beasts of the shows are tamed to yoke and harness, but the lions that toy with the hares and spare them are the true wonder, knowing whom they serve. Rufus waters his wine because Naevia refused him. Julius is told that a Maecenas would make Martial write great things. Gallus lives across the Tiber, too far to greet each morning. Issa, Publius' lapdog, is purer than a dove, and her portrait is as true as she. Velox writes nothing, so writes shorter. Quintus Pollius sells Martial's youthful trifles. Faenius Telesphorus buries his daughter Antulla and consecrates a grove to her ashes, never to be sold. Lupercus is sent to Atrectus' shop, where the book costs five denarii, and whoever has not had enough of a hundred epigrams has no fill of bad things.

103

'Si dederint superi decies mihi milia centum'
'If should-give the-gods ten-times to-me thousands a-hundred'

dicebas nondum, Scaevola, iustus eques,
you-used-to-say not-yet, Scaevola, a-proper knight,

'Qualiter o vivam, quam large quamque beate!'
'How O I-would-live, how lavishly and-how happily!'

Riserunt faciles et tribuere dei.
Laughed easy and granted-it the-gods.

Sordidior multo post hoc toga, paenula peior,
Dirtier much after this the-toga, the-cloak worse,

calceus est sarta terque quaterque cute:
the-shoe is patched three-times and-four-times with-leather:

deque decem plures semper servantur olivae,
and-of ten more always are-kept olives,
explicat et cenas unica mensa duas,
spreads and dinners a-single table two,
et Veientani bibitur faex crassa rubelli,
and of-Veientan is-drunk the-dregs thick of-red,
asse cicer tepidum constat et asse Venus.
for-a-penny the-chickpea warm costs and for-a-penny Venus.
In ius, o fallax atque infitiator, eamus:
To court, O cheat and denier, let-us-go:
aut vive aut decies, Scaevola, redde deis.
either live or the-ten, Scaevola, give-back to-the-gods.

Picto quod iuga delicata collo 104
With-painted that the-yokes delicate neck
pardus sustinet inprobaeque tigres
the-leopard bears and-unruly tigers
indulgent patientiam flagello,
grant patience to-the-whip,
mordent aurea quod lupata cervi,
bite golden that bits stags,
quod frenis Libyci domantur ursi
that with-bridles Libyan are-tamed bears
et, quantum Calydon tulisse fertur,
and, as-great-as Calydon to-have-borne is-said,
paret purpureis aper capistris,
obeys to-purple a-boar halters,

turpes esseda quod trahunt visontes
ugly chariots that draw bisons
et molles dare iussa quod choreas
and soft to-perform ordered that dances
nigro belua non negat magistro:
to-black the-beast does-not refuse trainer:
quis spectacula non putet deorum?
who spectacles would-not think of-the-gods?
Haec transit tamen, ut minora, quisquis
These passes-by yet, as lesser, whoever
venatus humiles videt leonum,
the-hunts humble sees of-lions,
quos velox leporum timor fatigat.
whom swift of-hares fear wearies.
Dimittunt, repetunt, amantque captos,
They-let-go, they-seek-again, and-love the-caught,
et securior est in ore praeda,
and safer is in the-mouth the-prey,
laxos cui dare perviosque rictus
slack to-whom to-give and-passable jaws
gaudent et timidos tenere dentes,
they-rejoice and timid to-hold teeth,
mollem frangere dum pudet rapinam,
soft to-break while it-shames plunder,
stratis cum modo venerint iuvencis.
laid-low when lately they-have-come bullocks.
Haec clementia non paratur arte,
This clemency not is-got by-art,
sed norunt cuï serviant leones.
but know whom they-serve the-lions.

105

In Nomentanis, Ovidi, quod nascitur arvis,
In Nomentan, Ovid, what grows fields,
accepit quotiens tempora longa, merum
has-received as-often-as times long, the-neat-wine
exuit annosa mores nomenque senecta:
sheds by-long-lived its-ways and-name old-age:
et quidquid voluit, testa vocatur anus.
and whatever it-wished, the-jar is-called the-old-woman.

106

Interponis aquam subinde, Rufe,
You-put-between water now-and-then, Rufus,
et si cogeris a sodale, raram
and if you-are-forced by a-comrade, a-rare
diluti bibis unciam Falerni.
of-diluted you-drink ounce Falernian.
Numquid pollicita est tibi beatam
Surely-not promised has to-you a-blessed
noctem Naevia sobriasque mavis
night Naevia and-sober you-prefer
certae nequitias fututionis?
of-sure the-naughtiness fucking?
Suspiras, retices, gemis: negavit.
You-sigh, you-are-silent, you-groan: she-has-refused.
Crebros ergo licet bibas trientes
Frequent therefore you-may drink measures
et durum iugules mero dolorem.
and harsh you-may-murder with-neat-wine grief.
Quid parcis tibi, Rufe? dormiendum est.
Why do-you-spare yourself, Rufus? to-be-slept it-is.

107 Saepe mihi dicis, Luci carissime Iuli,
Often to-me you-say, Lucius dearest Julius,
‘Scribe aliquid magnum: desidiosus homo es.’
‘Write something great: idle a-man you-are.’
Otia da nobis, sed qualia fecerat olim
Leisure give to-us, but such-as had-made once
Maecenas Flacco Vergilioque suo:
Maecenas for-Flaccus and-Virgil his-own:
condere victuras temptem per saecula curas
to-found about-to-live I-should-try through the-ages cares
et nomen flammis eripuisse meum.
and name from-the-flames to-have-snatched my.
In steriles nolunt campos iuga ferre iuvenci:
Onto barren not-wish fields yokes to-bear bullocks:
pingue solum lassat, sed iuvat ipse labor.
fat soil wearies, but delights itself labor.

108 Est tibi — sitque precor multos
There-is for-you —and-may-it-be I-pray many
crescatque per annos —
and-grow through years—
pulchra quidem, verum transtiberina domus:
fine indeed, but across-the-Tiber house:
at mea Vipsanas spectant cenacula laurus,
but my Vipsanian look-at garrets laurels,
factus in hac ego sum iam regione senex.
become in this I am already region old.
Migrandum est, ut mane domi te, Galle, salutem:
To-be-moved it-is, that in-the-morning at-home you, Gallus, I-may-greet:

est tanti, vel si longius illa foret.
it-is of-such-worth, even if farther that were.
Sed tibi non multum est, unum si praesto togatum:
But to-you not much it-is, one if I-provide toga-clad:
multum est hunc unum si mihi, Galle, nego.
much is-it this one if from-myself, Gallus, I-refuse.
Ipse salutabo decuma te saepius hora:
I-myself will-greet at-the-tenth you rather hour:
mane tibi pro me dicet havere liber.
in-the-morning to-you for me will-say hail the-book.

Issa est passere nequior Catulli, 109
Issa is than-the-sparrow naughtier of-Catullus,
Issa est purior osculo columbae,
Issa is purer than-the-kiss of-the-dove,
Issa est blandior omnibus puellis,
Issa is more-coaxing than-all girls,
Issa est carior Indicis lapillis,
Issa is dearer than-Indian gems,
Issa est deliciae catella Publi.
Issa is the-darling puppy of-Publius.
Hanc tu, si queritur, loqui putabis;
Her you, if she-complains, to-speak will-think;
sentit tristitiamque gaudiumque.
she-feels both-sadness and-joy.
Collo nixa cubat capitque somnos,
On-his-neck leaning she-lies and-takes sleep,
ut suspiria nulla sentiantur;
so-that sighs none are-felt;

et desiderio coacta ventris
and by-the-desire driven of-the-belly
gutta pallia non fefellit ulla,
by-a-drop the-coverlets not she-has-betrayed any,
sed blando pede suscitat toroque
but with-coaxing paw she-rouses and-from-the-couch
deponi monet et rogat levari.
to-be-set-down warns and asks to-be-lifted.
Castae tantus inest pudor catellae,
Of-the-chaste so-great is-in shame puppy,
ignorat Venerem; nec invenimus
she-knows-not Venus; nor have-we-found
dignum tam tenera virum puella.
worthy of-so tender a-husband girl.
Hanc ne lux rapiat suprema totam,
Her lest the-day may-snatch last whole,
picta Publius exprimit tabella,
in-a-painted Publius portrays panel,
in qua tam similem videbis Issam,
in which so like you-will-see Issa,
ut sit tam similis sibi nec ipsa.
that is so like to-herself not-even herself.
Issam denique pone cum tabella:
Issa in-short set with the-panel:
aut utramque putabis esse veram,
either both you-will-think to-be real,
aut utramque putabis esse pictam.
or both you-will-think to-be painted.

Scribere me quereris, Velox, epigrammata longa. 110
To-write me you-complain, Velox, epigrams long.
Ipse nihil scribis: tu breviora facis.
You-yourself nothing write: you shorter make.

Cum tibi sit sophiae par fama et cura deorum, 111
Since for-you is of-wisdom equal the-fame and the-care of-the-gods,
ingenio pietas nec minor ipsa suo:
for-genius devotion nor less itself its-own:
ignorat meritis dare munera, qui tibi librum
knows-not for-merits to-give gifts, who to-you a-book
et qui miratur, Regule, tura dari.
and who wonders, Regulus, incense to-be-given.

Cum te non nossem, dominum regemque vocabam: 112
When you not I-knew, lord and-patron I-used-to-call:
nunc bene te novi: iam mihi Priscus eris.
now well you I-have-known: now for-me Priscus you-will-be.

Quaecumque lusi iuvenis et puer quondam 113
Whatever I-played-at as-a-young-man and a-boy once
apinasque nostras, quas nec ipse iam novi,
and-trifles our, which not-even myself now I-know,
male conlocare si bonas voles horas
badly to-spend if good you-wish hours
et invidebis otio tuo, lector,
and you-will-envy leisure your, reader,

a Valeriano Pollio petes Quinto,
from Valerianus Pollius you-will-seek Quintus,
per quem perire non licet meis nugis.
through whom to-perish not it-is-allowed my trifles.

114 Hos tibi vicinos, Faustine, Telesphorus hortos
These for-you neighboring, Faustinus, Telesphorus gardens
Faenius et breve rus udaque prata tenet.
Faenius and the-small field and-wet meadows holds.
Condidit hic natae cineres nomenque sacravit
He-laid-to-rest here of-his-daughter the-ashes and-the-name consecrated
quod legis Antullae, dignior ipse legi.
which you-read Antulla's, more-worthy himself to-be-read.
Ad Stygias aequum fuerat pater isset ut umbras:
To the-Stygian right it-had-been the-father had-gone that shades:
quod quia non licuit, vivat, ut ossa colat.
which because not it-was-allowed, let-him-live, that her-bones he-may-tend.

115 Quaedam me cupit — invide, Procille! —
A-certain-girl me desires —envious, Procillus!—
loto candidior puella cycno,
than-a-washed whiter girl swan,
argento, nive, lilio, ligustro.
than-silver, snow, lily, privet.
Sed quandam volo nocte nigriorem,
But a-certain-one I-want than-night blacker,
formica, pice, graculo, cicada.
than-the-ant, pitch, jackdaw, cicada.

Iam suspendia saeva cogitabas:
Now hangings savage you-were-planning:
si novi bene te, Procille, vives.
if I-know well you, Procillus, you-will-live.

Hoc nemus aeterno cinerum sacravit honori 116
This grove to-everlasting of-the-ashes consecrated honor
Faenius et culti iugera pulchra soli.
Faenius and of-tilled the-acres fine soil.
Hoc tegitur cito rapta suis Antulla sepulchro,
By-this is-covered quickly snatched from-her-own Antulla tomb,
hoc erit Antullae mixtus uterque parens.
in-this will-be with-Antulla mingled each parent.
Si cupit hunc aliquis, moneo, ne speret agellum:
If desires this anyone, I-warn, that-not he-hope-for the-little-field:
perpetuo dominis serviet iste suis.
everlastingly the-masters will-serve that its-own.

Occurris quotiens, Luperce, nobis, 117
You-meet as-often-as, Lupercus, us,
'Vis mittam puerum' subinde dicis,
'Do-you-wish I-may-send a-boy' at-once you-say,
'cui tradas epigrammaton libellum,
'to-whom you-may-hand of-epigrams the-little-book,
lectum quem tibi protinus remittam?'
read which to-you at-once I-shall-send-back?'
Non est quod puerum, Luperce, vexes.
Not there-is-reason that the-boy, Lupercus, you-should-trouble.

Longum est, si velit ad Pirum venire,
Long it-is, if he-wishes to the-Pear-tree to-come,
et scalis habito tribus, sed altis.
and by-stairs I-live three, but high.
Quod quaeris propius petas licebit.
What you-seek nearer you-may-seek it-will-be-allowed.
Argi nempe soles subire letum:
Argi- of-course you-are-wont to-pass-through -letum:
contra Caesaris est forum taberna
opposite Caesar's is forum a-shop
scriptis postibus hinc et inde totis,
with-written doorposts on-this-side and on-that whole,
omnis ut cito perlegas poetas.
all that quickly you-may-read-through the-poets.
Illinc me pete. Nec roges Atrectum
Thence me seek. Nor ask Atrectus
— hoc nomen dominus gerit tabernae—:
—this name the-master bears of-the-shop—:
de primo dabit alterove nido
from the-first he-will-give or-the-second pigeonhole
rasum pumice purpuraque cultum
smoothed with-pumice and-with-purple adorned
denaris tibi quinque Martialem.
for-denarii to-you five Martial.
'Tanti non es' ais? Sapis, Luperce.
'Of-such-worth not you-are' you-say? You-are-wise, Lupercus.

Cui legisse satis non est epigrammata centum, 118
For-whom to-have-read enough not is epigrams a-hundred,
nil illi satis est, Caediciane, mali.
nothing to-him enough is, Caedicianus, of-bad.

BOOK II

PREFACE AND EPIGRAMS 1–14

A letter to Decianus, who objects that epigrams need no letter, ends by promising readers will reach the first page unwearied. The book is short, so it wastes less paper, copies in an hour, and bores no one. Caesar earned as a boy a nobler name from Germany than Scipio and Metellus took from Africa and Crete. Sextus owes nothing, since he cannot pay. Ammianus and his mother call each other brother and sister. Martial will walk two miles to see Decianus but not four to miss him. Severus yawns over the book he once copied. Atticus does everything prettily and nothing well. The copyist is blamed for the book's faults. Postumus' half-kisses are praised and his perfume suspected, and Selius, gloomy only because he must dine at home, wanders every colonnade and bath for a dinner invitation.

Valerius Martialis Deciano Suo Sal. pr

Valerius Martial to-Decianus His-own greeting

'Quid nobis' inquis 'cum epistula? parum enim tibi

What to-us you-say with a-letter too-little for to-you

praestamus, si legimus epigrammata? quid hic porro dicturus

do-we-provide if we-read epigrams what here further about-to-say

es, quod non possis versibus dicere? Video quare tragoedia

are-you which not you-could in-verses say I-see why tragedy

aut comoedia epistulam accipiant, quibus pro se loqui

or comedy a-letter may-accept which for themselves to-speak

non licet: epigrammata curione non egent et contenta

not it-is-allowed epigrams a-herald not need and content

sunt sua, id est mala, lingua: in quacumque pagina

are with-their-own that is bad tongue on whatever page

visum est, epistulam faciunt. Noli ergo, si tibi videtur,

seemed-good it-has a-letter they-make Do-not therefore if to-you it-seems

rem facere ridiculam et in toga saltantis inducere

a-thing make ridiculous and in a-toga of-one-dancing bring-on

personam. Denique videris, an te delectet contra retiarium
a-character In-short you-will-see whether you it-delights against a-net-fighter
ferula. Ego inter illos sedeo qui protinus reclamant.' Puto
a-cane I among those sit who at-once cry-out-against I-think
me hercules, Deciane, verum dicis. Quid si scias, cum qua
by Hercules Decianus true you-say What if you-knew with what
et quam longa epistula negotium fueris habiturus? Itaque
and how long a-letter business you-would-be about-to-have So
quod exigis fiat. Debebunt tibi si qui in hunc librum
what you-demand let-it-be-done They-will-owe to-you if any into this book
inciderint, quod ad primam paginam non lassi pervenient.
shall-have-fallen that to the-first page not tired they-will-come

1 Ter centena quidem poteras epigrammata ferre,
Three hundred indeed you-could epigrams bear,
sed quis te ferret perlegeretque, liber?
but who you would-bear and-would-read-through, book?
At nunc succincti quae sint bona disce libelli.
But now of-a-girt-up what are the-good-points learn little-book.
Hoc primum est, brevior quod mihi charta perit;
This first is, shorter that for-me paper perishes;
deinde, quod haec una peraget librarius hora,
then, that this in-one will-finish the-copyist hour,
nec tantum nugis serviet ille meis;
nor only to-trifles will-serve he my;
tertia res haec est, quod si cui forte legeris,
the-third thing this is, that if to-anyone by-chance you-are-read,
sis licet usque malus, non odiosus eris.
you-be though right-through bad, not tiresome you-will-be.

Te conviva leget mixto quincunce, sed ante
You the-guest will-read with-mixed five-measures, but before
incipiat positus quam tepuisse calix.
it-may-begin set than to-have-grown-warm the-cup.
Esse tibi tanta cautus brevitate videris?
To-be to-yourself with-such cautious brevity you-seem?
Ei mihi, quam multis sic quoque longus eris!
Ah me, how to-many so also long you-will-be!

Creta dedit magnum, maius dedit Africa nomen, 2
Crete gave a-great, greater gave Africa name,
Scipio quod victor quodque Metellus habet;
Scipio which a-victor and-which Metellus has;
nobilius domito tribuit Germania Rheno,
nobler for-tamed granted Germany Rhine,
et puer hoc dignus nomine, Caesar, eras.
and a-boy of-this worthy name, Caesar, you-were.
Frater Idumaeos meruit cum patre triumphos,
Your-brother Idumaean earned with your-father triumphs,
quae datur ex Chattis laurea, tota tua est.
which is-given from the-Chatti the-laurel, whole yours is.

Sexte, nihil debes, nil debes, Sexte, fatemur. 3
Sextus, nothing you-owe, nothing you-owe, Sextus, we-confess.
Debet enim, si quis solvere, Sexte, potest.
He-owes for, if anyone to-pay, Sextus, can.

4 O quam blandus es, Ammiane, matri!
O how coaxing you-are, Ammianus, to-your-mother!
Quam blanda est tibi mater, Ammiane!
How coaxing is to-you your-mother, Ammianus!
Fratrem te vocat et soror vocatur.
Brother you she-calls and sister is-called.
Cur vos nomina nequiora tangunt?
Why you names naughtier touch?
Quare non iuvat hoc quod estis esse?
Why does-it-not please this which you-are to-be?
Lusum creditis hoc iocumque? Non est:
A-game you-believe this and-a-joke? Not it-is:
matrem, quae cupit esse se sororem,
a-mother, who desires to-be herself a-sister,
nec matrem iuvat esse nec sororem.
neither a-mother pleases-her to-be nor a-sister.

5 Ne valeam, si non totis, Deciane, diebus
May-I-not fare-well, if not for-whole, Decianus, days
et tecum totis noctibus esse velim.
and with-you whole nights to-be I-would-wish.
Sed duo sunt quae nos disiungunt milia passum:
But two there-are which us separate thousands of-paces:
quattuor haec fiunt, cum rediturus eam.
four these become, when about-to-return I-go.
Saepe domi non es, cum sis quoque, saepe negaris:
Often at-home not you-are, when you-are also, often you-are-denied:
vel tantum causis vel tibi saepe vacas.
either only to-cases or to-yourself often you-are-free.

Te tamen ut videam, duo milia non piget ire:
You yet that I-may-see, two thousand not it-irks to-go:
ut te non videam, quattuor ire piget.
that you not I-may-see, four to-go it-irks-me.

I nunc, edere me iube libellos. 6
Go now, to-publish me order little-books.
Lectis vix tibi paginis duabus
Read scarcely by-you pages two
spectas eschatocollion, Severe,
you-look-at the-last-sheet, Severus,
et longas trahis oscitationes.
and long you-draw yawns.
Haec sunt, quae relegente me solebas
These are, which rereading me you-used
rapta exscribere, sed Vitellianis,
snatched to-copy-out, but on-Vitellian-tablets,
haec sunt, singula quae sinu ferebas
these are, the-single-ones which in-your-fold you-carried
per convivia cuncta, per theatra,
through banquets all, through theaters,
haec sunt aut meliora si qua nescis.
these are or better if any you-know-not.
Quid prodest mihi tam macer libellus,
What profits me so thin a-little-book,
nullo crassior ut sit umbilico,
by-no thicker that it-be knob,
si totus tibi triduo legatur?
if whole by-you in-three-days it-is-read?

Numquam deliciae supiniores.
Never delights more-supine.
Lassus tam cito deficis viator,
Weary so quickly you-fail traveler,
et cum currere debeas Bovillas,
and when to-run you-ought to-Bovillae,
interiungere quaeris ad Camenas?
to-unyoke you-seek at the-Camenae?
I nunc, edere me iube libellos.
Go now, to-publish me order little-books.

7 Declamas belle, causas agis, Attice, belle,
You-declaim prettily, cases you-plead, Atticus, prettily,
historias bellas, carmina bella facis,
histories pretty, poems pretty you-make,
componis belle mimos, epigrammata belle,
you-compose prettily mimes, epigrams prettily,
bellus grammaticus, bellus es astrologus,
a-pretty grammarian, pretty are-you an-astrologer,
et belle cantas et saltas, Attice, belle,
and prettily you-sing and dance, Atticus, prettily,
bellus es arte lyrae, bellus es arte pilae.
pretty are-you in-the-art of-the-lyre, pretty are-you in-the-art of-the-ball.
Nil bene cum facias, facias tamen omnia belle,
Nothing well since you-do, you-do yet everything prettily,
vis dicam quid sis? magnus es ardalio.
do-you-wish I-may-say what you-are? a-great you-are busybody.

Si qua videbuntur chartis tibi, lector, in istis 8
If any-things shall-seem pages to-you, reader, in those
sive obscura nimis sive latina parum,
either obscure too or Latin too-little,
non meus est error: nocuit librarius illis,
not my is the-error: has-harmed the-copyist them,
dum properat versus adnumerare tibi.
while he-hurries verses to-count-out for-you.
Quod si non illum, sed me peccasse putabis,
But if not him, but me to-have-sinned you-shall-think,
tunc ego te credam cordis habere nihil.
then I you shall-believe of-heart to-have nothing.
'Ista tamen mala sunt.' Quasi nos manifesta negemus:
'These yet bad are.' As-if we manifest-things should-deny:
haec mala sunt, sed tu non meliora facis.
these bad are, but you not better make.

Scripsi, rescripsit nil Naevia, non dabit ergo. 9
I-wrote, has-written-back nothing Naevia, not she-will-give therefore.
Sed puto quod scripsi legerat: ergo dabit.
But I-think what I-wrote she-had-read: therefore she-will-give.

Basia dimidio quod das mihi, Postume, labro, 10
The-kisses with-half that you-give me, Postumus, lip,
laudo: licet demas hinc quoque dimidium.
I-praise: you-may take-away from-this also half.

Vis dare maius adhuc et inenarrabile munus?
Do-you-wish to-give a-greater still and indescribable gift?
Hoc tibi habe totum, Postume, dimidium.
This for-yourself keep whole, Postumus, half.

11 Quod fronte Selium nubila vides, Rufe,
That with-brow Selius cloudy you-see, Rufus,
quod ambulator porticum terit seram,
that a-stroller the-colonnade wears late,
lugubre quiddam quod tacet piger voltus,
mournful something that is-silent sluggish face,
quod paene terram nasus indecens tangit,
that almost the-ground nose ugly touches,
quod dextra pectus pulsat et comam vellit:
that with-right-hand his-breast he-beats and his-hair plucks:
non ille amici fata luget aut fratris,
not he of-a-friend the-death mourns or of-a-brother,
uterque natus vivit et precor vivat,
each son lives and I-pray may-live,
salva est et uxor sarcinaeque servique,
safe is also his-wife and-baggage and-slaves,
nihil colonus vilicusque decoxit.
nothing the-tenant and-steward has-squandered.
Maeroris igitur causa quae? Domi cenat.
Of-grief then the-cause what? At-home he-dines.

Esse quid hoc dicam, quod olent tua basia murram 12
To-be what this shall-I-say, that smell your kisses of-myrrh
quodque tibi est numquam non alienus odor?
and-that for-you is never not another's smell?
Hoc mihi suspectum est, quod oles bene, Postume, semper:
This to-me suspect is, that you-smell good, Postumus, always:
Postume, non bene olet qui bene semper olet.
Postumus, not good smells who good always smells.

Et iudex petit et petit patronus. 13
Both the-judge seeks and seeks the-advocate.
Solvas censeo, Sexte, creditori.
You-should-pay I-think, Sextus, the-creditor.

Nil intemptatum Selius, nil linquit inausum, 14
Nothing untried Selius, nothing leaves undared,
cenandum quotiens iam videt esse domi.
to-be-dined as-often-as now he-sees it-is at-home.
Currit ad Europen et te, Pauline, tuosque
He-runs to the-Europa and you, Paulinus, and-your
laudat Achilleos, sed sine fine, pedes.
praises Achilles-like, but without end, feet.
Si nihil Europe fecit, tunc Saepta petuntur,
If nothing the-Europa did, then the-Saepta are-sought,
si quid Phillyrides praestet et Aesonides.
if anything Philyra's-son may-provide and Aeson's-son.

Hic quoque deceptus Memphitica templa frequentat,
Here also deceived the-Memphitic temples he-frequents,
adsidet et cathedris, maesta iuvenca, tuis.
sits-by and at-chairs, sad heifer, your.
Inde petit centum pendentia tecta columnis,
Thence he-seeks the-hundred hanging roofs on-columns,
illinc Pompei dona nemusque duplex.
thence Pompey's gifts and-the-grove double.
Nec Fortunati spernit nec balnea Fausti,
Nor Fortunatus' scorns nor the-baths of-Faustus,
nec Grylli tenebras Aeoliamque Lupi:
nor of-Gryllus the-darkness and-the-Aeolia of-Lupus:
nam thermis iterumque iterumque iterumque lavatur.
for in-the-hot-baths and-again and-again and-again he-bathes.
Omnia cum fecit, sed renuente deo,
Everything when he-has-done, but refusing the-god,
lotus ad Europes tepidae buxeta recurrit,
washed to of-Europa warm the-box-groves he-runs-back,
si quis ibi serum carpat amicus iter.
if anyone there late may-take a-friend way.
Per te perque tuam, vector lascive, puellam,
By you and-by your, carrier wanton, girl,
ad cenam Selium tu, rogo, taure, voca.
to dinner Selius you, I-ask, bull, invite.

Hormus offers no one his cup out of kindness. Zoilus' fever is his purple coverlets. A barber-woman in the Subura shaves rather than cuts. Martial angles for Maximus' dinner as Maximus angles for another's, so they are equals, and a patron should have none. Paulus buys poems and recites them as his. Postumus offers kisses or a hand, and Martial prefers the hand; now he kisses with both lips, and Martial will not name him. Candidus will share misfortune and keep fortune. Galla always promises; Naevia coughs to flatter Bithynicus, not to die. Selius' applause angles for dinner. Martial's patron Ponticus fears offending everyone, and Caecilianus carries home the dinner in his napkin.

Quod nulli calicem tuum propinas, 15
That to-no-one cup your you-pledge,
humane facis, Horme, non superbe.
humanely you-act, Hormus, not proudly.

Zoilus aegrotat: faciunt hanc stragula febrem. 16
Zoilus is-sick: make this coverlets fever.
Si fuerit sanus, coccina quid facient?
If he-should-be well, scarlet-ones what will-they-do?
Quid torus a Nilo, quid Sidone tinctus olenti?
What a-couch from the-Nile, what with-Sidon dyed smelly?
Ostendit stultas quid nisi morbus opes?
Shows foolish what except illness wealth?
Quid tibi cum medicis? dimitte Machaonas omnis.
What to-you with doctors? dismiss Machaons all.
Vis fieri sanus? stragula sume mea.
Do-you-wish to-become well? coverlets take my.

17 Tonstrix Suburae faucibus sedet primis,
A-barberess of-the-Subura at-the-jaws sits first,
cruenta pendent qua flagella tortorum
bloody hang where the-whips of-the-torturers
Argique letum multus obsidet sutor.
and-Argi- -letum many besets cobbler.
Sed ista tonstrix, Ammiane, non tondet,
But that barberess, Ammianus, does-not clip,
non tondet, inquam. Quid igitur facit? Radit.
not clips, I-say. What then does-she-do? She-shaves.

18 Capto tuam, pudet heu, sed capto, Maxime, cenam,
I-angle-for your, it-shames alas, but I-angle, Maximus, dinner,
tu captas aliam: iam sumus ergo pares.
you angle-for another: now we-are therefore equals.
Mane salutatum venio, tu diceris isse
In-the-morning to-greet I-come, you are-said to-have-gone
ante salutatum: iam sumus ergo pares.
before to-greet: now we-are therefore equals.
Sum comes ipse tuus tumidique anteambulo regis,
I-am companion myself your and-of-a-swollen walker-before patron,
tu comes alterius: iam sumus ergo pares.
you companion of-another: now we-are therefore equals.
Esse sat est servum, iam nolo vicarius esse.
To-be enough it-is a-slave, now I-do-not-wish a-slave's-slave to-be.
Qui rex est, regem, Maxime, non habeat.
Who patron is, a-patron, Maximus, let-him-not have.

Felicem fieri credis me, Zoile, cena? 19
Fortunate to-become you-believe me, Zoilus, by-dinner?
Felicem cena, Zoile, deinde tua?
Fortunate by-dinner, Zoilus, then by-your?
Debet Aricino conviva recumbere clivo,
Ought at-Arician the-guest to-recline slope,
quem tua felicem, Zoile, cena facit.
whom your fortunate, Zoilus, dinner makes.

Carmina Paulus emit, recitat sua carmina Paulus. 20
Poems Paulus buys, he-recites his-own poems Paulus.
Nam quod emas, possis iure vocare tuum.
For what you-buy, you-could by-right call yours.

Basia das aliis, aliis das, Postume, dextram. 21
Kisses you-give to-some, to-others you-give, Postumus, your-right-hand.
Dicis 'Utrum mavis? elige.' Malo manum.
You-say 'Which you-prefer? choose.' I-prefer the-hand.

Quid mihi vobiscum est, o Phoebe novemque sorores? 22
What to-me with-you is, O Phoebus and-nine sisters?
Ecce nocet vati Musa iocosa suo.
Behold harms the-bard the-Muse merry her-own.
Dimidio nobis dare Postumus ante solebat
With-half to-us to-give Postumus before was-wont
basia, nunc labro coepit utroque dare.
kisses, now with-lip he-has-begun both to-give.

23 Non dicam, licet usque me rogetis,
Not I-shall-say, though right-through me you-ask,
qui sit Postumus in meo libello,
who be Postumus in my little-book,
non dicam: quid enim mihi necesse est
not I-shall-say: what for to-me necessary is-it
has offendere basiationes,
these to-offend kissings,
quae se tam bene vindicare possunt?
which themselves so well to-avenge can?

24 Si det iniqua tibi tristem fortuna reatum,
If should-give unjust to-you a-gloomy fortune charge,
squalidus haerebo pallidiorque reo:
squalid I-shall-cling and-paler than-the-defendant:
si iubeat patria damnatum excedere terra,
if it-orders from-the-fatherland condemned to-depart land,
per freta, per scopulos exulis ibo comes.
through straits, through crags of-the-exile I-shall-go as-companion.
Dat tibi divitias: ecquid sunt ista duorum?
It-gives to-you riches: at-all are those of-two?
Das partem? multum est? Candide, das aliquid?
You-give a-part? much it-is? Candidus, you-give something?
Mecum eris ergo miser: quod si deus ore sereno
With-me you-will-be therefore wretched: but if the-god with-face serene
adnuerit, felix, Candide, solus eris.
shall-have-nodded, fortunate, Candidus, alone you-will-be.

Das numquam, semper promittis, Galla, roganti. 25
You-give never, always you-promise, Galla, to-one-asking.
Si semper fallis, iam rogo, Galla, nega.
If always you-deceive, now I-ask, Galla, refuse.

Quod querulum spirat, quod acerbum Naevia tussit, 26
That plaintive she-breathes, that harsh Naevia coughs,
inque tuos mittit sputa subinde sinus,
and-into your sends spit now-and-then fold,
iam te rem factam, Bithynice, credis habere?
now you the-thing done, Bithynicus, believe to-have?
Erras: blanditur Naevia, non moritur.
You-err: coaxes Naevia, not dies.

Laudantem Selium cenae cum retia tendit 27
Praising Selius for-a-dinner when nets he-stretches
accipe, sive legas, sive patronus agas:
take-it, whether you-read, or advocate you-act:
'Effecte! graviter! cito! nequiter! euge! beate!'
'Done! heavily! quickly! wickedly! bravo! blessed!'
'Hoc volui! Facta est iam tibi cena, tace.'
'This I-wanted! Done is now for-you the-dinner, be-silent.'

Rideto multum qui te, Sextille, cinaedum 28
Laugh much who you, Sextillus, a-catamite
dixerit et digitum porrigito medium.
shall-have-called and the-finger hold-out middle.

Sed nec pedico es nec tu, Sextille, fututor,
But neither a-bugger are-you nor you, Sextillus, a-fucker,
calda Vetustinae nec tibi bucca placet.
the-hot Vetustina's nor to-you mouth pleases.
Ex istis nihil es, fateor, Sextille: quid ergo es?
Of these nothing you-are, I-confess, Sextillus: what then are-you?
Nescio, sed tu scis res superesse duas.
I-know-not, but you know things to-remain two.

29 Rufe, vides illum subsellia prima terentem,
Rufus, you-see him the-benches first wearing,
cuius et hinc lucet sardonychata manus
whose even from-here gleams sardonyx-ringed hand
quaeque Tyron totiens epotavere lacernae
and-which Tyre so-often have-drunk-up cloaks
et toga non tactas vincere iussa nives,
and a-toga not touched to-outdo ordered snows,
cuius olet toto pinguis coma Marcellano
whose smells with-whole fat hair Marcellan
et splendent volso bracchia trita pilo,
and gleam with-plucked arms rubbed hair,
non hesterna sedet lunata lingula planta,
not yesterday's sits crescent-marked latchet foot,
coccina non laesum pingit aluta pedem,
scarlet not chafed paints leather foot,
et numerosa linunt stellantem splenia frontem.
and numerous smear starry patches brow.
Ignoras quid sit? splenia tolle, leges.
You-know-not what it-be? the-patches remove, you-will-read.

Mutua viginti sestertia forte rogabam, 30
As-loan twenty sesterces by-chance I-was-asking,
quae vel donanti non grave munus erat.
which even to-one-giving not heavy gift was.
Quippe rogabatur felixque vetusque sodalis
For was-being-asked both-fortunate and-old comrade
et cuius laxas arca flagellat opes.
and whose loose chest whips wealth.
Is mihi 'Dives eris, si causas egeris' inquit.
He to-me 'Rich you-will-be, if cases you-plead' he-says.
Quod peto da, Gai: non peto consilium.
What I-seek give, Gaius: not I-seek advice.

Saepe ego Chrestinam futui. Det quam bene quaeris? 31
Often I Chrestina have-fucked. Does-she-give how well you-ask?
Supra quod fieri nil, Mariane, potest.
Above which to-be-done nothing, Marianus, can.

Lis mihi cum Balbo est, tu Balbum offendere non vis, 32
A-lawsuit to-me with Balbus is, you Balbus to-offend not wish,
Pontice: cum Licino est, hic quoque magnus homo est.
Ponticus: with Licinus it-is, this-one also a-great man is.
Vexat saepe meum Patrobas confinis agellum,
Harasses often my Patrobas neighbor little-field,
contra libertum Caesaris ire times.
against a-freedman of-Caesar to-go you-fear.

Abnegat et retinet nostrum Laronia servum,
Refuses and keeps our Laronia slave,
respondes 'Orba est, dives, anus, vidua.'
you-answer 'Childless is-she, rich, old-woman, widow.'
Non bene, crede mihi, servo servitur amico:
Not well, believe me, by-a-slave is-served a-friend:
sit liber, dominus qui volet esse meus.
let-him-be free, a-lord who shall-wish to-be mine.

33 Cur non basio te, Philaeni? calva es.
Why not do-I-kiss you, Philaenis? bald you-are.
Cur non basio te, Philaeni? rufa es.
Why not do-I-kiss you, Philaenis? red you-are.
Cur non basio te, Philaeni? lusca es.
Why not do-I-kiss you, Philaenis? one-eyed you-are.
Haec qui basiat, o Philaeni, fellat.
This-woman who kisses, O Philaenis, sucks.

34 Cum placeat Phileros tota tibi dote redemptus,
Since pleases Phileros with-whole to-you dowry bought,
tres pateris natos, Galla, perire fame.
three you-allow sons, Galla, to-perish by-hunger.
Praestatur cano tanta indulgentia cunno,
Is-shown to-a-gray such indulgence cunt,
quem nec casta potest iam decuisse Venus.
which not-even chaste can now have-suited Venus.

Perpetuam di te faciant Philerotis amicam,
Everlasting the-gods you may-make of-Phileros girlfriend,
o mater, qua nec Pontia deterior.
O mother, than-whom not-even Pontia worse.

Cum sint crura tibi similent quae cornua lunae, 35
Since are legs to-you resemble which the-horns of-the-moon,
in rhytio poteras, Phoebe, lavare pedes.
in a-drinking-horn you-could, Phoebus, wash your-feet.

Flectere te nolim, sed nec turbare capillos; 36
To-curl you I-would-not-wish, but nor to-disorder your-hair;
splendida sit nolo, sordida nolo cutis;
gleaming let-it-be I-do-not-want, dirty I-do-not-want skin;
nec tibi mitrarum nec sit tibi barba reorum:
nor for-you of-turbaned-men nor let-be for-you the-beard of-defendants:
nolo virum nimium, Pannyche, nolo parum.
I-do-not-want a-man too-much, Pannychus, I-do-not-want too-little.
Nunc sunt crura pilis et sunt tibi pectora saetis
Now are your-legs with-hairs and are for-you breasts with-bristles
horrida, sed mens est, Pannyche, volsa tibi.
shaggy, but your-mind is, Pannychus, plucked for-you.

37 Quidquid ponitur hinc et inde verris,
Whatever is-served on-this-side and on-that you-sweep,
mammas suminis imbricemque porci
the-teats of-sow's-udder and-the-rib of-pork
communemque duobus attagenam,
and-shared by-two a-francolin,
mullum dimidium lupumque totum
a-mullet half and-a-bass whole
muraenaeque latus femurque pulli
and-of-a-lamprey the-side and-the-thigh of-a-chicken
stillantemque alica sua palumbum.
and-dripping with-groats its-own a-pigeon.
Haec cum condita sunt madente mappa,
These when stored are in-a-soaked napkin,
traduntur puero domum ferenda:
are-handed to-the-boy home to-be-carried:
nos accumbimus otiosa turba.
we recline an-idle crowd.
Ullus si pudor est, repone cenam:
Any if shame there-is, put-back the-dinner:
cras te, Caeciliane, non vocavi.
tomorrow you, Caecilianus, not I-invited.

Martial's Nomentan farm yields him this: he does not see Linus. A notorious adulteress should be given the toga she has earned. Tongilius' fever is gluttony, and the doctors who bathe him are fools. Maximina, with three teeth of pitch and boxwood, is told by the Paelignian poet's line reversed to weep, not laugh. Sextus the moneylender recites his debts before he can be asked. Naevolus fears the cold for his own flank but not for his friend's, and Gallus is warned off a known adulteress. Dasius charges the big-breasted Spatale for three at the baths, and Gallus' wife, accused of greed, only gives. Maximus can be free if he dines at home and drinks cheap wine, and a dandy pawns his ring for dinner.

Quid mihi reddat ager quaeris, Line, Nomentanus? 38
What to-me yields my-field you-ask, Linus, Nomentan?
Hoc mihi reddit ager: te, Line, non video.
This to-me yields the-field: you, Linus, not I-see.

Coccina famosae donas et ianthina moechae: 39
Scarlet to-a-notorious you-give and violet adulteress:
vis dare quae meruit munera, mitte togam.
do-you-wish to-give what she-has-earned gifts, send a-toga.

Uri Tongilius male dicitur hemitritaeo. 40
To-be-burned Tongilius badly is-said with-a-semitertian-fever.
Novi hominis fraudes: esurit atque sitit.
I-know of-the-man the-frauds: he-hungers and thirsts.
Subdola tenduntur crassis nunc retia turdis,
Cunning are-stretched for-fat now nets thrushes,
hamus et in mullum mittitur atque lupum.
the-hook also at the-mullet is-cast and the-bass.

Caecuba saccentur quaeque annus coxit Opimi,
Caecuban-wines let-be-strained and-what the-year matured of-Opimius,
condantur parco fusca Falerna vitro.
let-be-stored in-thin dusky Falernians glass.
Omnes Tongilium medici iussere lavari:
All Tongilius the-doctors have-ordered to-bathe:
o stulti, febrem creditis esse? Gula est.
O fools, a-fever you-believe it-to-be? Gluttony it-is.

41 'Ride si sapis, o puella, ride'
'Laugh if you-are-wise, O girl, laugh'
Paelignus, puto, dixerat poeta.
the-Paelignian, I-think, had-said poet.
Sed non dixerat omnibus puellis.
But not he-had-said to-all girls.
Verum ut dixerit omnibus puellis,
Yet granted he-said-it to-all girls,
non dixit tibi: tu puella non es,
not he-said-it to-you: you a-girl not are,
et tres sunt tibi, Maximina, dentes,
and three are to-you, Maximina, teeth,
sed plane piceique buxeique.
but plainly both-pitch and-boxwood.
Quare si speculo mihique credis,
Wherefore if the-mirror and-me you-believe,
debes non aliter timere risum,
you-ought not otherwise to-fear laughter,
quam ventum Spanius manumque Priscus,
than wind Spanius and-the-hand Priscus,

quam cretata timet Fabulla nimbum,
than chalked fears Fabulla a-rainstorm,
cerussata timet Sabella solem.
whitewashed fears Sabella the-sun.
Voltus indue tu magis severos,
Looks put-on you more severe,
quam coniunx Priami nurusque maior.
than the-wife of-Priam and-daughter-in-law elder.
Mimos ridiculi Philistionis
The-mimes of-laughable Philistion
et convivia nequiora vita
and banquets naughtier avoid
et quidquid lepida procacitate
and whatever with-witty impudence
laxat perspicuo labella risu.
loosens with-clear lips laughter.
Te maestae decet adsidere matri
You to-a-sad it-becomes to-sit-by mother
lugentive virum piumve fratrem,
or-mourning a-husband or-a-dutiful brother,
et tantum tragicis vacare Musis.
and only for-tragic to-have-time Muses.
At tu iudicium secuta nostrum
But you judgment having-followed our
plora, si sapis, o puella, plora.
weep, if you-are-wise, O girl, weep.

42 Zoile, quid solium subluto podice perdis?
Zoilus, why the-tub with-washed-under arse do-you-spoil?
Spurcius ut fiat, Zoile, merge caput.
Fouler that it-may-become, Zoilus, dip your-head.

44 Emi seu puerum togamve pexam
I-have-bought whether a-slave-boy or-toga combed
seu tres, ut puta, quattuorve libras,
or three, as say, or-four pounds,
Sextus protinus ille fenerator,
Sextus at-once that money-lender,
quem nostis veterem meum sodalem,
whom you-know old my comrade,
ne quid forte petam timet cavetque,
lest anything by-chance I-should-seek fears and-takes-care,
et secum, sed ut audiam, susurrat:
and with-himself, but so-that I-may-hear, whispers:
'Septem milia debeo Secundo,
'Seven thousand I-owe to-Secundus,
Phoebo quattuor, undecim Phileto,
to-Phoebus four, eleven to-Philetus,
et quadrans mihi nullus est in arca.'
and a-farthing for-me none is in the-chest.'
O grande ingenium mei sodalis!
O great the-wit of-my comrade!
Durum est, Sexte, negare, cum rogaris,
Hard it-is, Sextus, to-refuse, when you-are-asked,
quanto durius, antequam rogeris!
how-much harder, before you-are-asked!

Quae tibi non stabat praecisa est mentula, Glypte. 45
Which for-you did-not stand cut-off has-been the-prick, Glyptus.
Demens, cum ferro quid tibi? Gallus eras.
Madman, with steel what to-you? a-Gallus were-you.

Florida per varios ut pingitur Hybla colores, 46
Flowery through various as is-painted Hybla colors,
cum breve Sicaniae ver populantur apes,
when the-short of-Sicily spring plunder the-bees,
sic tua subpositis conlucent prela lacernis,
so your placed-beneath shine presses cloaks,
sic micat innumeris arcula synthesibus,
so glitters with-countless the-little-chest dinner-suits,
atque unam vestire tribum tua candida possunt,
and one to-clothe tribe your white-ones can,
Apula non uno quae grege terra tulit.
Apulian not by-one which flock the-land has-borne.
Tu spectas hiemem succincti lentus amici
You watch the-winter of-your-girt-up indifferent friend
— pro scelus! — et lateris frigora trita times.
—oh the-crime! —and of-the-side the-chills worn you-fear.
Quantum erat, infelix, pannis fraudare duobus —
How-great was-it, unhappy-one, with-rags to-cheat two—
quid metuis? — non te, Naevole, sed tineas?
what do-you-fear? —not you, Naevolus, but the-moths?

47 Subdola famosae moneo fuge retia moechae,
The-cunning of-a-notorious I-warn flee nets adulteress,
levior o conchis, Galle, Cytheriacis.
smoother O than-shells, Gallus, Cytherean.
Confidis natibus? non est pedico maritus:
You-trust in-your-buttocks? not is a-bugger the-husband:
quae faciat duo sunt: irrumat aut futuit.
what he-may-do two-things there-are: he-face-fucks or fucks.

50 Quod fellas et aquam potas, nil, Lesbia, peccas.
That you-suck and water drink, nothing, Lesbia, you-sin.
Qua tibi parte opus est, Lesbia, sumis aquam.
In-which for-you part need is, Lesbia, you-take water.

52 Novit loturos Dasius numerare: poposcit
Knows the-about-to-bathe Dasius to-count: he-demanded
mammosam Spatalen pro tribus: illa dedit.
big-breasted Spatale for three: she paid.

53 Vis fieri liber? mentiris, Maxime, non vis:
Do-you-wish to-become free? you-lie, Maximus, not you-wish:
sed fieri si vis, hac ratione potes.
but to-become if you-wish, in-this way you-can.

Liber eris, cenare foris si, Maxime, nolis,
Free you-will-be, to-dine out if, Maximus, you-are-unwilling,
Veientana tuam si domat uva sitim,
Veientan your if tames grape thirst,
si ridere potes miseri chrysendeta Cinnae,
if to-laugh-at you-can of-wretched the-gold-dishes Cinna,
contentus nostra si potes esse toga,
content with-our if you-can be toga,
si plebeia Venus gemino tibi vincitur asse,
if plebeian Venus with-double for-you is-won copper,
si tua non rectus tecta subire potes.
if your not upright roof to-enter you-can.
Haec tibi si vis est, si mentis tanta potestas,
This to-you if strength is, if of-mind so-great power,
liberior Partho vivere rege potes.
freer than-the-Parthian to-live king you-can.

Quid de te, Line, suspicetur uxor 54
What about you, Linus, may-suspect your-wife
et qua parte velit pudiciorem,
and in-what part she-may-wish more-chaste,
certis indiciis satis probavit,
by-sure signs enough she-has-proved,
custodem tibi quae dedit spadonem.
a-guardian for-you who has-given a-eunuch.
Nil nasutius hac maligniusque.
Nothing sharper-nosed than-she and-more-malicious.

55 Vis te, Sexte, coli: volebam amare.
You-wish yourself, Sextus, to-be-courted: I-wanted to-love.
Parendum est tibi: quod iubes, coleris:
To-be-obeyed is-it for-you: what you-order, you-will-be-courted:
sed si te colo, Sexte, non amabo.
but if you I-court, Sextus, not I-shall-love.

56 Gentibus in Libycis uxor tua, Galle, male audit
The-races in Libyan wife your, Gallus, badly is-spoken-of
immodicae foedo crimine avaritiae.
for-immoderate foul the-charge greed.
Sed mera narrantur mendacia: non solet illa
But mere are-told lies: not is-wont she
accipere omnino. Quid solet ergo? Dare.
to-receive at-all. What is-she-wont then? To-give.

57 Hic quem videtis gressibus vagis lentum,
This-one whom you-see with-steps roving slow,
amethystinatus media qui secat Saepta,
violet-clad the-middle who cuts Saepta,
quem non lacernis Publius meus vincit,
whom not in-cloaks Publius my outdoes,
non ipse Cordus alpha paenulatorum,
not himself Cordus the-alpha of-the-cloaked,
quem grex togatus sequitur et capillatus
whom a-flock toga-clad follows and long-haired
recensque sella linteisque lorisque:
and-fresh with-a-chair and-curtains and-straps:

oppigneravit modo modo ad Cladi mensam
has-pawned just just at Cladus' counter
vix octo nummis anulum, unde cenaret.
for-scarcely eight coins his-ring, whence he-might-dine.

EPIGRAMS 58–77

Zoilus mocks Martial's worn clothes, which are at least his own. The dining room Mica bids its guests remember death. A barbed tongue was cleaner when it sucked. Labienus plucks himself for his girl, and his backside for someone else. Laurus, wavering between pleading and rhetoric, is urged to begin before he can be nothing. Saleianus mourns the rich wife who brought a million, and Lalage strikes her maid with the mirror for one stray curl. Postumus always asks what Martial is doing. Martial, no longer needing a patron, calls Olus by name. Classicus claims to dine out against his will, and Caecilianus recites Marsus and Catullus beside Martial's couplets. A tame lion kills two boys in the arena, and Cosconius finds the epigrams long.

Pexatus pulchre rides mea, Zoile, trita. 58
Nap-combed handsomely you-laugh-at my, Zoilus, worn-things.
Sunt haec trita quidem, Zoile, sed mea sunt.
Are these worn indeed, Zoilus, but mine they-are.

Mica vocor: quid sim cernis, cenatio parva: 59
Mica I-am-called: what I-am you-see, a-dining-room small:
ex me Caesareum prospicis ecce tholum.
from me Caesar's you-look-out-on behold the-dome.
Frange toros, pete vina, rosas cape, tinguere nardo:
Break the-couches, seek wines, roses take, be-dyed with-nard:
ipse iubet mortis te meminisse deus.
himself orders of-death you to-remember the-god.

61 Cum tibi vernarent dubia lanugine malae,
When to-you were-blooming with-doubtful down cheeks,
lambebat medios inproba lingua viros.
licked the-middles shameless your-tongue of-men.
Postquam triste caput fastidia vispillonum
After your-sad head the-disgust of-undertakers
et miseri meruit taedia carnificis,
and of-the-wretched earned the-loathing executioner,
uteris ore aliter nimiaque aerugine captus
you-use your-mouth otherwise and-with-excessive envy seized
adlatras nomen quod tibi cumque datur.
you-bark-at the-name which to-you whatever is-given.
Haereat inguinibus potius tam noxia lingua:
Let-it-cling to-groins rather so harmful a-tongue:
nam cum fellaret, purior illa fuit.
for when it-was-sucking, purer it was.

62 Quod pectus, quod crura tibi, quod bracchia vellis,
That your-breast, that your-legs for-you, that your-arms you-pluck,
quod cincta est brevibus mentula tonsa pilis:
that girt is with-short your-prick shorn hairs:
hoc praestas, Labiene, tuae — quis nescit? — amicae.
this you-provide, Labienus, for-your —who knows-not? —girlfriend.
Cui praestas, culum quod, Labiene, pilas?
For-whom you-provide, your-arse that, Labienus, you-depilate?

63

Sola tibi fuerant sestertia, Miliche, centum,
Only to-you there-had-been thousands, Milichus, a-hundred,
quae tulit e sacra Leda redempta via.
which took from the-Sacred Leda bought Way.
Miliche, luxuria est, si tanti dives amares.
Milichus, extravagance it-is, if at-such-a-price rich you-loved.
'Non amo' iam dices: haec quoque luxuria est.
'Not I-love' now you-will-say: this also extravagance is.

64

Dum modo causidicum, dum te modo rhetora fingis
While now a-pleader, while you now an-orator you-feign
et non decernis, Laure, quid esse velis,
and not you-decide, Laurus, what to-be you-wish,
Peleos et Priami transît et Nestoris aetas
of-Peleus and of-Priam has-passed and of-Nestor the-age
et fuerat serum iam tibi desinere.
and it-had-been late already for-you to-stop.
Incipe, tres uno perierunt rhetores anno,
Begin, three in-one have-perished orators year,
si quid habes animi, si quid in arte vales.
if any you-have of-spirit, if anything in art you-avail.
Si schola damnatur, fora litibus omnia fervent,
If the-school is-condemned, the-forums with-lawsuits all seethe,
ipse potest fieri Marsua causidicus.
himself can become Marsyas a-pleader.
Heia age, rumpe moras: quo te sperabimus usque?
Come on, burst delays: how-long you shall-we-hope till?
Dum quid sis dubitas, iam potes esse nihil.
While what you-are you-doubt, now you-can be nothing.

65 Cur tristiorem cernimus Saleianum?
Why sadder do-we-see Saleianus?
'An causa levis est?' inquis, 'extuli uxorem.'
'Or a-cause light is-it?' you-say, 'I-have-buried my-wife.'
O grande fati crimen! o gravem casum!
O great of-fate crime! O heavy chance!
Illa, illa dives mortua est Secundilla,
She, she rich died has Secundilla,
centena decies quae tibi dedit dotis?
a-hundred ten-times who to-you gave of-dowry?
Nollem accidisset hoc tibi, Saleiane.
I-would-not-wish it-had-happened this to-you, Saleianus.

66 Unus de toto peccaverat orbe comarum
One from the-whole had-erred circle of-the-hair
anulus, incerta non bene fixus acu.
a-curl, by-uncertain not well fixed pin.
Hoc facinus Lalage speculo, quo viderat, ulta est,
This crime Lalage with-the-mirror, in-which she-had-seen, avenged has,
et cecidit saevis icta Plecusa comis.
and fell by-the-savage struck Plecusa locks.
Desine iam, Lalage, tristes ornare capillos,
Cease now, Lalage, gloomy to-adorn hair,
tangat et insanum nulla puella caput.
let-touch and the-mad no girl head.
Hoc salamandra notet vel saeva novacula nudet,
It salamander let-mark or savage razor let-bare,
ut digna speculo fiat imago tua.
that worthy of-the-mirror may-become image your.

Occurris quocumque loco mihi, Postume, clamas 67
You-meet in-whatever place me, Postumus, you-shout
protinus et prima est haec tua vox 'Quid agis?'
at-once and the-first is this your word 'What are-you-doing?'
Hoc, si me decies una conveneris hora,
This, if me ten-times in-one you-have-met hour,
dicis: habes puto tu, Postume, nil quod agas.
you-say: you-have I-think you, Postumus, nothing which you-may-do.

Quod te nomine iam tuo saluto, 68
That you by-name now your-own I-greet,
quem regem et dominum prius vocabam,
whom patron and lord before I-used-to-call,
ne me dixeris esse contumacem:
lest me you-call to-be insolent:
totis pillea sarcinis redemi.
with-whole caps baggage I-have-bought.
Reges et dominos habere debet,
Patrons and lords to-have he-ought,
qui se non habet atque concupiscit
who himself not has and covets
quod reges dominique concupiscunt.
what patrons and-lords covet.
Servom si potes, Ole, non habere,
A-slave if you-can, Olus, not have,
et regem potes, Ole, non habere.
also a-patron you-can, Olus, not have.

69 Invitum cenare foris te, Classice, dicis:
Unwilling to-dine out you, Classicus, say:
si non mentiris, Classice, dispeream.
if not you-lie, Classicus, may-I-perish.
Ipse quoque ad cenam gaudebat Apicius ire:
Himself also to dinner was-glad Apicius to-go:
cum cenaret, erat tristior ille, domi.
when he-dined, was gloomier he, at-home.
Si tamen invitus vadis, cur, Classice, vadis?
If yet unwilling you-go, why, Classicus, do-you-go?
'Cogor' ais: verum est; cogitur et Selius.
'I-am-forced' you-say: true it-is; is-forced also Selius.
En rogat ad cenam Melior te, Classice, rectam.
Look invites to dinner Melior you, Classicus, proper.
Grandia verba ubi sunt? si vir es, ecce, nega.
The-grand words where are? if a-man you-are, behold, refuse.

70 Non vis in solio prius lavari
Not you-wish in the-tub before to-bathe
quemquam, Cotile: causa quae, nisi haec est,
anyone, Cotilus: a-cause what, unless this is,
undis ne fovearis irrumatis?
with-waves lest you-be-warmed face-fucked?
Primus te licet abluas: necesse est
First you though may-wash: necessary it-is
ante hic mentula, quam caput, lavetur.
before here the-prick, than the-head, be-washed.

Candidius nihil est te, Caeciliane. Notavi: 71
More-candid nothing is than-you, Caecilianus. I-have-noted:
si quando ex nostris disticha pauca lego,
if ever from our distichs a-few I-read,
protinus aut Marsi recitas aut scripta Catulli.
at-once either of-Marsus you-recite or the-writings of-Catullus.
Hoc mihi das, tamquam deteriora legas,
This to-me you-grant, as-though worse you-read,
ut conlata magis placeant mea? Credimus istud:
that compared more may-please mine? We-believe that:
malo tamen recites, Caeciliane, tua.
I-prefer yet you-recite, Caecilianus, your-own.

Hesterna factum narratur, Postume, cena 72
At-yesterday's done is-told, Postumus, dinner
quod nollem — quis enim talia facta probet? —
what I-would-not-wish —who for such deeds would-approve?—
os tibi percisum quanto non ipse Latinus
the-mouth for-you slapped with-as-loud-a not himself Latinus
vilia Panniculi percutit ora sono:
the-cheap of-Panniculus strikes face sound:
quodque magis mirum est, auctorem criminis huius
and-what more wondrous is, the-author of-the-crime this
Caecilium tota rumor in urbe sonat.
Caecilius whole the-rumor in the-city sounds.
Esse negas factum: vis hoc me credere? credo.
To-be you-deny done: you-wish this me to-believe? I-believe.
Quid, quod habet testes, Postume, Caecilius?
What, that has witnesses, Postumus, Caecilius?

73 Quid faciat volt scire Lyris: quod sobria: fellat.
What she-may-do she-wishes to-know Lyris: what sober: she-sucks.

74 Cinctum togatis post et ante Saufeium,
Girt by-toga-clad-men behind and before Saufeius,
quanta reduci Regulus solet turba,
as-great-as when-led-back Regulus is-wont a-crowd,
ad alta tonsum templa cum reum misit,
to the-high shorn temples when the-defendant he-has-sent,
Materne, cernis? invidere nolito.
Maternus, you-see? to-envy do-not-wish.
Comitatus iste sit precor tuus numquam.
The-retinue that be I-pray your never.
Hos illi amicos et greges togatorum
These to-him friends and flocks of-toga-clad-men
Fuficulenus praestat et Faventinus.
Fuficulenus provides and Faventinus.

75 Verbera securi solitus leo ferre magistri
Blows of-carefree accustomed the-lion to-bear trainer
insertamque pati blandus in ora manum
and-inserted to-suffer coaxing into his-mouth the-hand
dedidicit pacem subito feritate reversa,
unlearned peace suddenly with-wildness returned,
quanta nec in Libycis debuit esse iugis.
as-great-as not-even on Libyan ought to-have-been ridges.

Nam duo de tenera puerilia corpora turba,
For two from the-tender boyish bodies crowd,
sanguineam rastris quae renovabat humum,
the-bloody with-rakes which was-renewing ground,
saevos et infelix furiali dente peremit:
savage and unhappy with-furious tooth destroyed:
Martia non vidit maius harena nefas.
Martian not saw greater arena horror.
Exclamare libet: 'crudelis, perfide, praedo,
To-cry-out it-pleases: 'cruel, treacherous, robber,
a nostra pueris parcere disce lupa!'
from our the-boys to-spare learn wolf!'

Argenti libras Marius tibi quinque reliquit, 76
Of-silver pounds Marius to-you five left,
cui nihil ipse dabas: hic tibi verba dedit?
to-whom nothing yourself you-gave: he to-you words gave?

Cosconi, qui longa putas epigrammata nostra, 77
Cosconius, who long think epigrams our,
utilis unguendis axibus esse potes.
useful for-greasing axles to-be you-can.
Hac tu credideris longum ratione colosson
By-this you would-have-believed long reasoning the-colossus
et puerum Bruti dixeris esse brevem.
and the-boy of-Brutus you-would-have-said to-be short.

Disce quod ignoras: Marsi doctique Pedonis
Learn what you-know-not: of-Marsus and-learned Pedo
saepe duplex unum pagina tractat opus.
often double one page handles work.
Non sunt longa quibus nihil est quod demere possis
Not are long from-which nothing is which to-take-away you-can
sed tu, Cosconi, disticha longa facis.
but you, Cosconius, distichs long make.

EPIGRAMS 78–93

Caecilianus may keep his fish cool in his own baths. Nasica invites Martial only when he knows he is engaged. Fannius killed himself to escape the enemy. Zoilus' grand litter is a pauper's bier. Ponticus, who crucifies a slave with his tongue cut out, is told the people say what the slave cannot. Martial will not write in reversed verse or imitate Attis' galliambics, since hard trifles are foolish labor. Sextus, with the face of a man swimming under water, thinks the girls burn for him; Mamercus wants to be a poet and recites nothing. Quintilian is told Martial hastens to live poor and content. Martial thanks Caesar for the right of three children, so his wife may go, and Regulus is told this second book is the more modest.

78 Aestivo serves ubi piscem tempore, quaeris?
In-summer you-may-keep where the-fish time, you-ask?
In thermis serva, Caeciliane, tuis.
In baths keep-it, Caecilianus, your.

79 Invitas tunc me, cum scis, Nasica, vocasse.
You-invite then me, when you-know, Nasica, to-have-invited.
Excusatum habeas me rogo: ceno domi.
Excused hold me I-ask: I-dine at-home.

Hostem cum fugeret, se Fannius ipse peremit. 80
The-enemy when he-was-fleeing, himself Fannius himself destroyed.
Hic, rogo, non furor est, ne moriare, mori?
This, I-ask, not madness is-it, lest you-die, to-die?

Laxior hexaphoris tua sit lectica licebit: 81
Roomier than-a-six-bearer your may-be litter it-will-be-allowed:
cum tamen haec tua sit, Zoile, sandapila est.
since yet this yours is, Zoilus, a-pauper's-bier it-is.

Abscisa servom quid figis, Pontice, lingua? 82
With-cut-out the-slave why do-you-crucify, Ponticus, tongue?
Nescis tu populum, quod tacet ille, loqui?
You-know-not you the-people, what is-silent he, to-speak?

Foedasti miserum, marite, moechum, 83
You-have-disfigured the-wretched, husband, adulterer,
et se, qui fuerant prius, requirunt
and themselves, who had-been before, seek
trunci naribus auribusque voltus.
docked of-nostrils and-ears his-face.
Credis te satis esse vindicatum?
You-believe yourself enough to-be avenged?
Erras: iste potest et irrumare.
You-err: he can also face-fuck.

84 Mollis erat facilisque viris Poeantius heros:
Soft was and-easy to-men the-Poeantian hero:
vulnera sic Paridis dicitur ulta Venus.
the-wounds so of-Paris is-said avenged Venus.
Cur lingat cunnum Siculus Sertorius, hoc est:
Why licks cunt Sicilian Sertorius, this is-it:
† ab hoc occisus, Rufe, videtur Eryx.
(corrupt) by him killed, Rufus, seems Eryx.

85 Vimine clausa levi niveae custodia coctae,
By-wicker shut light of-snowy the-keeping boiled-water,
hoc tibi Saturni tempore munus erit.
this to-you of-Saturn at-the-time gift will-be.
Dona quod aestatis misi tibi mense Decembri,
Gifts that of-summer I-have-sent to-you in-the-month December,
si quereris, rasam tu mihi mitte togam.
if you-complain, a-shaven you to-me send toga.

86 Quod nec carmine glorior supino
That neither in-a-poem I-glory supine
nec retro lego Sotaden cinaedum,
nor backward read Sotades the-catamite,
nusquam Graecula quod recantat echo
nowhere Greekling that sings-back echo
nec dictat mihi luculentus Attis
nor dictates to-me splendid Attis
mollem debilitate galliambon:
soft with-weakness galliambic:

non sum, Classice, tam malus poeta.
not I-am, Classicus, so bad a-poet.
Quid si per gracilis vias petauri
What if through slender the-ways of-the-springboard
invitum iubeas subire Ladan?
unwilling you-should-order to-go Ladas?
Turpe est difficiles habere nugas
Shameful it-is difficult to-have trifles
et stultus labor est ineptiarum.
and foolish the-labor is of-absurdities.
Scribat carmina circulis Palaemon,
Let-write poems for-circles Palaemon,
me raris iuvat auribus placere.
me with-rare it-pleases ears to-please.

Dicis amore tui bellas ardere puellas, 87
You-say with-love of-you pretty to-burn girls,
qui faciem sub aqua, Sexte, natantis habes.
you-who the-face under water, Sextus, of-one-swimming have.

Nil recitas et vis, Mamerce, poeta videri. 88
Nothing you-recite and you-wish, Mamercus, a-poet to-seem.
Quidquid vis esto, dummodo nil recites.
Whatever you-wish be, provided-that nothing you-recite.

89 Quod nimio gaudes noctem producere vino,
That with-excessive you-rejoice night to-prolong wine,
ignosco: vitium, Gaure, Catonis habes.
I-pardon-it: the-vice, Gaurus, of-Cato you-have.
Carmina quod scribis Musis et Apolline nullo,
Poems that you-write with-Muses and Apollo none,
laudari debes: hoc Ciceronis habes:
to-be-praised you-ought: this of-Cicero you-have:
quod vomis, Antoni: quod luxuriaris, Apici.
that you-vomit, of-Antony: that you-riot, of-Apicius.
Quod fellas, vitium dic mihi cuius habes?
That you-suck, the-vice tell me whose you-have?

90 Quintiliane, vagae moderator summe iuventae,
Quintilian, of-roving guide supreme youth,
gloria Romanae, Quintiliane, togae,
glory of-the-Roman, Quintilian, toga,
vivere quod propero pauper nec inutilis annis,
to-live that I-hurry poor nor useless in-years,
da veniam: properat vivere nemo satis.
grant pardon: hurries to-live no-one enough.
Differat hoc, patrios optat qui vincere census
Let-him-put-off this, his-father's wishes who to-surpass wealth
atriaque inmodicis artat imaginibus.
and-the-halls with-immoderate crowds portraits.
Me focus et nigros non indignantia fumos
Me a-hearth and black not resenting smoke
tecta iuvant et fons vivos et herba rudis.
roofs please and a-spring living and grass rough.

Sit mihi verna satur, sit non doctissima coniunx,
Let-be for-me a-home-born-slave well-fed, let-be not most-learned a-wife,
sit nox cum somno, sit sine lite dies.
let-be night with sleep, let-be without lawsuit the-day.

91

Rerum certa salus, terrarum gloria, Caesar,
Of-the-world sure safety, of-the-lands glory, Caesar,
sospite quo magnos credimus esse deos,
safe whom great we-believe to-be the-gods,
si festinatis totiens tibi lecta libellis
if in-hurried so-often by-you read little-books
detinuere oculos carmina nostra tuos,
have-held eyes poems our your,
quod fortuna vetat fieri, permitte videri,
what fortune forbids to-happen, allow to-seem,
natorum genitor credar ut esse trium.
of-children the-father may-I-be-believed that to-be three.
Haec, si displicui, fuerint solacia nobis;
These, if I-have-displeased, will-be consolations to-us;
haec fuerint nobis praemia, si placui.
these will-be to-us rewards, if I-have-pleased.

92 Natorum mihi ius trium roganti
Of-children to-me the-right three asking
Musarum pretium dedit mearum
of-Muses the-reward has-given my
solus qui poterat. Valebis, uxor.
alone who could. Farewell, wife.
Non debet domini perire munus.
Not ought of-the-lord to-perish the-gift.

93 'Primus ubi est' inquis 'cum sit liber iste secundus?'
'The-first where is-it' you-say 'when is book this second?'
Quid faciam, si plus ille pudoris habet?
What shall-I-do, if more he of-shame has?
Tu tamen hunc fieri si mavis, Regule, primum,
You yet this to-become if you-prefer, Regulus, the-first,
unum de titulo tollere iota potes.
one from the-title to-remove iota you-can.

BOOK III

EPIGRAMS 1–20

The book comes from Cisalpine Gaul, and Martial grants that a book born in Rome should beat it. It is told to seek Faustinus' protection against the kitchen, and sent to Rome with answers for anyone who asks where its poet is: at Forum Cornelii, weary of the toga's empty round. Julius is the one friend it needs. Marcellinus' first beard, offered on his father's birthday, is that day's best gift to the father. The dole of a hundred coins is withdrawn. Quintus loves one-eyed Thais, and Cinna writes verses no one reads. Philomusus' father disinherited him by leaving him all. Fabullus gives perfume and no food. A viper in a bronze bear kills the boy Hylas. The Muse is asked what Canius Rufus is doing, and he is laughing.

Hoc tibi quidquid id est longinquis mittit ob oris 1
This to-you whatever it is from-distant sends on-account-of shores
Gallia Romanae nomine dicta togae.
Gaul of-the-Roman by-the-name called toga.
Hunc legis et laudas librum fortasse priorem:
This you-read and praise book perhaps the-earlier:
illa vel haec mea sunt, quae meliora putas.
that or this mine are, which better you-think.
Plus sane placeat domina qui natus in urbe est:
More doubtless let-please the-mistress which born in the-city is:
debet enim Gallum vincere verna liber.
ought for a-Gaul to-beat a-home-born book.

Cuius vis fieri, libelle, munus? 2
Whose do-you-wish to-become, little-book, gift?
Festina tibi vindicem parare,
Hurry for-yourself a-champion to-procure,

ne nigram cito raptus in culinam
lest to-the-black quickly snatched into the-kitchen
cordylas madida tegas papyro
tunnies with-soaked you-should-cover papyrus
vel turis piperisve sis cucullus.
or for-incense or-pepper you-should-be a-cone.
Faustini fugis in sinum? sapisti.
Faustinus' do-you-flee into fold? you-have-been-wise.
Cedro nunc licet ambules perunctus
With-cedar now you-may walk anointed
et frontis gemino decens honore
and of-your-brow with-twin handsome honor
pictis luxurieris umbilicis,
with-painted you-may-luxuriate knobs,
et te purpura delicata velet,
and you purple delicate may-veil,
et cocco rubeat superbus index.
and with-scarlet may-blush proud your-title.
Illo vindice nec Probum timeto.
With-that champion not-even Probus fear.

3 [Formonsam faciem nigro medicamine celas,
[*Beautiful your-face with-black ointment you-hide,*
sed non formonso corpore laedis aquas.
but not with-beautiful body you-wrong the-waters.
Ipsam crede deam verbis tibi dicere nostris:
Herself believe the-goddess in-words to-you to-say our:
'Aut aperi faciem, aut tunicata lava.']
'Either uncover your-face, or in-your-tunic bathe.']

Romam vade, liber: si, veneris unde, requiret, 4
To-Rome go, book: if, you-come whence, he-will-ask,
Aemiliae dices de regione viae.
of-the-Aemilian you-will-say from the-region Way.
Si, quibus in terris, qua simus in urbe, rogabit,
If, what in lands, where we-are in the-city, he-will-ask,
Corneli referas me licet esse Foro.
of-Cornelius you-may-report me it-is-allowed to-be at-the-Forum.
Cur absim, quaeret: breviter tu multa fatere:
Why I-am-away, he-will-ask: briefly you many-things confess:
'Non poterat vanae taedia ferre togae.'
'Not he-could of-the-empty the-tedium bear toga.'
'Quando venit?' dicet: tu respondeto: 'Poeta
'When does-he-come?' he-will-say: you answer: 'A-poet
exierat: veniet, cum citharoedus erit.'
he-had-left: he-will-come, when a-lyre-player he-will-be.'

Vis commendari sine me cursurus in urbem, 5
Do-you-wish to-be-commended without me about-to-run into the-city,
parve liber, multis, an satis unus erit?
little book, to-many, or enough one will-be?
Unus erit, mihi crede, satis, cui non eris hospes,
One will-be, me believe, enough, to-whom not you-will-be a-stranger,
Iulius, assiduum nomen in ore meo.
Julius, constant a-name in mouth my.
Protinus hunc primae quaeres in limine Tectae:
At-once him of-the-first you-will-seek at the-threshold of-the-Roofed-Way:
quos tenuit Daphnis, nunc tenet ille lares.
which held Daphnis, now holds he household-gods.

Est illi coniunx, quae te manibusque sinuque
There-is to-him a-wife, who you both-with-hands and-with-fold
excipiet, tu vel pulverulentus eas.
will-receive, you even dusty may-go.
Hos tu seu pariter sive hanc illumve priorem
These you whether equally or her or-him first
videris, hoc dices 'Marcus havere iubet,'
shall-see, this you-will-say 'Marcus to-be-well bids,'
et satis est: alios commendet epistula: peccat
and enough it-is: others let-commend a-letter: he-errs
qui commendandum se putat esse suis.
who to-be-commended himself thinks to-be to-his-own.

6 Lux tibi post Idus numeratur tertia Maias,
The-light for-you after the-Ides is-counted third of-May,
Marcelline, tuis bis celebranda sacris.
Marcellinus, by-your twice to-be-celebrated rites.
Inputat aetherios ortus haec prima parenti,
Credits heavenly the-rising this the-first to-your-father,
libat florentes haec tibi prima genas.
offers flowering this for-you first cheeks.
Magna licet dederit iucundae munera vitae,
Great though it-may-have-given of-pleasant the-gifts life,
plus numquam patri praestitit ille dies.
more never for-the-father provided that day.

Centum miselli iam valete quadrantes, 7
Hundred little now farewell farthings,
anteambulonis congiarium lassi,
of-the-walker-before the-largess weary,
quos dividebat balneator elixus.
which used-to-distribute the-bath-keeper boiled.
Quid cogitatis, o fames amicorum?
What are-you-thinking, O hunger of-friends?
Regis superbi sportulae recesserunt.
Of-the-patron proud the-doles have-withdrawn.
'Nihil stropharum est: iam salarium dandum est.'
'Nothing of-tricks is-there: now salary to-be-given is.'

'Thaïda Quintus amat.' Quam Thaïda? 'Thaïda luscam.' 8
'Thais Quintus loves.' Which Thais? 'Thais the-one-eyed.'
Unum oculum Thaïs non habet, ille duos.
One eye Thais not has, he two.

Versiculos in me narratur scribere Cinna. 9
Little-verses against me is-reported to-write Cinna.
Non scribit, cuius carmina nemo legit.
Not he-writes, whose poems no-one reads.

10 Constituit, Philomuse, pater tibi milia bina
Established, Philomusus, your-father for-you thousands two
menstrua perque omnis praestitit illa dies,
monthly and-through all he-provided them days,
luxuriam premeret cum crastina semper egestas
extravagance pressed since tomorrow's always need
et vitiis essent danda diurna tuis.
and to-vices were to-be-given daily your.
Idem te moriens heredem ex asse reliquit.
The-same you dying heir to the-whole left.
Exheredavit te, Philomuse, pater.
He-has-disinherited you, Philomusus, your-father.

11 Si tua nec Thaïs nec lusca est, Quinte, puella,
If your neither Thais nor one-eyed is, Quintus, girl,
cur in te factum distichon esse putas?
why against you made the-distich to-be do-you-think?
Sed similest aliquid: pro Laide Thaïda dixi.
But like-there-is something: instead-of Lais Thais I-said.
Dic mihi, quid simile est Thaïs et Hermione?
Tell me, what like is Thais and Hermione?
Tu tamen es Quintus: mutemus nomen amantis:
You yet are Quintus: let-us-change the-name of-the-lover:
si non vult Quintus, Thaïda Sextus amet.
if not wishes Quintus, Thais let-Sextus love.

Unguentum, fateor, bonum dedisti 12
Perfume, I-confess, good you-gave
convivis here, sed nihil scidisti.
to-the-guests yesterday, but nothing you-carved.
Res salsa est bene olere et esurire.
A-thing salty it-is well to-smell and to-hunger.
Qui non cenat et unguitur, Fabulle,
Who not dines and is-anointed, Fabullus,
hic vere mihi mortuus videtur.
he truly to-me dead seems.

Dum non vis pisces, dum non vis carpere pullos 13
While not you-wish fishes, while not you-wish to-carve chickens
et plus quam patri, Naevia, parcis apro,
and more than a-father, Naevia, you-spare the-boar,
accusas rumpisque cocum, tamquam omnia cruda
you-accuse and-burst the-cook, as-though everything raw
attulerit. Numquam sic ego crudus ero.
he-had-brought. Never so I indigestion-sick shall-be.

Romam petebat esuritor Tuccius 14
Rome was-seeking a-starveling Tuccius
profectus ex Hispania.
having-set-out from Spain.
Occurrit illi sportularum fabula:
Met him of-the-doles the-story:
a ponte rediit Mulvio.
from the-bridge he-returned Mulvian.

15 Plus credit nemo tota quam Cordus in urbe.
More trusts no-one whole than Cordus in the-city.
'Cum sit tam pauper, quomodo?' Caecus amat.
'Since he-is so poor, how?' Blind he-loves.

16 Das gladiatores, sutorum regule, Cerdo,
You-give gladiators, of-cobblers princeling, Cerdo,
quodque tibi tribuit subula, sica rapit.
and-what to-you granted the-awl, the-dagger snatches.
Ebrius es: neque enim faceres hoc sobrius umquam,
Drunk you-are: nor for would-you-do this sober ever,
ut velles corio ludere, Cerdo, tuo.
that you-should-wish with-hide to-play, Cerdo, your-own.
Lusisti corio: sed te, mihi crede, memento
You-have-played with-hide: but you, me believe, remember
nunc in pellicula, Cerdo, tenere tua.
now in a-little-skin, Cerdo, to-keep your-own.

17 Circumlata diu mensis scribilita secundis
Carried-round long at-the-courses a-cheesecake second
urebat nimio saeva calore manus;
burned with-excessive savage heat the-hands;
sed magis ardebat Sabidi gula: protinus ergo
but more burned Sabidius' gullet: at-once therefore
sufflavit buccis terque quaterque suis.
he-blew with-cheeks three-times and-four-times his-own.

Illa quidem tepuit digitosque admittere visa est,
It indeed cooled and-the-fingers to-admit seemed has,
sed nemo potuit tangere: merda fuit.
but no-one could touch: shit it-was.

Perfrixisse tuas questa est praefatio fauces. 18
To-have-caught-cold your complained has the-preface throat.
Cum te excusaris, Maxime, quid recitas?
Since yourself you-have-excused, Maximus, why do-you-recite?

Proxima centenis ostenditur ursa columnis, 19
Next to-the-hundred is-shown a-bear columns,
exornant fictae qua platanona ferae.
adorn feigned where the-plane-grove beasts.
Huius dum patulos adludens temptat hiatus
Of-it while the-gaping playing he-tries jaws
pulcher Hylas, teneram mersit in ora manum.
handsome Hylas, tender thrust into the-mouth hand.
Vipera sed caeco scelerata latebat in aere
A-viper but the-blind wicked lurked in the-bronze
vivebatque anima deteriore fera.
and-lived with-a-soul worse than-the-beast.
Non sensit puer esse dolos, nisi dente recepto,
Not perceived the-boy to-be guile, except the-tooth received,
dum perit. O facinus, falsa quod ursa fuit!
while he-perishes. O crime, false that the-bear was!

Dic, Musa, quid agat Canius meus Rufus:
Tell, Muse, what is-doing Canius my Rufus:
utrumne chartis tradit ille victuris
whether to-pages hands-on he about-to-live
legenda temporum acta Claudianorum?
to-be-read of-times the-deeds Claudian?
An quae Neroni falsus astruit scriptor?
Or what to-Nero a-false heaped-up writer?
An aemulatur inprobi λόγους Phaedri?
Or does-he-emulate of-shameless the-tales Phaedrus?
Lascivus elegis an severus herois?
Wanton in-elegies or stern in-heroic-verse?
An in coturnis horridus Sophocleis?
Or in buskins rugged Sophoclean?
An otiosus in schola poetarum
Or at-leisure in the-school of-the-poets
lepore tinctos Attico sales narrat?
with-wit dyed Attic witticisms tells?
Hinc si recessit, porticum terit †templi
Hence if he-has-withdrawn, the-colonnade he-wears of-the-temple
an spatia carpit lentus Argonautarum?
or the-spaces plucks slow of-the-Argonauts?
An delicatae sole rursus Europae
Or of-delicate in-the-sun again Europa
inter tepentes post meridie buxos
among warm after noon box-trees
sedet ambulatve liber acribus curis?
sits or-walks free from-sharp cares?

Titine thermis an lavatur Agrippae
in-Titus's baths or does-he-bathe in-Agrippa's
an inpudici balneo Tigillini?
or of-shameless in-the-bath Tigellinus?
An rure Tulli fruitur atque Lucani?
Or the-farm of-Tullus does-he-enjoy and of-Lucanus?
An Pollionis dulce currit ad quartum?
Or Pollio's sweetly runs to the-fourth?
An aestuantis iam profectus ad Baias
Or of-the-sweltering already set-out to Baiae
piger Lucrino nauculatur in stagno?
lazy on-the-Lucrine is-boating in the-pool?
'Vis scire quid agat Canius tuus? Ridet.'
'Do-you-wish to-know what does Canius your? He-laughs.'

EPIGRAMS 21–44

A branded slave saved his proscribed master, out of spite. Apicius poisoned himself with ten million left. A rustic sacrificing a goat cuts off the soothsayer's rupture, making a Gaul of the Tuscan. Sabineius the rhetorician would chill Nero's baths. Candidus has everything to himself but his wife. Gallus never invites Martial back. Martial prefers a freeborn girl, then a freedwoman, then a slave, if her face is freeborn. Phidias' fishes would swim given water. Fabianus asks of an old friend the service of a new one. Sextus comes to Rome to plead or write poems and is told he can live there only by luck. Laetinus dyes his hair, and Ligurinus reads his verses everywhere to everyone.

21

Proscriptum famulus servavit fronte notatus.
The-proscribed-man a-slave saved on-the-forehead branded.
Non fuit haec domini vita, sed invidia.
Not was this of-the-master life, but hatred.

22 Dederas, Apici, bis trecenties ventri,
You-had-given, Apicius, twice thirty-million to-your-belly,
et adhuc supererat centies tibi laxum.
and still there-remained ten-million to-you ample.
Hoc tu gravatus ut famem et sitim ferre
This you weighed-down as-if hunger and thirst to-bear
summa venenum potione perduxti.
in-a-last poison draft you-drained.
Nihil est, Apici, tibi gulosius factum.
Nothing has-been, Apicius, by-you more-gluttonous done.

23 Omnia cum retro pueris obsonia tradas,
All-things since behind to-the-boys the-dainties you-hand,
cur non mensa tibi ponitur a pedibus?
why not the-table for-you is-laid at the-feet?

24 Vite nocens rosa stabat moriturus ad aras
To-the-vine harmful gnawed stood about-to-die at the-altars
hircus, Bacche, tuis victima grata focis.
a-he-goat, Bacchus, at-your a-victim welcome hearths.
Quem Tuscus mactare deo cum vellet haruspex,
Whom a-Tuscan to-sacrifice to-the-god when wished the-soothsayer,
dixerat agresti forte rudique viro,
had-told rustic by-chance and-rough to-a-man,
ut cito testiculos et acuta falce secaret,
that quickly the-testicles also sharp with-a-sickle he-should-cut,
taeter ut immundae carnis abiret odor.
the-foul that of-unclean flesh might-depart smell.

Ipse super virides aras luctantia pronus
Himself over the-green altars the-struggling bent-forward
dum resecat cultro colla premitque manu,
while he-cuts with-the-knife the-neck and-presses with-his-hand,
ingens iratis apparuit hirnea sacris.
a-huge to-the-angry appeared rupture to-the-rites.
Occupat hanc ferro rusticus atque secat,
Seizes this with-the-iron the-rustic and cuts,
hoc ratus antiquos sacrorum poscere ritus
this thinking the-ancient of-the-rites to-demand customs
talibus et fibris numina prisca coli.
such and by-entrails the-divinities ancient to-be-worshiped.
Sic, modo qui Tuscus fueras, nunc Gallus haruspex,
Thus, lately who a-Tuscan you-had-been, now a-Gaul soothsayer,
dum iugulas hircum, factus es ipse caper.
while you-cut-the-throat-of the-goat, made you-have-been yourself a-gelding.

Si temperari balneum cupis fervens, 25
If to-be-tempered the-bath you-desire boiling,
Faustine, quod vix Iulianus intraret,
Faustinus, which hardly Julianus would-enter,
roga, lavetur, rhetorem Sabineium.
ask, him-to-bathe, the-rhetorician Sabineius.
Neronianas is refrigerat thermas.
the-Neronian he chills baths.

26 Praedia solus habes et solus, Candide, nummos,
Estates alone you-have and alone, Candidus, coins,
aurea solus habes, murrina solus habes,
gold alone you-have, myrrhine alone you-have,
Massica solus habes et Opimi Caecuba solus,
Massic alone you-have and of-Opimius Caecuban alone,
et cor solus habes, solus et ingenium.
and wits alone you-have, alone and genius.
Omnia solus habes — hoc me puta velle negare! —
All-things alone you-have —this me think to-wish to-deny!—
uxorem sed habes, Candide, cum populo.
a-wife but you-have, Candidus, with the-people.

27 Numquam me revocas, venias cum saepe vocatus:
Never me you-invite, you-come though often invited:
ignosco, nullum si modo, Galle, vocas.
I-forgive, none if only, Gallus, you-invite.
Invitas alios: vitium est utriusque. 'Quod?' inquis.
You-invite others: a-fault it-is of-each. 'What?' you-say.
Et mihi cor non est, et tibi, Galle, pudor.
And to-me sense not is, and to-you, Gallus, shame.

28 Auriculam Mario graviter miraris olere.
The-ear Marius' badly you-wonder to-smell.
Tu facis hoc: garris, Nestor, in auriculam.
You do this: you-chatter, Nestor, into his-ear.

29

Has cum gemina compede dedicat catenas,
These with twin fetters he-dedicates the-chains,
Saturne, tibi Zoilus, anulos priores.
Saturn, to-you Zoilus, the-rings former.

30

Sportula nulla datur; gratis conviva recumbis:
Dole none is-given; free a-guest you-recline:
dic mihi, quid Romae, Gargiliane, facis?
tell me, what at-Rome, Gargilianus, do-you-do?
Unde tibi togula est et fuscae pensio cellae?
Whence to-you a-little-toga is and of-dark the-rent cell?
Unde datur quadrans? unde vir es Chiones?
Whence is-given a-farthing? whence husband are-you of-Chione?
Cum ratione licet dicas te vivere summa,
With reason though you-may-say you to-live highest,
quod vivis, nulla cum ratione facis.
that you-live, no with reason you-do.

31

Sunt tibi, confiteor, diffusi iugera campi
There-are to-you, I-confess, spread acres of-plain
urbanique tenent praedia multa lares,
and-of-the-city hold estates many household-gods,
et servit dominae numerosus debitor arcae
and serves the-mistress numerous debtor strongbox
sustentatque tuas aurea massa dapes.
and-sustains your golden plate dishes.

Fastidire tamen noli, Rufine, minores:
To-scorn yet do-not, Rufinus, the-lesser:
plus habuit Didymos, plus Philomelus habet.
more had Didymus, more Philomelus has.

32 Non possum vetulam. Quereris, Matrinia? possum
Not I-can an-old-woman. You-complain, Matrinia? I-can
et vetulam, sed tu mortua, non vetula es.
even an-old-woman, but you dead, not an-old-woman are.
Possum Hecubam, possum Niobam, Matrinia, sed si
I-can Hecuba, I-can Niobe, Matrinia, but if
nondum erit illa canis, nondum erit illa lapis.
not-yet will-be she a-bitch, not-yet will-be she a-stone.

33 Ingenuam malo, sed si tamen illa negetur,
A-freeborn-woman I-prefer, but if yet she be-denied,
libertina mihi proxuma condicio est:
a-freedwoman to-me the-next choice is:
extremo est ancilla loco: sed vincet utramque,
in-the-last is the-slave-girl place: but she-will-beat both,
si facie nobis haec erit ingenua.
if in-looks to-us this-one will-be freeborn.

34 Digna tuo cur sis indignaque nomine, dicam.
Worthy of-your why you-are and-unworthy name, I-will-tell.
Frigida es et nigra es: non es et es Chione.
Cold you-are and black you-are: not you-are and you-are Chione.

Artis Phidiacae toreuma clarum 35
Of-art Phidian an-embossed-work famous
pisces aspicis: adde aquam, natabunt.
fishes you-see: add water, they-will-swim.

Quod novus et nuper factus tibi praestat amicus, 36
What new and lately made to-you supplies a-friend,
hoc praestare iubes me, Fabiane, tibi:
this to-supply you-bid me, Fabianus, to-you:
horridus ut primo semper te mane salutem
shivering that at-first always you at-dawn I-should-greet
per mediumque trahat me tua sella lutum,
through and-the-middle should-drag me your chair the-mud,
lassus ut in thermas decuma vel serius hora
weary that into the-baths at-the-tenth or later hour
te sequar Agrippae, cum laver ipse Titi.
you I-should-follow of-Agrippa, though I-bathe myself of-Titus.
Hoc per triginta merui, Fabiane, Decembres,
This through thirty I-have-earned, Fabianus, Decembers,
ut sim tiro tuae semper amicitiae?
that I-should-be a-recruit to-your always friendship?
Hoc merui, Fabiane, toga tritaque meaque,
This I-have-earned, Fabianus, with-a-toga worn and-my-own,
ut nondum credas me meruisse rudem?
that not-yet you-believe me to-have-earned the-wooden-sword?

37 Irasci tantum felices nostis amici.
To-be-angry only fortunate you-know friends.
Non belle facitis, sed iuvat hoc: facite.
Not prettily you-act, but it-pleases this: do.

38 Quae te causa trahit vel quae fiducia Romam,
What you cause draws or what confidence to-Rome,
Sexte? quid aut speras aut petis inde? refer.
Sextus? what either do-you-hope or seek thence? tell.
'Causas' inquis 'agam Cicerone disertior ipso
'Cases' you-say 'I-will-plead than-Cicero more-eloquent himself
atque erit in triplici par mihi nemo foro.'
and will-be in the-triple equal to-me no-one forum.'
Egit Atestinus causas et Civis — utrumque
Pleaded Atestinus cases and Civis —both
noras—; sed neutri pensio tota fuit.
you-knew—; but for-neither the-rent whole was.
'Si nihil hinc veniet, pangentur carmina nobis:
'If nothing hence comes, will-be-composed poems by-us:
audieris, dices esse Maronis opus.'
you-will-have-heard, you-will-say to-be of-Maro work.'
Insanis: omnes gelidis quicumque lacernis
You-are-mad: all with-freezing whoever cloaks
sunt ibi, Nasones Vergiliosque vides.
are there, Nasos and-Virgils you-see.
'Atria magna colam.' Vix tres aut quattuor ista
'Halls great I-will-court.' Hardly three or four that
res aluit, pallet cetera turba fame.
thing has-fed, is-pale the-rest crowd with-hunger.

‘Quid faciam? suade: nam certum est vivere Romae.’
‘What shall-I-do? advise: for resolved it-is to-live at-Rome.’
Si bonus es, casu vivere, Sexte, potes.
If good you-are, by-chance to-live, Sextus, you-can.

Inserta phialae Mentoris manu ducta 40
Set-in a-saucer by-Mentor’s hand drawn
lacerta vivit et timetur argentum.
a-lizard lives and is-feared the-silver.

Mutua quod nobis ter quinquagena dedisti 41
On-loan because to-us thrice fifty you-gave
ex opibus tantis, quas gravis arca premit,
out-of riches so-great, which heavy the-strongbox presses,
esse tibi magnus, Telesine, videris amicus.
to-be to-you great, Telesinus, you-seem a-friend.
Tu magnus, quod das? immo ego, quod recipis.
You great, because you-give? rather I, because you-get-back.

Lomento rugas uteri quod condere temptas, 42
With-bean-meal the-wrinkles of-your-belly that to-hide you-try,
Polla, tibi ventrem, non mihi labra linis.
Polla, for-yourself your-belly, not for-me my-lips you-smear.
Simpliciter pateat vitium fortasse pusillum:
Openly let-be-exposed a-fault perhaps tiny:
quod tegitur, magnum creditur esse malum.
that is-hidden, great is-believed to-be an-evil.

43 Mentiris iuvenem tinctis, Laetine, capillis,
You-feign youth with-dyed, Laetinus, hair,
tam subito corvus, qui modo cycnus eras.
so suddenly a-crow, who just-now a-swan were.
Non omnes fallis; scit te Proserpina canum:
Not all you-deceive; knows you Proserpina gray:
personam capiti detrahet illa tuo.
the-mask from-the-head will-pull she your.

44 Occurrit tibi nemo quod libenter,
Meets you no-one that willingly,
quod, quacumque venis, fuga est et ingens
that, wherever you-come, flight is and vast
circa te, Ligurine, solitudo,
around you, Ligurinus, solitude,
quid sit, scire cupis? Nimis poeta es.
what it-is, to-know you-want? Too-much a-poet you-are.
Hoc valde vitium periculosum est.
This very a-fault dangerous is.
Non tigris catulis citata raptis,
Not a-tigress for-her-cubs roused snatched,
non dipsas medio perusta sole,
not a-dipsas in-the-middle scorched sun,
nec sic scorpios inprobus timetur.
nor so a-scorpion wicked is-feared.
Nam tantos, rogo, quis ferat labores?
For such-great, I-ask, who would-bear labors?
Et stanti legis et legis sedenti,
Both to-me-standing you-read and you-read to-me-sitting,

currenti legis et legis cacanti.

to-me-running you-read and you-read to-me-shitting.

In thermas fugio: sonas ad aurem.

Into the-baths I-flee: you-sound at my-ear.

Piscinam peto: non licet natare.

The-pool I-seek: not it-is-allowed to-swim.

Ad cenam propero: tenes euntem.

To dinner I-hurry: you-hold-me going.

Ad cenam venio: fugas sedentem.

To dinner I-come: you-rout-me sitting.

Lassus dormio: suscitas iacentem.

Weary I-sleep: you-rouse-me lying.

Vis, quantum facias mali, videre?

Do-you-wish, how-much you-do of-harm, to-see?

Vir iustus, probus, innocens timeris.

A-man just, upright, innocent you-are-feared.

Martial flees Ligurinus' dinner, however fine, because he recites at it. Candidus wants endless attendance, so Martial sends his freedman, who will do it better. Bassus rides out of Rome by the Capene Gate in a carriage loaded with cabbages, leeks, thrushes, a hare, and a pig, the plenty of a farm carried from the city to the country. Olus sold his estates and now has a poor man's hut. Ligurinus reads five books through one dinner, Galla says she pleases more naked and will not bathe with Martial, and Tongilianus collects five times what his burnt house cost. At Ravenna water is dearer than wine. Faustinus' villa at Baiae is a true farm, full of produce, beasts, and laboring slaves, while Bassus' feeds on the city.

45 Fugerit an Phoebus mensas cenamque Thyestae
Has-fled whether Phoebus the-tables and-the-dinner of-Thyestes
ignoro: fugimus nos, Ligurine, tuam.
I-do-not-know: we-flee we, Ligurinus, yours.
Illa quidem lauta est dapibusque instructa superbis,
It indeed sumptuous is and-with-dishes furnished proud,
sed nihil omnino te recitante placet.
but nothing at-all you reciting pleases.
Nolo mihi ponas rhombos mullumve bilibrem,
I-do-not-want for-me you-to-serve turbots or-a-mullet two-pound,
nec volo boletos, ostrea nolo: tace.
nor do-I-want mushrooms, oysters I-do-not-want: be-silent.

46 Exigis a nobis operam sine fine togatam:
You-demand from us service without end in-a-toga:
non eo, libertum sed tibi mitto meum.
not I-go, a-freedman but to-you I-send my-own.
'Non est' inquis 'idem.' Multo plus esse probabo:
'Not he-is' you-say 'the-same.' Much more to-be I-will-prove:

vix ego lecticam subsequar, ille feret.
hardly I the-litter shall-follow, he will-carry.
In turbam incideris, cunctos umbone repellet:
Into a-crowd you-will-have-fallen, all with-his-elbow he-will-push-back:
invalidum est nobis ingenuumque latus.
feeble is in-us and-freeborn the-flank.
Quidlibet in causa narraveris, ipse tacebo:
Whatever in a-case you-will-have-told, I-myself shall-be-silent:
at tibi tergeminum mugiet ille sophos.
but to-you a-triple will-bellow he bravo.
Lis erit, ingenti faciet convicia voce:
A-suit there-will-be, with-huge he-will-hurl abuse voice:
esse pudor vetuit fortia verba mihi.
to-be shame has-forbidden strong words to-me.
'Ergo nihil nobis' inquis 'praestabis amicus?'
'Therefore nothing to-us' you-say 'will-you-supply a-friend?'
Quidquid libertus, Candide, non poterit.
Whatever a-freedman, Candidus, not will-be-able.

Capena grandi porta qua pluit gutta 47
at-the-Capene great gate where rains with-drops
Phrygiumque Matris Almo qua lavat ferrum,
and-Phrygian of-the-Mother the-Almo where washes the-steel,
Horatiorum qua viret sacer campus
of-the-Horatii where is-green the-sacred field
et qua pusilli fervet Herculis fanum,
and where of-little teems Hercules the-shrine,
Faustine, plena Bassus ibat in raeda,
Faustinus, full Bassus was-going in a-carriage,

omnis beati copias trahens ruris.
of-all of-a-blessed the-plenty dragging farm.
Illic videres frutice nobili caules
There you-would-see with-stalk noble cabbages
et utrumque porrum sessilesque lactucas
and both-kinds leeks and-squat lettuces
pigroque ventri non inutiles betas,
and-to-a-sluggish belly not useless beets,
illic coronam pinguibus gravem turdis
there a-garland with-fat heavy thrushes
leporemque laesum Gallici canis dente
and-a-hare torn by-a-Gallic hound's tooth
nondumque victa lacteum faba porcum.
and-not-yet conquered milky bean a-pig.
Nec feriatus ibat ante carrucam,
Nor idle was-going before the-carriage,
sed tuta faeno cursor ova portabat.
but safe in-hay a-runner eggs was-carrying.
Urbem petebat Bassus? immo rus ibat.
The-city was-he-seeking Bassus? nay to-the-country he-was-going.

48 Pauperis extruxit cellam, sed vendidit Olus
A-poor-man's he-built a-cell, but sold Olus
praedia: nunc cellam pauperis Olus habet.
estates: now a-cell a-poor-man's Olus has.

Veientana mihi misces, ubi Massica potas: 49
Veientan for-me you-mix, when Massic you-drink:
olfacere haec malo pocula, quam bibere.
to-smell these I-prefer cups, than to-drink.

Haec tibi, non alia, est ad cenam causa vocandi, 50
This to-you, not other, is to dinner reason for-inviting,
versiculos recites ut, Ligurine, tuos.
little-verses you-may-recite that, Ligurinus, your.
Deposui soleas, adfertur protinus ingens
I-have-put-off my-sandals, is-brought at-once a-huge
inter lactucas oxygarumque liber:
among the-lettuces and-the-fish-sauce book:
alter perlegitur, dum fercula prima morantur:
a-second is-read-through, while the-courses first linger:
tertius est, nec adhuc mensa secunda venit:
a-third is, nor yet the-table second comes:
et quartum recitas et quintum denique librum.
and a-fourth you-recite and a-fifth finally book.
Putidus est, totiens si mihi ponis aprum.
Rotten is, so-often if to-me you-serve a-boar.
Quod si non scombris scelerata poemata donas,
But if not to-mackerel your-wicked poems you-give,
cenabis solus iam, Ligurine, domi.
you-will-dine alone soon, Ligurinus, at-home.

51 Cum faciem laudo, cum miror crura manusque,
When your-face I-praise, when I-admire your-legs and-hands,
dicere, Galla, soles 'Nuda placebo magis,'
to-say, Galla, you-are-wont 'Naked I-will-please more,'
et semper vitas communia balnea nobis.
and always you-avoid common baths with-us.
Numquid, Galla, times, ne tibi non placeam?
Surely-not, Galla, you-fear, lest to-you not I-should-please?

52 Empta domus fuerat tibi, Tongiliane, ducentis:
Bought the-house had-been for-you, Tongilianus, for-two-hundred:
abstulit hanc nimium casus in urbe frequens.
carried-off this too a-disaster in the-city frequent.
Conlatum est deciens. Rogo, non potes ipse videri
Collected has-been a-million. I-ask, not can-you yourself to-seem
incendisse tuam, Tongiliane, domum?
to-have-set-fire-to your, Tongilianus, house?

53 Et voltu poteram tuo carere
Both face I-could your do-without
et collo manibusque cruribusque
and neck and-hands and-legs
et mammis natibusque clunibusque,
and breasts and-buttocks and-hips,
et, ne singula persequi laborem,
and, lest each-one to-pursue I-should-labor,
tota te poteram, Chloe, carere.
whole you I-could, Chloe, do-without.

Cum dare non possim quod poscis, Galla, rogantem, 54
Since to-give not I-can what you-ask, Galla, me-asking,
multo simplicius, Galla, negare potes.
much more-simply, Galla, to-refuse you-can.

Quod quacumque venis, Cosmum migrare putamus 55
That wherever you-come, Cosmus to-be-moving we-think
et fluere excusso cinnama fusa vitro,
and to-flow from-a-shaken cinnamon poured flask,
nolo peregrinis placeas tibi, Gellia, nugis.
I-do-not-want with-foreign you-to-please yourself, Gellia, trifles.
Scis, puto, posse meum sic bene olere canem.
You-know, I-think, to-be-able my thus well to-smell dog.

Sit cisterna mihi, quam vinea, malo Ravennae, 56
Let-there-be a-cistern for-me, than a-vineyard, I-prefer at-Ravenna,
cum possim multo vendere pluris aquam.
since I-can much to-sell dearer water.

Callidus inposuit nuper mihi copo Ravennae: 57
A-cunning has-cheated lately me innkeeper at-Ravenna:
cum peterem mixtum, vendidit ille merum.
when I-asked-for mixed, he-sold he neat-wine.

58 Baiana nostri villa, Basse, Faustini
the-Baian of-our villa, Bassus, of-Faustinus
non otiosis ordinata myrtetis
not with-idle laid-out myrtle-groves
viduaque platano tonsilique buxeto
and-with-widowed plane and-with-clipped box-grove
ingrata lati spatia detinet campi,
unprofitable of-a-wide spaces holds field,
sed rure vero barbaroque laetatur.
but in-a-country true and-rustic it-rejoices.
Hic farta premitur angulo Ceres omni
Here crammed is-pressed in-corner Grain every
et multa fragrat testa senibus autumnis;
and many smells jar with-old autumns;
hic post Novembres imminente iam bruma
here after November imminent already winter
seras putator horridus refert uvas.
late the-pruner shaggy brings-back grapes.
Truces in alta valle mugiunt tauri
Fierce in deep the-valley bellow bulls
vitulusque inermi fronte prurit in pugnam.
and-the-calf with-unarmed brow itches for battle.
Vagatur omnis turba sordidae chortis,
Wanders all the-crowd of-the-dirty yard,

argutus anser gemmeique pavones
the-shrill goose and-the-jeweled peacocks
nomenque debet quae rubentibus pinnis
and-its-name owes which to-its-red feathers
et picta perdix Numidicaeque guttatae
and the-painted partridge and-Numidian speckled-hens
et impiorum phasiana Colchorum;
and of-the-impious the-pheasant Colchians;
Rhodias superbi feminas premunt galli;
Rhodian proud hens tread cocks;
sonantque turres plausibus columbarum,
and-resound the-towers with-the-flapping of-doves,
gemit hinc palumbus, inde cereus turtur.
moans here the-wood-pigeon, there the-wax-colored turtle-dove.
Avidi secuntur vilicae sinum porci
Greedy follow of-the-steward's-wife the-lap pigs
matremque plenam mollis agnus expectat.
and-the-mother full the-tender lamb awaits.
Cingunt serenum lactei focum vernae
Surround the-bright milk-white hearth home-born-slaves
et larga festos lucet ad lares silva.
and plentiful the-festal blazes for household-gods wood.
Non segnis albo pallet otio caupo,
Not lazy with-white is-pale idleness the-tavern-keeper,
nec perdit oleum lubricus palaestrita,
nor wastes oil the-slippery wrestling-master,

sed tendit avidis rete subdolum turdis
but stretches for-greedy a-net crafty thrushes
tremulave captum linea trahit piscem
or-by-trembling the-caught line draws fish
aut inpeditam cassibus refert dammam;
or entangled in-nets brings-back a-doe;
exercet hilares facilis hortus urbanos,
works the-cheerful easy garden city-slaves,
et paedagogo non iubente lascivi
and the-tutor not bidding the-playful
parere gaudent vilico capillati,
to-obey rejoice the-steward the-long-haired-boys,
et delicatus opere fruitur eunuchus.
and the-delicate in-work delights eunuch.
Nec venit inanis rusticus salutator:
Nor comes empty-handed the-rustic caller:
fert ille ceris cana cum suis mella
brings he in-wax white with its honey
metamque lactis Sassinate de silva;
and-a-cone of-milk Sassinian from wood;
somniculosos ille porrigit glires,
sleepy he holds-out dormice,
hic vagientem matris hispidae fetum,
this-one the-bleating of-a-mother shaggy offspring,
alius coactos non amare capones.
another forced not to-love capons.
Et dona matrum vimine offerunt texto
And gifts of-their-mothers in-wicker offer woven
grandes proborum virgines colonorum.
grown of-honest the-daughters tenants.

Facto vocatur laetus opere vicinus;
Done is-invited glad the-work the-neighbor;
nec avara servat crastinas dapes mensa,
nor greedy keeps for-tomorrow feast the-table,
vescuntur omnes ebrioque non novit
eat all and-the-drunk does-not know
satur minister invidere convivae.
the-full servant to-envy guest.
At tu sub urbe possides famem mundam
But you near the-city own a-hunger elegant
et turre ab alta prospicis meras laurus,
and the-tower from high you-look-out-on mere laurels,
furem Priapo non timente securus;
of-a-thief with-Priapus not fearing carefree;
et vinitorem farre pascis urbano
and the-vine-dresser with-grain you-feed city
pictamque portas otiosus ad villam
and-painted you-carry idle to the-villa
holus, ova, pullos, poma, caseum, mustum.
greens, eggs, chickens, fruit, cheese, must.
Rus hoc vocari debet, an domus longe?
A-farm this to-be-called ought, or a-house far-away?

A cobbler gave Bologna a show, a fuller gave Modena one, and next an innkeeper will. Ponticus feeds his guests worse fare than his own. Cinna asks for nothing, so is refused nothing. Quintus' costly purchases show a small mind. Cotilus is told what a pretty man is: a perfumed, humming, gossiping trifler. Ulysses passed the Sirens but could not have left Canius talking. Antony's sword, which cut off the head of Rome's speaker, did worse than Pothinus', since Pothinus killed for his master. Lazy rowers drift like Argonauts. The matron is told the book turns obscene here, and will now read it eagerly. Cosconius' chaste epigrams are for boys and girls, and a run of epigrams mocks men's and women's bodies and appetites.

59 Sutor Cerdo dedit tibi, culta Bononia, munus,
A-cobbler Cerdo gave to-you, cultured Bologna, a-show,
fullo dedit Mutinae: nunc ubi copo dabit?
a-fuller gave to-Modena: now where an-innkeeper will-give?

60 Cum vocer ad cenam non iam venalis ut ante,
Since I-am-invited to dinner not now bought as before,
cur mihi non eadem, quae tibi, cena datur?
why to-me not the-same, which to-you, dinner is-given?
Ostrea tu sumis stagno saturata Lucrino,
Oysters you take in-the-pool fattened Lucrine,
sugitur inciso mitulus ore mihi:
is-sucked with-cut a-mussel mouth by-me:
sunt tibi boleti, fungos ego sumo suillos:
are to-you mushrooms, fungi I take pig's:
res tibi cum rhombost, at mihi cum sparulo:
business for-you with a-turbot-is, but for-me with a-bream:

aureus inmodicis turtur te clunibus implet,
a-golden with-immoderate turtle-dove you rump fills,
ponitur in cavea mortua pica mihi.
is-served in the-cage dead a-magpie to-me.
Cur sine te ceno, cum tecum, Pontice, cenem?
Why without you do-I-dine, when with-you, Ponticus, I-dine?
Sportula quod non est, prosit: edamus idem.
The-dole that not is, let-it-profit: let-us-eat the-same.

Esse nihil dicis quidquid petis, inprobe Cinna: 61
To-be nothing you-say whatever you-ask, shameless Cinna:
si nil, Cinna, petis, nil tibi, Cinna, nego.
if nothing, Cinna, you-ask, nothing to-you, Cinna, I-refuse.

Centenis quod emis pueros et saepe ducenis, 62
For-a-hundred-thousand that you-buy boys and often for-two-hundred,
quod sub rege Numa condita vina bibis,
that under king Numa stored wines you-drink,
quod constat decies tibi non spatiosa supellex,
that costs a-million to-you not spacious furniture,
libra quod argenti milia quinque rapit,
a-pound that of-silver thousands five snatches,
aurea quod fundi pretio carruca paratur,
golden that of-a-farm at-the-price a-carriage is-got,
quod pluris mula est, quam domus empta tibi:
that dearer the-mule is, than the-house bought for-you:

haec animo credis magno te, Quinte, parare?
these with-a-mind you-believe great you, Quintus, to-procure?
Falleris: haec animus, Quinte, pusillus emit.
You-are-deceived: these a-mind, Quintus, petty buys.

63 Cotile, bellus homo es: dicunt hoc, Cotile, multi.
Cotilus, a-pretty man you-are: say this, Cotilus, many.
Audio: sed quid sit, dic mihi, bellus homo.
I-hear: but what is, tell me, a-pretty man.
'Bellus homo est, flexos qui digerit ordine crines,
'A-pretty man is, curled who arranges in-order hair,
balsama qui semper, cinnama semper olet;
balsam who always, cinnamon always smells-of;
cantica qui Nili, qui Gaditana susurrat,
songs who of-the-Nile, who of-Gades hums,
qui movet in varios bracchia volsa modos;
who moves in various arms plucked measures;
inter femineas tota qui luce cathedras
among the-women's the-whole who daylight chairs
desidet atque aliqua semper in aure sonat,
sits-idle and some always in ear murmurs,
qui legit hinc illinc missas scribitque tabellas;
who reads hence thence sent and-writes tablets;
pallia vicini qui refugit cubiti;
the-cloak of-a-neighbor's who shrinks-from elbow;
qui scit, quam quis amet, qui per convivia currit,
who knows, whom who loves, who through dinners runs,
Hirpini veteres qui bene novit avos.'
of-Hirpinus the-ancient who well knows grandsires.'

Quid narras? hoc est, hoc est homo, Cotile, bellus?
What are-you-telling? this is, this is a-man, Cotilus, pretty?
Res pertricosa est, Cotile, bellus homo.
A-thing most-trifling is, Cotilus, a-pretty man.

Sirenas hilarem navigantium poenam 64
the-Sirens the-merry of-sailors punishment
blandasque mortes gaudiumque crudele,
and-alluring deaths and-joy cruel,
quas nemo quondam deserebat auditas,
whom no-one once abandoned heard,
fallax Ulixes dicitur reliquisse.
crafty Ulysses is-said to-have-left.
Non miror: illud, Cassiane, mirarer,
Not I-wonder-at: that, Cassianus, I-should-wonder,
si fabulantem Canium reliquisset.
if talking Canius he-had-left.

Par scelus admisit Phariis Antonius armis: 66
An-equal crime committed with-Pharian Antony arms:
abscidit voltus ensis uterque sacros.
cut-off the-faces sword each sacred.
Illud, laurigeros ageres cum laeta triumphos,
That, laureled you-were-celebrating when glad triumphs,
hoc tibi, Roma, caput, cum loquereris, erat.
this to-you, Rome, a-head, when you-were-speaking, was.

Antoni tamen est peior, quam causa Pothini:
Antony's yet is worse, than the-cause of-Pothinus:
hic facinus domino praestitit, ille sibi.
this-one the-deed for-his-master performed, that-one for-himself.

67 Cessatis, pueri, nihilque nostis,
You-slack, boys, and-nothing you-know,
Vaterno Rasinaque pigriores,
than-the-Vaternus and-the-Rasina lazier,
quorum per vada tarda navigantes
whose through shallows slow sailing
lentos tinguitis ad celeuma remos.
sluggish you-dip to the-boat-call oars.
Iam prono Phaethonte sudat Aethon
Now with-down-sloping Phaethon sweats Aethon
exarsitque dies, et hora lassos
and-blazed-up the-day, and the-hour weary
interiungit equos meridiana.
unyokes horses of-noon.
At vos tam placidas vagi per undas
But you so calm wandering through waves
tuta luditis otium carina.
in-a-safe play idleness boat.
Non nautas puto vos, sed Argonautas.
Not sailors I-think you, but Argonauts.

Huc est usque tibi scriptus, matrona, libellus. 68
To-here is up-to for-you written, matron, the-little-book.
Cui sint scripta, rogas, interiora? mihi.
For-whom are written, you-ask, the-inner-parts? for-me.
Gymnasium, thermae, stadium est hac parte: recede.
The-gymnasium, the-baths, the-stadium is on-this side: withdraw.
Exuimur: nudos parce videre viros.
We-are-stripped: naked forbear to-see men.
Hinc iam deposito post vina rosasque pudore,
From-here now laid-aside after wine and-roses shame,
quid dicat, nescit saucia Terpsichore:
what she-says, knows-not tipsy Terpsichore:
schemate nec dubio, sed aperte nominat illam,
in-a-figure nor doubtful, but openly names that,
quam recipit sexto mense superba Venus,
which receives in-the-sixth month proud Venus,
custodem medio statuit quam vilicus horto,
as-guardian in-the-middle sets which the-steward garden,
opposita spectat quam proba virgo manu.
held-against beholds which a-modest virgin hand.
Si bene te novi, longum iam lassa libellum
If well you I-know, long now weary the-little-book
ponebas, totum nunc studiosa leges.
you-were-laying-down, whole now eager you-will-read.

69 Omnia quod scribis castis epigrammata verbis
All that you-write in-chaste the-epigrams words
inque tuis nulla est mentula carminibus,
and-in your no is prick poems,
admiror, laudo; nihil est te sanctius uno:
I-admire, I-praise; nothing is than-you holier alone:
at mea luxuria pagina nulla vacat.
but my of-wantonness page none is-free.
Haec igitur nequam iuvenes facilesque puellae,
These therefore the-naughty youths and-easy girls,
haec senior, sed quem torquet amica, legat.
these an-older-man, but whom torments a-mistress, let-read.
At tua, Cosconi, venerandaque sanctaque verba
But your, Cosconius, and-venerable and-holy words
a pueris debent virginibusque legi.
by boys ought and-virgins to-be-read.

70 Moechus es Aufidiae, qui vir, Scaevine, fuisti;
An-adulterer you-are of-Aufidia, who her-husband, Scaevinus, were;
rivalis fuerat qui tuus, ille vir est.
rival had-been who your, he husband is.
Cur aliena placet tibi, quae tua non placet, uxor?
Why another's pleases you, who your not pleases, wife?
Numquid securus non potes arrigere?
Surely-not secure not can-you get-it-up?

Vis futui, nec vis mecum, Saufeia, lavari. 72
You-wish to-be-fucked, nor wish with-me, Saufeia, to-bathe.
Nescio quod magnum suspicor esse nefas.
I-know-not what great I-suspect to-be an-outrage.
Aut tibi pannosae dependent pectore mammae,
Either for-you ragged hang-down from-your-breast teats,
aut sulcos uteri prodere nuda times,
or the-furrows of-your-belly to-reveal naked you-fear,
aut infinito lacerum patet inguen hiatu,
or with-boundless torn gapes groin with-a-gape,
aut aliquid cunni prominet ore tui.
or something of-the-cunt sticks-out from-the-mouth your.
Sed nihil est horum, credo, pulcherrima nuda es.
But nothing is of-these, I-believe, most-beautiful naked you-are.
Si verum est, vitium peius habes: fatua es.
If true it-is, a-fault worse you-have: foolish you-are.

Psilothro faciem levas et dropace calvam. 74
With-depilatory your-face you-smooth and with-plaster your-bald-head.
Numquid tonsorem, Gargiliane, times?
Surely-not a-barber, Gargilianus, do-you-fear?
Quid facient ungues? nam certe non potes illos
What will-they-do your-nails? for surely not you-can them
resina, Veneto nec resecare luto.
with-resin, with-Venetian nor pare clay.
Desine, si pudor est, miseram traducere calvam:
Stop, if shame there-is, wretched to-display your-bald-head:
hoc fieri cunno, Gargiliane, solet.
this to-be-done to-a-cunt, Gargilianus, is-wont.

75 Stare, Luperce, tibi iam pridem mentula desît,
To-stand, Lupercus, for-you now long-since your-prick has-ceased,
luctaris demens tu tamen arrigere.
you-struggle madman you yet to-get-it-up.
Sed nihil erucae faciunt bulbique salaces,
But nothing rockets do and-bulbs lustful,
inproba nec prosunt iam satureia tibi.
shameless nor help now savories you.
Coepisti puras opibus corrumpere buccas:
You-have-begun pure with-wealth to-corrupt mouths:
sic quoque non vivit sollicitata Venus.
so also not lives solicited Venus.
Mirari satis hoc quisquam vel credere possit,
To-wonder enough at-this anyone or believe could,
quod non stat, magno stare, Luperce, tibi?
that not stands, at-a-great to-stand, Lupercus, for-you?

76 Arrigis ad vetulas, fastidis, Basse, puellas,
You-get-it-up for old-women, you-scorn, Bassus, girls,
nec formosa tibi, sed moritura placet.
nor beautiful to-you, but about-to-die pleases.
Hic, rogo, non furor est, non haec est mentula demens?
This, I-ask, not madness is, not this is a-prick mad?
Cum possis Hecaben, non potes Andromachen!
Though you-can Hecuba, not can-you Andromache!

77

Nec mullus nec te delectat, Baetice, turdus,
Neither a-mullet nor you delights, Baeticus, a-thrush,
nec lepus est umquam nec tibi gratus aper,
nor a-hare is ever nor to-you welcome a-boar,
nec te liba iuvant nec sectae quadra placentae,
nor you cakes please nor of-a-cut a-slice cheesecake,
nec Libye mittit nec tibi Phasis aves:
nor Libya sends nor to-you Phasis birds:
capparin et putri cepas hallece natantis
capers and in-rotten onions fish-sauce swimming
et pulpam dubio de petasone voras,
and the-flesh of-a-doubtful from ham you-devour,
teque iuvant gerres et pelle melandrya cana,
and-you please sprats and in-skin tunny-steaks white,
resinata bibis vina, Falerna fugis.
resined you-drink wines, Falernian you-flee.
Nescio quod stomachi vitium secretius esse
I-know-not what of-the-stomach fault more-secret to-be
suspicor: ut quid enim, Baetice, σαπροφαγεῖς?
I-suspect: to what for, Baeticus, do-you-eat-rot?

Paulinus pissed once from a moving boat and will be Palinurus next time. Sertorius begins everything and finishes nothing. Apicius speaks ill of no one and still has a bad tongue. Zoilus' dinner is a show of insolence: he lolls in green on the whole couch, belching and fanned, gives the best to his catamite and serves his guests cheap wine, then snores while they drink in silence. Martial's shortest poem names Chione. A husband who cut off the adulterer's nose cut the wrong part. The chaste reader reads on anyway, as she watches the mimes. A discharged soldier traveling with Cybele's eunuchs is castrated in his sleep in place of a runaway boy. Vetustilla, ancient and hideous, seeks a husband.

78 Minxisti currente semel, Pauline, carina.
You-pissed running once, Paulinus, the-boat.
Meiere vis iterum? iam Palinurus eris.
To-piss do-you-wish again? now Palinurus you-will-be.

79 Rem peragit nullam Sertorius, inchoat omnes.
A-thing completes none Sertorius, begins all.
Hunc ego, cum futuit, non puto perficere.
Him I, when he-fucks, not I-think to-finish.

80 De nullo loqueris, nulli maledicis, Apici:
About no-one you-speak, no-one you-abuse, Apicius:
rumor ait linguae te tamen esse malae.
rumor says of-tongue you yet to-be bad.

Quid cum femineo tibi, Baetice Galle, barathro? 81
What with the-female you, Baeticus Gallus, abyss?
Haec debet medios lambere lingua viros.
This ought middle to-lick tongue men.
Abscisa est quare Samia tibi mentula testa,
Cut-off was why with-Samian your prick sherd,
si tibi tam gratus, Baetice, cunnus erat?
if to-you so welcome, Baeticus, a-cunt was?
Castrandum caput est: nam sis licet inguine Gallus,
To-be-castrated the-head is: for you-may-be though in-groin a-Gallus,
sacra tamen Cybeles decipis: ore vir es.
the-rites yet of-Cybele you-cheat: with-your-mouth a-man you-are.

Conviva quisquis Zoili potest esse, 82
A-guest whoever of-Zoilus can be,
Summemmianas cenet inter uxores
the-Summemmian let-him-dine among wives
curtaque Ledae sobrius bibat testa:
and-from-the-chipped of-Leda sober let-him-drink jar:
hoc esse levius puriusque contendo.
this to-be lighter and-cleaner I-maintain.
Iacet occupato galbinatus in lecto
Lies occupied green-clad on the-couch
cubitisque trudit hinc et inde convivas
and-with-elbows thrusts here and there the-guests
effultus ostro Sericisque pulvillis.
propped on-purple and-silken cushions.

Stat exoletus suggeritque ructanti
Stands a-catamite and-supplies to-him-belching
pinnas rubentes cuspidesque lentisci,
feathers red and-toothpicks of-mastic,
et aestuanti tenue ventilat frigus
and to-him-sweltering a-light fans coolness
supina prasino concubina flabello,
on-her-back with-a-green concubine fan,
fugatque muscas myrtea puer virga.
and-drives-off the-flies with-a-myrtle a-boy rod.
Percurrit agili corpus arte tractatrix
Runs-over with-nimble his-body skill the-masseuse
manumque doctam spargit omnibus membris;
and-her-hand learned spreads over-all his-limbs;
digiti crepantis signa novit eunuchus
of-the-finger snapping the-signs knows the-eunuch
et delicatae sciscitator urinae
and of-the-delicate the-inquirer urine
domini bibentis ebrium regit penem.
of-the-master drinking the-drunken guides penis.
At ipse retro flexus ad pedum turbam
But he backward bent to of-his-feet the-crowd
inter catellas anserum exta lambentis
among the-puppies of-geese the-livers licking
partitur apri glandulas palaestritis
distributes of-a-boar the-glands to-the-wrestlers
et concubino turturum natis donat;
and to-his-catamite of-turtle-doves the-rumps gives;

Ligurumque nobis saxa cum ministrentur
and-of-the-Ligurians to-us the-rocks though are-served
vel cocta fumis musta Massilitanis,
or cooked in-smokes musts Massilian,
Opimianum morionibus nectar
Opimian to-his-fools nectar
crystallinisque murrinisque propinat.
in-crystal-cups and-in-myrrhine he-pledges.
Et Cosmianis ipse fuscus ampullis
And with-Cosmus' himself dark flasks
non erubescit murice aureo nobis
not blushes in-a-shell golden for-us
dividere moechae pauperis capillare.
to-share of-an-adulteress poor hair-oil.
Septunce multo deinde perditus stertit:
With-seven-measures many then wrecked he-snores:
nos accubamus et, silentium rhonchis
we recline and, silence to-his-snorts
praestare iussi, nutibus propinamus.
to-keep ordered, with-nods we-pledge.
Hos Malchionis patimur inprobi fastus,
These of-Malchio we-suffer shameless the-insolences,
nec vindicari, Rufe, possumus: fellat.
nor be-avenged, Rufus, can-we: he-sucks.

Ut faciam breviora mones epigrammata, Corde. 83
That I-should-make shorter you-advise epigrams, Cordus.
'Fac mihi, quod Chione': non potui brevius.
'Make for-me, what Chione': not I-could shorter.

84 Quid narrat tua moecha? Non puellam
What tells your adulteress? Not a-girl
dixi, Gongylion. Quid ergo? linguam.
I-said, Gongylion. What then? the-tongue.

85 Quis tibi persuasit naris abscidere moecho?
Who you persuaded the-nose to-cut-off of-the-adulterer?
Non hac peccatum est parte, marite, tibi.
Not in-this sinned it-has part, husband, against-you.
Stulte, quid egisti? nihil hic tibi perdidit uxor,
Fool, what have-you-done? nothing here for-you has-lost your-wife,
cum sit salva tui mentula Deiphobi.
since is safe of-your the-prick Deiphobus.

86 Ne legeres partem lascivi, casta, libelli,
Lest you-should-read part of-the-wanton, chaste-woman, little-book,
praedixi et monui: tu tamen, ecce, legis.
I-foretold and warned: you yet, behold, you-read.
Sed si Panniculum spectas et, casta, Latinum, —
But if Panniculus you-watch and, chaste, Latinus,—
non sunt haec mimis inprobiora — lege.
not are these than-mimes more-shameless —read.

87 Narrat te, Chione, rumor numquam esse fututam
Tells you, Chione, rumor never to-have-been fucked
atque nihil cunno purius esse tuo.
and nothing than-the-cunt purer to-be your.

Tecta tamen non hac, qua debes, parte lavaris:
Covered yet not in-this, where you-ought, part you-bathe:
si pudor est, transfer subligar in faciem.
if shame there-is, shift the-loincloth to your-face.

Sunt gemini fratres, diversa sed inguina lingunt. 88
There-are twin brothers, different but groins they-lick.
Dicite, dissimiles sunt magis, an similes?
Say, unlike are-they rather, or alike?

Utere lactucis et mollibus utere malvis: 89
Use lettuces and soft use mallows:
nam faciem durum, Phoebe, cacantis habes.
for the-face hard, Phoebus, of-one-shitting you-have.

Volt, non volt dare Galla mihi, nec dicere possum, 90
She-wishes, not she-wishes to-give Galla to-me, nor tell can-I,
quod volt et non volt, quid sibi Galla velit.
because she-wishes and not she-wishes, what for-herself Galla wishes.

Cum peteret patriae missicius arva Ravennae, 91
When sought of-his-native discharged the-fields Ravenna,
semiviro Cybeles cum grege iunxit iter.
half-man Cybele's with the-flock he-joined his-journey.

Huic comes haerebat domini fugitivus Achillas
To-him a-companion clung of-his-master the-runaway Achillas
insignis forma nequitiaque puer.
remarkable for-beauty and-for-naughtiness a-boy.
Hoc steriles sensere viri: qua parte cubaret
This the-sterile perceived men: in-which part he-lay
quaerunt. Sed tacitos sensit et ille dolos:
they-ask. But the-silent perceived also he tricks:
mentitur, credunt. Somni post vina petuntur:
he-lies, they-believe. Sleep after wine is-sought:
continuo ferrum noxia turba rapit
straightway the-steel the-guilty crowd snatches
exciduntque senem, spondae qui parte iacebat;
and-castrate the-old-man, of-the-couch who in-the-part was-lying;
namque puer pluteo vindice tutus erat.
for the-boy by-the-wall avenger safe was.
Subpositam quondam fama est pro virgine cervam,
Substituted once the-story is for a-virgin a-hind,
at nunc pro cervo mentula subposita est.
but now for a-stag a-prick substituted has-been.

92 Ut patiar moechum, rogat uxor, Galle, sed unum.
That I-should-allow an-adulterer, asks my-wife, Gallus, but one.
Huic ego non oculos eruo, Galle, duos?
Of-him I not the-eyes gouge, Gallus, two?

93

Cum tibi trecenti consules, Vetustilla,
Since you three-hundred consuls, Vetustilla,
et tres capilli quattuorque sint dentes,
and three hairs and-four have teeth,
pectus cicadae, crus colorque formicae;
the-breast of-a-cicada, the-leg and-color of-an-ant;
rugosiorem cum geras stola frontem
more-wrinkled since you-wear than-your-gown a-brow
et araneorum cassibus pares mammas;
and to-spiders' webs equal breasts;
cum conparata rictibus tuis ora
since compared with-the-gapings your a-mouth
Niliacus habeat corcodilus angusta,
the-Nilotic may-have crocodile narrow,
meliusque ranae garriant Ravennates,
and-better the-frogs may-croak of-Ravenna,
et Atrianus dulcius culex cantet,
and the-Adrian more-sweetly the-gnat may-sing,
videasque quantum noctuae vident mane,
and-you-may-see as-much-as owls see at-dawn,
et illud oleas quod viri capellarum,
and that you-smell-of which the-husbands of-the-she-goats,
et anatis habeas orthopygium macrae,
and of-a-duck you-have the-rump lean,
senemque Cynicum vincat osseus cunnus;
and-the-old Cynic may-beat bony cunt;
cum te lucerna balneator extincta
since you with-the-lamp the-bath-keeper extinguished
admittat inter bustuarias moechas;
admits among the-tomb-haunting adulteresses;

cum bruma mensem sit tibi per Augustum
since winter the-month is for-you through August
regelare nec te pestilentia possit:
to-thaw nor you plague can:
audes ducentas nuptuire post mortes
you-dare two-hundred to-wed after deaths
virumque demens cineribus tuis quaeris
and-a-husband madwoman for-ashes your you-seek
prurire. Quid si Sattiae velit saxum?
to-itch. What if Sattia's should-wish the-stone?
Quis coniugem te, quis vocabit uxorem,
Who a-consort you, who will-call a-wife,
Philomelus aviam quam vocaverat nuper?
Philomelus a-grandmother whom had-called lately?
Quod si cadaver exigis tuum scalpi,
But if the-corpse you-demand your to-be-scratched,
sternatur Acori de triclinio lectus,
let-be-spread of-Acorus from the-dining-room a-couch,
Talassionem qui tuum decet solus,
the-wedding-song which your befits alone,
ustorque taedas praeferat novae nuptae:
and-the-burner the-torches let-carry-before the-new bride:
intrare in istum sola fax potest cunnum.
to-enter into that only a-torch can cunt.

94 Esse negas coctum leporem poscisque flagella.
To-be you-deny cooked the-hare and-ask-for whips.
Mavis, Rufe, cocum scindere, quam leporem.
You-prefer, Rufus, the-cook to-cut-up, than the-hare.

Naevolus never greets first, though Martial has Caesar's rewards, the rights of three children, fame, a tribune's rank, and a seat where Oceanus rouses Naevolus, and has made citizens by Caesar's gift; but Naevolus is buggered, and so outranks him. Gargilius only licks Martial's girl. Rufus is to keep the book from Chione, whom its verses have wounded. Cerdo is told the epigrams hurt his trade, not his life. The runner sent back to Rufus at the sixth hour must have carried the poems soaked, since the sky was pouring rain, and no other way should that book have been sent.

Numquam dicis have, sed reddis, Naevole, semper, 95
Never you-say hail, but you-return-it, Naevolus, always,
quod prior et corvus dicere saepe solet.
which first even a-crow to-say often is-wont.
Cur hoc expectas a me, rogo, Naevole, dicas:
Why this do-you-expect from me, I-ask, Naevolus, tell:
nam puto nec melior, Naevole, nec prior es.
for I-think neither better, Naevolus, nor first are-you.
Praemia laudato tribuit mihi Caesar uterque
Rewards praised granted to-me Caesar each
natorumque dedit iura paterna trium.
and-of-children gave the-rights paternal three.
Ore legor multo notumque per oppida nomen
By-mouth I-am-read many and-known through towns a-name
non expectato dat mihi fama rogo.
not awaited gives me fame the-pyre.
Est et in hoc aliquid: vidit me Roma tribunum
There-is also in this something: saw me Rome a-tribune
et sedeo qua te suscitat Oceanus.
and I-sit where you rouses Oceanus.

Quot mihi Caesareo facti sunt munere cives,
How-many by-me by-Caesar's made have-been gift citizens,
nec famulos totidem suspicor esse tibi.
nor slaves as-many I-suspect to-be to-you.
Sed pedicaris, sed pulchre, Naevole, ceves.
But you-are-buggered, but prettily, Naevolus, you-wiggle.
Iam iam tu prior es, Naevole, vincis: have.
Now now you first are, Naevolus, you-win: hail.

96 Lingis, non futuis meam puellam
You-lick, not fuck my girl
et garris quasi moechus et fututor.
and you-chatter as-if an-adulterer and a-fucker.
Si te prendero, Gargili, tacebis.
If you I-catch, Gargilius, you-will-be-silent.

97 Ne legat hunc Chione, mando tibi, Rufe, libellum.
Not let-read this Chione, I-charge you, Rufus, little-book.
Carmine laesa meo est, laedere et illa potest.
By-poem hurt my she-has-been, to-hurt also she can.

98 Sit culus tibi quam macer, requiris?
Is arse your how lean, you-ask?
Pedicare potes, Sabelle, culo.
To-bugger you-can, Sabellus, with-your-arse.

Irasci nostro non debes, Cerdo, libello. 99
To-be-angry with-my not you-ought, Cerdo, little-book.
Ars tua, non vita est carmine laesa meo.
Art your, not life has-been by-poem hurt my.
Innocuos permitte sales. Cur ludere nobis
Harmless allow witticisms. Why to-jest for-us
non liceat, licuit si iugulare tibi?
not should-it-be-allowed, it-was-allowed if to-cut-throats for-you?

Cursorem sexta tibi, Rufe, remisimus hora, 100
The-runner at-the-sixth to-you, Rufus, we-sent-back hour,
carmina quem madidum nostra tulisse reor:
the-poems who soaked our I-think to-have-carried:
imbribus inmodicis caelum nam forte ruebat.
with-rains immoderate the-sky for by-chance was-collapsing.
Non aliter mitti debuit iste liber.
Not otherwise to-be-sent ought that book.

BOOK IV

EPIGRAMS 1–14

Caesar's birthday is asked to return for longer than Nestor's age. Horatius alone wore black at the show until a snowfall dressed him white like everyone else. Snow falls on Caesar, and Martial suspects it is the boy Caesar's. Bassa smells worse than a list of foul smells. Fabianus, a good poor man who can neither pimp nor flatter, is asked how he will live in Rome. Malisianus plays the prude and is lewder than any reciter. The day's hours run from morning greetings to the tenth, when Euphemus should give Caesar Martial's jests. The new book goes to Faustinus with a sponge. Saturninus' revolt is rebuked, Claudia Peregrina marries Pudens, and Silius is asked to read jests while December rattles the dice.

Caesaris alma dies et luce sacratior illa, 1
of-Caesar kindly day and than-the-light more-sacred that,
conscia Dictaeum qua tulit Ida Iovem,
knowing Dictaean on-which bore Ida Jove,
longa, precor, Pylioque veni numerosior aevo
long, I-pray, and-than-the-Pylian come more-numerous age
semper et hoc voltu vel meliore nite.
always and with-this face or a-better shine.
Hic colat Albano Tritonida multus in auro
He may-worship with-Alban the-Tritonian much in gold
perque manus tantas plurima quercus eat;
and-through hands so-great very-many oak may-go;
hic colat ingenti redeuntia saecula lustro
he may-celebrate with-a-huge returning the-ages lustrum
et quae Romuleus sacra Tarentos habet.
and which Romulean rites Tarentos holds.

Magna quidem, superi, petimus, sed debita terris:
Great indeed, gods, we-ask, but owed to-the-earth:
pro tanto quae sunt inproba vota deo?
for so-great what are shameless prayers a-god?

2 Spectabat modo solus inter omnes
Was-watching lately alone among all
nigris munus Horatius lacernis,
in-black the-show Horatius cloaks,
cum plebs et minor ordo maximusque
while the-commons and the-lesser order and-the-greatest
sancto cum duce candidus sederet.
the-holy with leader white sat.
Toto nix cecidit repente caelo:
From-the-whole snow fell suddenly sky:
albis spectat Horatius lacernis.
in-white watches Horatius cloaks.

3 Aspice quam densum tacitarum vellus aquarum
Look how thick of-silent the-fleece waters
defluat in voltus Caesaris inque sinus.
flows-down onto the-face of-Caesar and-onto his-lap.

Indulget tamen ille Iovi, nec vertice moto
Indulges yet he Jove, nor with-head moved
concretas pigro frigore ridet aquas,
congealed with-sluggish cold laughs-at waters,
sidus Hyperborei solitus lassare Bootae
the-star of-the-Hyperborean accustomed to-weary Bootes
et madidis Helicen dissimulare comis.
and with-dripping Helice to-ignore hair.
Quis siccis lascivit aquis et ab aethere ludit?
Who with-dry plays waters and from the-sky sports?
Suspicor has pueri Caesaris esse nives.
I-suspect these of-the-boy Caesar to-be snows.

Quod siccae redolet palus lacunae, 4
What of-a-dried smells a-marsh pool,
crudarum nebulae quod Albularum,
of-raw the-vapors what of-the-Albulae,
piscinae vetus aura quod marinae,
of-a-fishpond the-stale air what sea,
quod pressa piger hircus in capella,
what pressed the-lazy he-goat on a-she-goat,
lassi vardaicus quod evocati,
of-a-weary the-Vardaic-boot what veteran,
quod bis murice vellus inquinatum,
what twice with-purple a-fleece stained,
quod ieiunia sabbatariarum,
what the-fasts of-sabbath-women,
maestorum quod anhelitus reorum,
of-gloomy what the-breath defendants,

quod spurcae moriens lucerna Ledae,
what of-filthy the-dying lamp Leda,
quod ceromata faece de Sabina,
what wrestlers'-salves the-dregs from Sabine,
quod volpis fuga, viperae cubile,
what of-a-fox the-flight, of-a-viper the-lair,
mallem quam quod oles olere, Bassa.
I-would-prefer than what you-smell-of to-smell-of, Bassa.

Vir bonus et pauper linguaque et pectore verus,
A-man good and poor in-tongue and in-heart true,
quid tibi vis, urbem qui, Fabiane, petis?
what for-yourself do-you-want, the-city who, Fabianus, seek?
Qui nec leno potes nec comissator haberi,
Who neither a-pimp can nor a-reveler be-held,
nec pavidos tristi voce citare reos,
nor trembling with-grim voice to-summon defendants,
nec potes uxorem cari corrumpere amici,
nor can-you the-wife of-a-dear corrupt friend,
nec potes algentes arrigere ad vetulas,
nor can-you chilly get-it-up for old-women,
vendere nec vanos circa Palatia fumos,
to-sell nor empty around the-Palatine smoke,
plaudere nec Cano, plaudere nec Glaphyro:
to-applaud nor Canus, to-applaud nor Glaphyrus:
unde miser vives? 'Homo certus, fidus amicus. — '
whence wretch will-you-live? 'A-man reliable, loyal a-friend.—'
Hoc nihil est: numquam sic Philomelus eris.
This nothing is: never thus Philomelus will-you-be.

Credi virgine castior pudica 6
To-be-believed than-a-virgin more-chaste modest
et frontis tenerae cupis videri,
and of-a-brow tender you-desire to-seem,
cum sis inprobior, Malisiane,
though you-are more-shameless, Malisianus,
quam qui compositos metro Tibulli
than he-who composed in-the-meter of-Tibullus
in Stellae recitat domo libellos.
in Stella's recites house little-books.

Prima salutantes atque altera conterit hora, 8
The-first those-greeting and the-second wears-out hour,
exercet raucos tertia causidicos,
exercises hoarse the-third the-pleaders,
in quintam varios extendit Roma labores,
into the-fifth various extends Rome labors,
sexta quies lassis, septima finis erit,
the-sixth rest for-the-weary, the-seventh the-end will-be,
sufficit in nonam nitidis octava palaestris,
suffices to the-ninth for-the-sleek the-eighth wrestling-grounds,
imperat extructos frangere nona toros:
orders the-piled-up to-crush the-ninth couches:

hora libellorum decuma est, Eupheme, meorum,
the-hour of-the-little-books the-tenth is, Euphemus, my,
temperat ambrosias cum tua cura dapes
tempers ambrosial when your care feasts
et bonus aetherio laxatur nectare Caesar
and good with-heavenly is-relaxed nectar Caesar
ingentique tenet pocula parca manu.
and-in-his-huge holds cups sparing hand.
Tunc admitte iocos: gressu timet ire licenti
Then admit jests: with-step fears to-go licentious
ad matutinum nostra Thalia Iovem.
to the-morning our Thalia Jove.

9 Sotae filia clinici, Labulla,
of-Sotas daughter the-physician, Labulla,
deserto sequeris Clytum marito
deserted you-follow Clytus husband
et donas et amas: ἔχεις ἀσώτως.
and you-give and you-love: you-have-it prodigally.

10 Dum novus est nec adhuc rasa mihi fronte libellus,
While new it-is nor yet shaved for-me on-the-brow the-little-book,
pagina dum tangi non bene sicca timet,
the-page while to-be-touched not well dry fears,
i puer et caro perfer leve munus amico,
go boy and to-a-dear carry a-light gift friend,
qui meruit nugas primus habere meas.
who has-earned trifles first to-have my.

Curre, sed instructus: comitetur Punica librum
Run, but furnished: let-accompany a-Punic the-book
spongia: muneribus convenit illa meis.
sponge: with-gifts suits that my.
Non possunt nostros multae, Faustine, liturae
Not can our many, Faustinus, erasures
emendare iocos: una litura potest.
correct jokes: one erasure can.

Dum nimium vano tumefactus nomine gaudes 11
While too-much with-an-empty puffed-up name you-rejoice
et Saturninum te, miser, esse pudet,
and Saturninus you, wretch, to-be are-ashamed,
impia Parrhasia movisti bella sub ursa,
impious the-Parrhasian you-stirred-up wars under Bear,
qualia qui Phariae coniugis arma tulit.
such-as who of-a-Pharian wife arms bore.
Excideratne adeo fatum tibi nominis huius,
Had-it-slipped so-far the-fate from-you of-name this,
obruit Actiaci quod gravis ira freti?
overwhelmed of-Actium which heavy the-wrath strait?
An tibi promisit Rhenus quod non dedit illi
Or to-you promised the-Rhine what not it-gave him
Nilus, et Arctois plus licuisset aquis?
the-Nile, and to-Arctic more would-have-been-allowed waters?
Ille etiam nostris Antonius occidit armis,
He too by-our Antony fell arms,
qui tibi conlatus, perfide, Caesar erat.
who to-you compared, traitor, a-Caesar was.

12 Nulli, Thai, negas, sed si te non pudet istud,
To-no-one, Thais, you-refuse, but if you not shames that,
hoc saltem pudeat, Thai, negare nihil.
this at-least let-shame, Thais, to-refuse nothing.

13 Claudia, Rufe, meo nubit Peregrina Pudenti:
Claudia, Rufus, to-my is-wedding Peregrina Pudens:
macte esto taedis, o Hymenaee, tuis.
blessed be in-the-torches, O Hymenaeus, your.
Tam bene rara suo miscentur cinnama nardo,
So well rare with-its are-mixed cinnamon nard,
Massica Theseis tam bene vina favis;
Massic with-Thesean so well wines honeycombs;
nec melius teneris iunguntur vitibus ulmi,
nor better to-tender are-joined vines elms,
nec plus lotos aquas, litora myrtus amat.
nor more the-lotus waters, the-shores the-myrtle loves.
Candida perpetuo reside, Concordia, lecto,
Fair on-the-perpetual sit, Concord, couch,
tamque pari semper sit Venus aequa iugo:
and-so equal always may-be Venus kind to-the-yoke:
diligat illa senem quondam, sed et ipsa marito
may-love she an-old-man one-day, but also herself to-her-husband
tum quoque, cum fuerit, non videatur anus.
then also, when she-shall-be, not she-may-seem an-old-woman.

14

Sili, Castalidum decus sororum,
Silius, of-the-Castalian glory sisters,
qui periuria barbari furoris
who the-perjuries of-barbarian fury
ingenti premis ore perfidosque
with-mighty crush mouth and-the-treacherous
astus Hannibalis levisque Poenos
wiles of-Hannibal and-fickle Carthaginians
magnis cedere cogis Africanis:
to-the-great to-yield compel Africani:
paulum seposita severitate,
a-little laid-aside your-severity,
dum blanda vagus alea December
while with-coaxing roaming dice December
incertis sonat hinc et hinc fritillis
with-uncertain sounds here and there dice-boxes
et ludit tropa nequiore talo,
and plays at-tropa with-a-naughtier knucklebone,
nostris otia commoda Camenis,
to-our leisure suitable Muses,
nec torva lege fronte, sed remissa
not with-grim read brow, but relaxed
lascivis madidos iocis libellos.
with-wanton soaked jests little-books.
Sic forsan tener ausus est Catullus
Thus perhaps tender dared has Catullus
magno mittere Passerem Maroni.
to-great to-send the-Sparrow Maro.

Caecilianus, refused a thousand coins, asks for plate. Gallus' stepmother is still his stepmother after his father's death. Paulus wants verses against Lycisca to keep her for himself. An icicle falls from a dripping colonnade and cuts a boy's throat. A Sequanian weaver's wrap is sent as a gift. Caerellia calls herself old and Gellia young, and Segius thinks the gods absent because he grew rich. Cleopatra, a bride, hides in a clear pool. Callimachus has given the palm to Bruttianus, and Martial asks to come second. Martial wants an old age by Altinum and Aquileia. What he lost by not calling on Postumus all year is less than he pays for a toga. Caesar's gifts vex the envious, and the sacred fish of Baiae must be spared.

15 Mille tibi nummos hesterna luce roganti
A-thousand to-you sesterces on-yesterday's light asking
in sex aut septem, Caeciliane, dies
for six or seven, Caecilianus, days
'Non habeo' dixi: sed tu causatus amici
'Not I-have' I-said: but you pleading of-a-friend
adventum lancem paucaque vasa rogas.
the-arrival a-dish and-a-few vessels ask.
Stultus es? an stultum me credis, amice? negavi
A-fool are-you? or a-fool me do-you-believe, friend? I-refused
mille tibi nummos, milia quinque dabo?
a-thousand to-you sesterces, thousands five shall-I-give?

16 Privignum non esse tuae te, Galle, novercae
Stepson not to-be of-your you, Gallus, stepmother
rumor erat, coniunx dum fuit illa patris.
rumor was, wife while was she of-your-father.
Non tamen hoc poterat vivo genitore probari.
Not yet this could with-living father be-proved.

Iam nusquam pater est, Galle, noverca domi est.
Now nowhere your-father is, Gallus, the-stepmother at-home is.
Magnus ab infernis revocetur Tullius umbris
Great from the-infernal let-be-recalled Tullius shades
et te defendat Regulus ipse licet,
and you let-defend Regulus himself though,
non potes absolvi: nam quae non desinit esse
not you-can be-acquitted: for she-who not ceases to-be
post patrem, numquam, Galle, noverca fuit.
after your-father, never, Gallus, a-stepmother was.

Facere in Lyciscam, Paule, me iubes versus, 17
To-make against Lycisca, Paulus, me you-bid verses,
quibus illa lectis rubeat et sit irata.
by-which she read may-blush and may-be angry.
O Paule, malus es: irrumare vis solus.
O Paulus, wicked you-are: to-face-fuck you-wish alone.

Qua vicina pluit Vipsanis porta columnis 18
Where neighboring drips to-the-Vipsanian gate colonnade
et madet adsiduo lubricus imbre lapis,
and is-wet with-constant slippery rain the-stone,
in iugulum pueri, qui roscida tecta subibat,
onto the-throat of-a-boy, who the-dewy roof was-passing-under,
decidit hiberno praegravis unda gelu:
fell with-wintry heavy water frost:

cumque peregisset miseri crudelia fata,
and-when it-had-accomplished of-the-wretched the-cruel fate,
tabuit in calido volnere mucro tener.
melted in the-warm wound the-dagger tender.
Quid non saeva sibi voluit Fortuna licere?
What not cruel for-herself has-wished Fortune to-be-allowed?
Aut ubi non mors est, si iugulatis aquae?
Or where not death is, if you-cut-throats waters?

19 Hanc tibi Sequanicae pinguem textricis alumnam,
This to-you of-a-Sequanian fat weaver the-nursling,
quae Lacedaemonium barbara nomen habet,
which a-Spartan barbarian name has,
sordida, sed gelido non aspernanda Decembri
coarse, but in-chill not to-be-scorned December
dona, peregrinam mittimus endromida: —
a-gift, a-foreign we-send wrap:—
seu lentum ceroma teris tepidumve trigona,
whether the-sticky wrestlers'-salve you-wear or-the-warm ball-game,
sive harpasta manu pulverulenta rapis,
or the-scrimmage-balls with-hand dusty you-snatch,
plumea seu laxi partiris pondera follis,
the-feathered or of-a-slack you-share weights bladder-ball,
sive levem cursu vincere quaeris Athan —
or the-light in-running to-beat you-seek Athas—
ne madidos intret penetrabile frigus in artus,
lest dripping should-enter piercing cold into your-limbs,
neve gravis subita te premat Iris aqua.
or-lest heavy with-sudden you should-press Iris water.

Ridebis ventos hoc munere tectus et imbris:
You-will-laugh-at the-winds with-this gift covered and the-rains:
nec sic in Tyria sindone tutus eris.
nor so in Tyrian muslin safe will-you-be.

Dicit se vetulam, cum sit Caerellia pupa: 20
Says herself an-old-woman, though she-is Caerellia a-doll:
pupam se dicit Gellia, cum sit anus.
a-doll herself calls Gellia, though she-is an-old-woman.
Ferre nec hanc possis, possis, Colline, nec illam:
To-bear nor this-one could-you, could-you, Collinus, nor that-one:
altera ridicula est, altera putidula.
the-one ridiculous is, the-other a-bit-rotten.

Nullos esse deos, inane caelum 21
None to-be gods, empty heaven
adfirmat Segius: probatque, quod se
affirms Segius: and-proves, because himself
factum, dum negat haec, videt beatum.
made, while he-denies these, he-sees blessed.

Primos passa toros et adhuc placanda marito 22
The-first having-suffered couch and still to-be-appeased by-her-husband
merserat in nitidos se Cleopatra lacus,
had-plunged into the-gleaming herself Cleopatra pool,
dum fugit amplexus. Sed prodidit unda latentem;
while she-fled his-embraces. But betrayed the-water her-hiding;

lucebat, totis cum tegeretur aquis:
she-shone, in-all though she-was-covered waters:
condita sic puro numerantur lilia vitro,
laid-up thus in-clear are-counted lilies glass,
sic prohibet tenuis gemma latere rosas.
thus forbids a-thin gem to-hide roses.
Insilui mersusque vadis luctantia carpsi
I-leapt-in and-plunged in-the-shallows struggling plucked
basia: perspicuae plus vetuistis aquae.
kisses: transparent more you-forbade waters.

23 Dum tu lenta nimis diuque quaeris,
While you slow too-much and-long ask,
quis primus tibi quisve sit secundus
who first for-you or-who be second
Graium quos epigramma conparavit:
of-the-Greeks whom the-epigram has-paired:
palmam Callimachus, Thalia, de se
the-palm Callimachus, Thalia, from himself
facundo dedit ipse Bruttiano.
to-the-eloquent gave he Bruttianus.
Qui si Cecropio satur lepore
Who if with-Cecropian sated wit
Romanae sale luserit Minervae,
of-Roman with-the-salt shall-have-played Minerva,
illi me facias, precor, secundum.
to-him me make, I-pray, second.

Omnes quas habuit, Fabiane, Lycoris amicas 24
All whom had, Fabianus, Lycoris women-friends
extulit: uxori fiat amica meae.
she-has-buried: to-the-wife may-she-become a-friend my.

Aemula Baianis Altini litora villis 25
Rival to-the-Baian of-Altinum shores villas
et Phaethontei conscia silva rogi,
and of-Phaethon's witness wood pyre,
quaeque Antenoreo Dryadum pulcherrima Fauno
and-who to-Antenor's of-the-Dryads loveliest Faunus
nupsit ad Euganeos Sola puella lacus,
married at the-Euganean Sola the-girl lakes,
et tu Ledaeo felix Aquileia Timavo,
and you by-Ledaean happy Aquileia Timavus,
hic ubi septenas Cyllarus hausit aquas:
here where seven Cyllarus drank waters:
vos eritis nostrae requies portusque senectae,
you will-be of-our the-rest and-haven old-age,
si iuris fuerint otia nostra sui.
if of-the-right shall-be leisure our own.

Quod te mane domi toto non vidimus anno, 26
That you in-the-morning at-home the-whole not we-saw year,
vis dicam, quantum, Postume, perdiderim?
do-you-wish I-tell, how-much, Postumus, I-may-have-lost?

Tricenos, puto, bis, vicenos ter, puto, nummos.
Thirty, I-think, twice, twenty thrice, I-think, sesterces.
Ignosces: togulam, Postume, pluris emo.
You-will-forgive: a-little-toga, Postumus, dearer I-buy.

27 Saepe meos laudare soles, Auguste, libellos.
Often my to-praise you-are-wont, Augustus, little-books.
Invidus ecce negat: num minus ergo soles?
The-envious behold denies: surely-not less therefore are-you-wont?
Quid, quod honorato non sola voce dedisti,
What, that to-me-honored not only with-voice you-have-given,
non alius poterat quae dare dona mihi?
not another could which to-give gifts me?
Ecce iterum nigros conrodit lividus ungues.
Behold again black gnaws the-livid nails.
Da, Caesar, tanto tu magis, ut doleat.
Give, Caesar, so-much you the-more, that he-may-grieve.

28 Donasti tenero, Chloe, Luperco
You-have-given to-tender, Chloe, Lupercus
Hispanas Tyriasque coccinasque,
Spanish and-Tyrian and-scarlet,
et lotam tepido togam Galaeso,
and washed in-warm a-toga Galaesus,
Indos sardonychas, Scythas zmaragdos,
Indian sardonyxes, Scythian emeralds,
et centum dominos novae monetae:
and a-hundred masters of-new coinage:

et quidquid petit usque et usque donas.
and whatever he-asks on and on you-give.
Vae glabraria, vae tibi misella:
Alas smooth-lover, alas to-you poor-wretch:
nudam te statuet tuus Lupercus.
naked you will-set your Lupercus.

Obstat, care Pudens, nostris sua turba libellis 29
Stands-in-the-way, dear Pudens, to-our its-own crowd little-books
lectoremque frequens lassat et implet opus.
and-the-reader frequent wearies and fills a-work.
Rara iuvant: primis sic maior gratia pomis,
Rare-things please: the-first thus greater charm to-fruits,
hibernae pretium sic meruere rosae;
of-winter the-price thus have-earned roses;
sic spoliatricem commendat fastus amicam,
thus a-plundering commends disdain mistress,
ianua nec iuvenem semper aperta tenet.
a-door nor a-youth always open holds.
Saepius in libro numeratur Persius uno,
More-often in book is-counted Persius one,
quam levis in tota Marsus Amazonide.
than light in the-whole Marsus Amazoniad.
Tu quoque de nostris releges quemcumque libellis,
You also of our you-reread whichever little-books,
esse puta solum: sic tibi pluris erit.
to-be think it-alone: thus to-you dearer it-will-be.

Baiano procul a lacu, monemus,
the-Baian far from lake, we-warn,
piscator, fuge, ne nocens recedas.
fisherman, flee, lest guilty you-go-away.
Sacris piscibus hae natantur undae,
With-sacred fishes these are-swum waters,
qui norunt dominum manumque lambunt
who know their-lord and-the-hand lick
illam, qua nihil est in orbe maius.
that, than-which nothing is in the-world greater.
Quid, quod nomen habent et ad magistri
What, that names they-have and to of-the-master
vocem quisque sui venit citatus?
the-voice each his-own comes summoned?
Hoc quondam Libys impius profundo,
This once a-Libyan impious from-the-deep,
dum praedam calamo tremente ducit,
while prey with-rod trembling he-draws,
raptis luminibus repente caecus
snatched his-eyes suddenly blind
captum non potuit videre piscem,
caught not could see the-fish,
et nunc sacrilegos perosus hamos
and now the-sacrilegious hating hooks
Baianos sedet ad lacus rogator.
the-Baian he-sits by the-lakes a-beggar.

At tu, dum potes, innocens recede
But you, while you-can, innocent withdraw
iactis simplicibus cibis in undas,
thrown simple foods into the-waves,
et pisces venerare delicatos.
and the-fishes revere delicate.

EPIGRAMS 31–47

A man who wants a place in the book has a name, Hippodamus, no Muse could sing, and is told to take another. A bee in amber is a fit reward for its labors. Sosibianus leaves his poems to his heirs and should be read now. Two does fight head to head and both fall, the hounds watching and the hunter amazed. Olus dyes his hair but cannot dye his beard. Afer's daily recital of his debtors' sums should be paid for. Charinus' collection lacks only plain silver. Postumus, preferred to the great houses of Rome and grown rich, gives Martial nothing. Vesuvius, lately green with vines, lies in ashes. Parthenius prays for his son Burrus, and Sabellus is proud of his Saturnalia gifts.

31

Quod cupis in nostris dicique legique libellis
That you-desire in our both-to-be-named and-to-be-read little-books
et nonnullus honos creditur iste tibi,
and some honor is-believed that to-you,
ne valeam, si non res est gratissima nobis
may-not I-fare-well, if not the-thing is most-welcome to-us
et volo te chartis inseruisse meis.
and I-wish you in-pages to-have-inserted my.
Sed tu nomen habes averso fonte sororum
But you a-name have with-averted spring of-the-sisters
inpositum, mater quod tibi dura dedit;
imposed, mother which to-you harsh gave;

quod nec Melpomene, quod nec Polyhymnia possit
which neither Melpomene, which nor Polyhymnia could
nec pia cum Phoebo dicere Calliope.
nor dutiful with Phoebus pronounce Calliope.
Ergo aliquod gratum Musis tibi nomen adopta:
Therefore some welcome to-the-Muses for-yourself a-name adopt:
non semper belle dicitur 'Hippodame.'
not always prettily is-said 'Hippodame.'

32 Et latet et lucet Phaethontide condita gutta,
Both lies-hidden and shines in-Phaethon's laid-up drop,
ut videatur apis nectare clusa suo.
so-that it-seems a-bee in-nectar enclosed its-own.
Dignum tantorum pretium tulit illa laborum:
A-worthy of-such-great reward bore she labors:
credibile est ipsam sic voluisse mori.
believable it-is herself thus to-have-wished to-die.

33 Plena laboratis habeas cum scrinia libris,
Full with-labored you-may-have though boxes books,
emittis quare, Sosibiane, nihil?
you-publish why, Sosibianus, nothing?
'Edent heredes' inquis 'mea carmina.' Quando?
'Will-publish the-heirs you-say 'my poems.' When?
Tempus erat iam te, Sosibiane, legi.
Time it-was now you, Sosibianus, to-be-read.

Sordida cum tibi sit, verum tamen, Attale, dicit, 34
Dirty though for-you it-is, the-truth yet, Attalus, tells,
quisquis te niveam dicit habere togam.
whoever you snow-white says to-have a-toga.

Frontibus adversis molles concurrere dammas 35
With-brows opposed soft to-clash does
vidimus et fati sorte iacere pari.
we-saw and of-fate by-a-lot to-lie equal.
Spectavere canes praedam, stupuitque superbus
Watched the-hounds the-prey, and-was-astonished the-proud
venator, cultro nil superesse suo.
hunter, for-the-knife nothing to-remain his-own.
Unde leves animi tanto caluere furore?
Whence light spirits with-such-great glowed fury?
Sic pugnant tauri, sic cecidere viri.
Thus fight bulls, thus fell men.

Cana est barba tibi, nigra est coma: tinguere barbam 36
White is the-beard for-you, black is your-hair: to-dye your-beard
non potes — haec causa est — et potes, Ole, comam.
not you-can —this the-reason is —and you-can, Olus, your-hair.

'Centum Coranus et ducenta Mancinus, 37
'A-hundred Coranus and two-hundred Mancinus,
trecenta debet Titius, hoc bis Albinus,
three-hundred owes Titius, this twice Albinus,

decies Sabinus alterumque Serranus;
a-million Sabinus and-another Serranus;
ex insulis fundisque tricies soldum,
from apartment-blocks and-farms three-million clear,
ex pecore redeunt ter ducena Parmensi':
from the-flock come-in thrice two-hundred Parmensian':
totis diebus, Afer, hoc mihi narras
all days, Afer, this to-me you-tell
et teneo melius ista, quam meum nomen.
and I-hold better those-things, than my-own name.
Numeres oportet aliquid, ut pati possim:
You-count it-is-proper something, that to-bear I-may-be-able:
cotidianam refice nauseam nummis:
the-daily cure nausea with-coins:
audire gratis, Afer, ista non possum.
to-hear for-nothing, Afer, those-things not I-can.

38 Galla, nega: satiatur amor, nisi gaudia torquent:
Galla, refuse: is-glutted love, unless joys torment:
sed noli nimium, Galla, negare diu.
but do-not too-much, Galla, refuse long.

39 Argenti genus omne comparasti,
Of-silver kind every you-have-collected,
et solus veteres Myronos artes,
and alone the-old of-Myron arts,
solus Praxitelus manum Scopaeque,
alone of-Praxiteles the-hand and-of-Scopas,

solus Phidiaci toreuma caeli,
alone of-Phidian the-embossed-work graver,
solus Mentoreos habes labores.
alone Mentor's you-have labors.
Nec desunt tibi vera Gratiana,
Nor are-lacking to-you true Gratiana,
nec quae Callaico linuntur auro,
nor those-which with-Galician are-overlaid gold,
nec mensis anaglypta de paternis.
nor tables reliefs from ancestral.
Argentum tamen inter omne miror
Silver yet among all I-wonder
quare non habeas, Charine, purum.
why not you-have, Charinus, plain.

Atria Pisonum stabant cum stemmate toto
The-halls of-the-Pisos stood with pedigree whole
et docti Senecae ter numeranda domus;
and of-learned Seneca thrice to-be-counted house;
praetulimus tantis solum te, Postume, regnis:
I-preferred to-so-great alone you, Postumus, kingdoms:
pauper eras et eques, sed mihi consul eras.
poor you-were and a-knight, but to-me a-consul you-were.
Tecum ter denas numeravi, Postume, brumas:
With-you thrice ten I-counted, Postumus, winters:
communis nobis lectus et unus erat.
common to-us a-couch and one was.

Iam donare potes, iam perdere, plenus honorum,
Now to-give you-can, now to-lose, full of-honors,
largus opum: expecto, Postume, quid facias.
lavish of-wealth: I-await, Postumus, what you-will-do.
Nil facis, et serumst alium mihi quaerere regem. —
Nothing you-do, and too-late-it-is another for-me to-seek patron.—
Hoc, Fortuna, placet? 'Postumus inposuit.'
This, Fortune, is-it-pleasing? 'Postumus has-cheated.'

41 Quid recitaturus circumdas vellera collo?
Why about-to-recite do-you-wrap wool round-your-neck?
Conveniunt nostris auribus ista magis.
Suit our ears those-things more.

43 Non dixi, Coracine, te cinaedum:
Not I-said, Coracinus, you a-catamite:
non sum tam temerarius nec audax
not I-am so rash nor bold
nec mendacia qui loquar libenter.
nor lies one-who would-tell willingly.
Si dixi, Coracine, te cinaedum,
If I-said, Coracinus, you a-catamite,
iratam mihi Pontiae lagonam,
angry with-me Pontia's flagon,
iratum calicem mihi Metili:
angry the-cup with-me Metilius':
iuro per Syrios tibi tumores,
I-swear by Syrian to-you tumors,

iuro per Berecyntios furores.
I-swear by Berecyntian frenzies.
Quid dixi tamen? Hoc leve et pusillum,
What did-I-say yet? This light and petty,
quod notum est, quod et ipse non negabis,
which known is, which also yourself not will-deny,
dixi te, Coracine, cunnilingum.
I-said you, Coracinus, a-cunt-licker.

Hic est pampineis viridis modo Vesbius umbris, 44
This is with-vine-leaf green lately Vesuvius shades,
presserat hic madidos nobilis uva lacus:
had-pressed here dripping noble the-grape vats:
haec iuga, quam Nysae colles, plus Bacchus amavit,
these ridges, than Nysa's hills, more Bacchus loved,
hoc nuper Satyri monte dedere choros.
on-this lately the-Satyrs mountain gave dances.
Haec Veneris sedes, Lacedaemone gratior illi,
This of-Venus the-seat, than-Lacedaemon more-pleasing to-her,
hic locus Herculeo numine clarus erat.
this place by-Herculean godhead famous was.
Cuncta iacent flammis et tristi mersa favilla:
All lie in-flames and with-sad drowned ash:
nec superi vellent hoc licuisse sibi.
nor the-gods would-wish this to-have-been-allowed to-themselves.

45 Haec tibi pro nato plena dat laetus acerra,
These to-you for his-son full gives glad from-the-censer,
Phoebe, Palatinus munera Parthenius,
Phoebus, Palatine gifts Parthenius,
ut qui prima novo signat quinquennia lustro,
that he-who first new marks five-years lustrum,
impleat innumeras Burrus Olympiadas.
may-fill countless Burrus Olympiads.
Fac rata vota patris: sic te tua diligat arbor
Make ratified the-prayers of-the-father: so you your may-love tree
gaudeat et certa virginitate soror,
may-rejoice and in-sure virginity your-sister,
perpetuo sic flore mices, sic denique non sint
with-perpetual so bloom may-you-flash, so finally not may-be
tam longae Bromio, quam tibi, Phoebe, comae.
so long to-Bromius, as to-you, Phoebus, locks.

46 Saturnalia divitem Sabellum
The-Saturnalia rich Sabellus
fecerunt: merito tumet Sabellus,
have-made: deservedly swells Sabellus,
nec quemquam putat esse praedicatque
nor anyone thinks to-be and-proclaims
inter causidicos beatiorem.
among the-pleaders more-blessed.
Hos fastus animosque dat Sabello
These airs and-spirits gives to-Sabellus
farris semodius fabaeque fresae,
of-emmer a-half-peck and-of-bean crushed,

et turis piperisque tres selibrae,
and of-incense and-of-pepper three half-pounds,
et Lucanica ventre cum Falisco,
and a-Lucanian-sausage belly with Faliscan,
et nigri Syra defruti lagona,
and of-black a-Syrian boiled-wine flagon,
et ficus Libyca gelata testa
and figs Libyan in-jellied jar
cum bulbis cocleisque caseoque.
with bulbs and-snails and-cheese.
Piceno quoque venit a cliente
Picene also came from a-client
parcae cistula non capax olivae,
of-sparing a-little-box not holding olive,
et crasso figuli polita caelo
and with-coarse of-the-potter polished graving
septenaria synthesis Sagunti,
seven-piece a-dinner-set of-Saguntum,
Hispanae luteum rotae toreuma,
of-Spanish a-clay wheel embossed-work,
et lato variata mappa clavo.
and with-broad varied a-napkin stripe.
Saturnalia fructuosiora
Saturnalia more-fruitful
annis non habuit decem Sabellus.
in-years not has-had ten Sabellus.

47 Encaustus Phaethon tabula tibi pictus in hac est.
Encaustic Phaethon panel for-you painted on this is.
Quid tibi vis, dipyrum qui Phaethonta facis?
What for-yourself do-you-want, double-fired who Phaethon you-make?

EPIGRAMS 48–61

Papylus liked being buggered and weeps after it, and Martial asks whether he weeps because it has stopped. Flaccus is told epigrams are less trifling than tragedies on Tereus and Thyestes; those are praised, these are read. Caecilianus rode in a litter when poor and walks now that he is rich. A beggar in Pallas' temple is no Cynic but a dog. Collinus, crowned on the Capitol, is told to use every day, since the Fates are not moved. Lucius may leave Greek cities to other poets: Martial will sing the rough names of their Spanish homeland, Bilbilis, the Salo, and the rest. Gargilianus' gifts to the old are hooks. Faustinus' Tibur beats Baiae when the Nemean Lion's breast blazes, and Mancinus boasts of every gift and legacy.

48 Percidi gaudes, percisus, Papyle, ploras.
To-be-buggered you-rejoice, buggered, Papylus, you-weep.
Cur, quae vis fieri, Papyle, facta doles?
Why, what you-wish to-be-done, Papylus, done do-you-lament?
Paenitet obscenae pruriginis? an magis illud
Do-you-regret your-obscene itch? or rather that
fles, quod percidi, Papyle, desieris?
do-you-weep, that to-be-buggered, Papylus, you-have-ceased?

49 Nescit, crede mihi, quid sint epigrammata, Flacce,
Knows-not, believe me, what are epigrams, Flaccus,
qui tantum lusus ista iocosque vocat.
who only sports those and-jests calls.

Ille magis ludit, qui scribit prandia saevi
He more plays, who writes the-luncheon of-savage
Tereos, aut cenam, crude Thyesta, tuam,
Tereus, or the-dinner, cruel Thyestes, your,
aut puero liquidas aptantem Daedalon alas,
or to-his-boy liquid fitting Daedalus wings,
pascentem Siculas aut Polyphemon ovis.
pasturing Sicilian or Polyphemus sheep.
A nostris procul est omnis vesica libellis,
From our far is all bombast little-books,
Musa nec insano syrmate nostra tumet.
the-Muse nor with-mad trailing-robe our swells.
'Illa tamen laudant omnes, mirantur, adorant.'
'Those yet praise all, admire, adore.'
Confiteor: laudant illa, sed ista legunt.
I-confess: they-praise those, but these they-read.

Quid me, Thai, senem subinde dicis? 50
Why me, Thais, an-old-man again-and-again do-you-call?
Nemo est, Thai, senex ad irrumandum.
No-one is, Thais, old for face-fucking.

Cum tibi non essent sex milia, Caeciliane, 51
When to-you not were six thousand, Caecilianus,
ingenti late vectus es hexaphoro:
in-a-huge widely carried you-were six-bearer-litter:

postquam bis decies tribuit dea caeca sinumque
after twice a-million granted the-goddess blind and-the-purse
ruperunt nummi, factus es, ecce, pedes.
burst the-coins, made you-are, behold, a-walker.
Quid tibi pro meritis et tantis laudibus optem?
What to-you for your-merits and so-great praises shall-I-wish?
Di reddant sellam, Caeciliane, tibi.
May-the-gods give-back the-chair, Caecilianus, to-you.

52 Gestari iunctis nisi desinis, Hedyle, capris,
To-be-carried by-yoked unless you-stop, Hedylus, goats,
qui modo ficus eras, iam caprificus eris.
who lately a-fig were, now a-wild-fig you-will-be.

53 Hunc, quem saepe vides intra penetralia nostrae
This-man, whom often you-see within the-sanctuary of-our
Pallados et templi limina, Cosme, novi
Pallas and of-the-temple the-threshold, Cosmus, new
cum baculo peraque senem, cui cana putrisque
with staff and-wallet an-old-man, whose white and-moldy
stat coma et in pectus sordida barba cadit,
stands hair and onto his-breast dirty beard falls,

cerea quem nudi tegit uxor abolla grabati,
waxen whom of-naked covers the-wife cloak cot,
cui dat latratos obvia turba cibos,
to-whom gives barked-for meeting crowd food,
esse putas Cynicum deceptus imagine ficta:
to-be you-think a-Cynic deceived by-the-appearance feigned:
non est hic Cynicus, Cosme: quid ergo? Canis.
not is this a-Cynic, Cosmus: what then? A-dog.

O cui Tarpeias licuit contingere quercus 54
O you-to-whom Tarpeian it-was-granted to-touch the-oaks
et meritas prima cingere fronde comas,
and deserved with-first to-bind the-leaf hair,
si sapis, utaris totis, Colline, diebus
if you-are-wise, use all, Collinus, days
extremumque tibi semper adesse putes.
and-the-last to-you always to-be-present think.
Lanificas nulli tres exorare puellas
The-wool-working to-no-one three to-prevail-upon girls
contigit: observant quem statuere diem.
has-befallen: they-observe which they-have-fixed the-day.
Divitior Crispo, Thrasea constantior ipso
Richer than-Crispus, than-Thrasea more-constant himself
lautior et nitido sis Meliore licet:
more-elegant and than-sleek you-may-be Melior though:
nil adicit penso Lachesis fusosque sororum
nothing adds to-the-task Lachesis and-the-spindles of-the-sisters
explicat et semper de tribus una negat.
unwinds and always of the-three one refuses.

Luci, gloria temporum tuorum,
Lucius, glory of-the-times your,
qui Caium veterem Tagumque nostrum
who Caius the-old and-Tagus our
Arpis cedere non sinis disertis:
to-Arpi to-yield not allow eloquent:
Argivas generatus inter urbes
Argive born among cities
Thebas carmine cantet aut Mycenas,
Thebes in-song let-him-sing or Mycenae,
aut claram Rhodon aut libidinosae
or bright Rhodes or of-lustful
Ledaeas Lacedaemonos palaestras:
the-Ledaean of-Lacedaemon wrestling-grounds:
nos Celtis genitos et ex Hiberis
we from-the-Celts born and from the-Iberians
nostrae nomina duriora terrae
of-our the-names harsher land
grato non pudeat referre versu:
in-grateful not let-us-be-ashamed to-relate verse:
saevo Bilbilin optimam metallo,
with-savage Bilbilis best metal,
quae vincit Chalybasque Noricosque,
which beats both-the-Chalybes and-the-Noricans,
et ferro Plateam suo sonantem,
and with-iron Platea its-own resounding,
quam fluctu tenui, sed inquieto
which with-wave thin, but restless
armorum Salo temperator ambit,
of-arms the-Salo the-temperer encircles,

Tutelamque chorosque Rixamarum,
and-Tutela and-the-dances of-Rixamae,
et convivia festa Carduarum,
and the-feasts festive of-Carduae,
et textis Peterin rosis rubentem,
and with-woven Peteris roses blushing,
atque antiqua patrum theatra Rigas,
and ancient of-our-fathers the-theaters Rigae,
et certos iaculo levi Silaos,
and sure with-javelin light the-Silai,
Turgontique lacus Turasiaeque,
and-of-Turgontum the-lakes and-of-Turasia,
et parvae vada pura Tvetonissae,
and of-little the-shallows clear Tvetonissa,
et sanctum Buradonis ilicetum,
and the-holy of-Buradon oak-grove,
per quod vel piger ambulat viator,
through which even the-lazy walks wayfarer,
et quae fortibus excolit iuvencis
and those-which with-strong tills bullocks
curvae Manlius arva Vativescae.
of-curved Manlius the-fields Vativesca.
Haec tam rustica, delicate lector,
These so rustic, dainty reader,
rides nomina? rideas licebit,
you-laugh-at names? laugh you-may,
haec tam rustica malo, quam Butuntos.
these so rustic I-prefer, than Butunti.

56 Munera quod senibus viduisque ingentia mittis,
Gifts that to-old-men and-widows huge you-send,
vis te munificum, Gargiliane, vocem?
you-wish you generous, Gargilianus, I-should-call?
Sordidius nihil est, nihil est te spurcius uno,
More-sordid nothing is, nothing is than-you filthier alone,
qui potes insidias dona vocare tuas:
who can snares gifts call your:
sic avidis fallax indulget piscibus hamus,
thus to-greedy the-deceitful indulges fishes hook,
callida sic stultas decipit esca feras.
cunning thus foolish deceives bait beasts.
Quid sit largiri, quid sit donare, docebo,
What is to-bestow, what is to-give, I-will-teach,
si nescis: dona, Gargiliane, mihi.
if you-know-not: give, Gargilianus, to-me.

57 Dum nos blanda tenent lascivi stagna Lucrini
While us the-alluring hold of-wanton the-pools Lucrinus
et quae pumiceis fontibus antra calent,
and those-which with-pumice springs caves are-warm,
tu colis Argei regnum, Faustine, coloni,
you dwell-in of-Argive the-kingdom, Faustinus, settler,
quo te bis decimus ducit ab urbe lapis.
where you twice the-tenth leads from the-city milestone.
Horrida sed fervent Nemeaei pectora monstri,
Shaggy but blaze of-the-Nemean the-breast monster,
nec satis est, Baias igne calere suo.
nor enough is, Baiae with-fire to-be-warm its-own.

Ergo sacri fontes et litora grata valete,
Therefore sacred springs and shores welcome farewell,
Nympharum pariter Nereïdumque domus.
of-the-Nymphs alike and-of-the-Nereids home.
Herculeos colles gelida vos vincite bruma,
Herculean hills in-chill you conquer winter,
nunc Tiburtinis cedite frigoribus.
now to-Tiburtine yield colds.

In tenebris luges amissum, Galla, maritum. 58
In the-darkness you-mourn lost, Galla, your-husband.
Iam plorare pudet te, puto, Galla, virum.
Now to-weep it-shames you, I-think, Galla, your-husband.

Flentibus Heliadum ramis dum vipera repit, 59
On-the-weeping of-the-Heliades boughs while a-viper crawls,
fluxit in obstantem sucina gutta feram:
flowed onto the-obstructing amber drop beast:
quae dum miratur pingui se rore teneri,
which while it-wonders with-thick itself dew to-be-held,
concreto riguit vincta repente gelu.
congealed stiffened bound suddenly frost.
Ne tibi regali placeas, Cleopatra, sepulchro,
Lest yourself with-your-royal please, Cleopatra, tomb,
vipera si tumulo nobiliore iacet.
a-viper if in-a-tomb nobler lies.

60 Ardea solstitio Castranaque rura petantur
Ardea at-the-solstice and-Castran fields let-be-sought
quique Cleonaeo sidere fervet ager,
and-whatever with-the-Cleonaean star burns land,
cum Tiburtinas damnet Curiatius auras
since Tiburtine condemns Curiatius airs
inter laudatas ad Styga missus aquas.
among praised to the-Styx sent waters.
Nullo fata loco possis excludere: cum mors
In-no fate place could-you shut-out: when death
venerit, in medio Tibure Sardinia est.
shall-have-come, in the-middle-of Tibur Sardinia is.

61 Donasse amicum tibi ducenta, Mancine,
To-have-given a-friend to-you two-hundred, Mancinus,
nuper superbo laetus ore iactasti.
lately with-proud glad mouth you-boasted.
Quartus dies est, in schola poetarum
The-fourth day it-is, in the-school of-the-poets
dum fabulamur, milibus decem dixti
while we-were-chatting, at-thousands ten you-said
emptas lacernas munus esse Pompullae,
bought cloaks a-gift to-be of-Pompulla,
sardonycha verum lineisque ter cinctum
a-sardonyx true and-with-lines thrice girdled
duasque similes fluctibus maris gemmas
and-two like to-the-waves of-the-sea gems
dedisse Bassam Caeliamque iurasti.
to-have-given Bassa and-Caelia you-swore.

Here de theatro, Pollione cantante,
Yesterday from the-theater, with-Pollio singing,
cum subito abires, dum fugis, loquebaris,
when suddenly you-were-leaving, while you-fled, you-said,
hereditatis tibi trecenta venisse,
of-an-inheritance to-you three-hundred to-have-come,
et mane centum, et post meridie centum.
and in-the-morning a-hundred, and after noon a-hundred.
Quid tibi sodales fecimus mali tantum?
What to-you comrades have-we-done of-harm so-much?
Miserere iam, crudelis, et sile tandem.
Have-pity now, cruel, and be-silent at-last.
Aut, si tacere lingua non potest ista,
Or, if to-be-silent tongue not can that,
aliquando narra, quod velimus audire.
sometime tell, what we-may-wish to-hear.

Black Lycoris moves to Tibur, believing everything turns white there. Caerellia drowns sailing from Bauli to Baiae, though the waters once would not do such a deed when Nero ordered it. Julius Martialis' few acres on the Janiculum look over all Rome and its hills and lie quiet above the road, and the host is generous. Philaenis weeps with one eye. Linus lived a cheap country life and spent nothing, yet lost his mother's million. A praetor will give racehorses what he refuses Gaurus. Sextus feasts while his guests get a cheap dole. Papylus' fine wine is said to have killed four wives. Ammianus' father left him nothing but a dry rope. No girl in Rome refuses, and Vestinus is granted time to share his wealth before he dies.

62 Tibur in Herculeum migravit nigra Lycoris,
Tibur to Herculean has-moved black Lycoris,
omnia dum fieri candida credit ibi.
all while to-become white she-believes there.

63 Dum petit a Baulis mater Caerellia Baias,
While seeks from Bauli the-mother Caerellia Baiae,
occidit insani crimine mersa freti.
she-perished of-the-mad by-the-crime drowned of-the-strait.
Gloria quanta perit vobis! haec monstra Neroni
Glory how-great perishes to-you! these monstrous-deeds to-Nero
nec iussae quondam praestiteratis, aquae.
nor ordered once you-had-performed, waters.

Iuli iugera pauca Martialis 64
Julius' acres few Martialis'
hortis Hesperidum beatiora
than-the-gardens of-the-Hesperides more-blessed
longo Ianiculi iugo recumbunt:
on-the-long of-the-Janiculum ridge recline:
lati collibus eminent recessus,
broad on-the-hills stand-out retreats,
et planus modico tumore vertex
and the-level with-moderate swelling summit
caelo perfruitur sereniore
the-sky enjoys more-serene
et curvas nebula tegente valles
and the-curving with-mist covering valleys
solus luce nitet peculiari;
alone with-light shines peculiar;
puris leniter admoventur astris
to-the-pure gently are-moved-near stars
celsae culmina delicata villae.
of-the-lofty the-roofs delicate villa.
Hinc septem dominos videre montis
From-here seven sovereign to-see hills
et totam licet aestimare Romam,
and whole it-is-allowed to-estimate Rome,
Albanos quoque Tusculosque colles
the-Alban also and-Tusculan hills
et quodcumque iacet sub urbe frigus,
and whatever lies under the-city cool,
Fidenas veteres brevesque Rubras,
Fidenae old and-small Rubrae,

et quod virgineo cruore gaudet
and what with-virgin blood rejoices
Annae pomiferum nemus Perennae.
of-Anna fruit-bearing the-grove Perenna.
Illinc Flaminiae Salariaeque
From-there of-the-Flaminian and-the-Salarian
gestator patet essedo tacente,
the-rider shows with-carriage silent,
ne blando rota sit molesta somno,
lest to-soothing the-wheel be troublesome sleep,
quem nec rumpere nauticum celeuma
which neither to-break the-sailors' boat-call
nec clamor valet helciariorum,
nor the-shouting is-able of-the-bargemen,
cum sit tam prope Mulvius sacrumque
though it-is so near the-Mulvian and-sacred
lapsae per Tiberim volent carinae.
gliding along the-Tiber fly keels.
Hoc rus, seu potius domus vocanda est,
This farm, or rather a-house to-be-called is,
commendat dominus: tuam putabis,
commends the-master: your-own you-will-think-it,
tam non invida tamque liberalis,
so not grudging and-so liberal,
tam comi patet hospitalitate:
so with-courteous opens hospitality:
credas Alcinoi pios Penates
you-might-believe Alcinous' pious Household-gods
aut facti modo divitis Molorchi.
or of-made just-now rich Molorchus.

Vos nunc omnia parva qui putatis,
You now all-things small who think,
centeno gelidum ligone Tibur
with-a-hundred cool hoes Tibur
vel Praeneste domate pendulamque
or Praeneste tame and-hanging
uni dedite Setiam colono,
to-one give-over Setia tenant,
dum me iudice praeferantur istis
while me as-judge be-preferred to-those
Iuli iugera pauca Martialis.
Julius' acres few Martialis'.

Oculo Philaenis semper altero plorat. 65
With-eye Philaenis always the-other weeps.
Quo fiat istud quaeritis modo? lusca est.
By-what comes-about that you-ask way? one-eyed she-is.

Egisti vitam semper, Line, municipalem, 66
You-have-led a-life always, Linus, small-town,
qua nihil omnino vilius esse potest.
than-which nothing at-all cheaper to-be can.
Idibus et raris togula est excussa Kalendis
on-the-Ides and rare the-little-toga is shaken-out Kalends
duxit et aestates synthesis una decem.
lasted and summers dinner-suit one ten.

Saltus aprum, campus leporem tibi misit inemptum,
The-glade a-boar, the-plain a-hare to-you sent unbought,
silva gravis turdos exagitata dedit,
the-wood heavy thrushes driven gave,
captus flumineo venit de gurgite piscis,
caught river came from eddy fish,
vina ruber fudit non peregrina cadus.
wines a-red poured not foreign jar.
Nec tener Argolica missus de gente minister,
Nor tender Argive sent from race a-server,
sed stetit inculti rustica turba foci.
but stood of-the-rough rustic the-crowd hearth.
Vilica vel duri conpressa est nupta coloni,
The-steward's-wife or of-the-hard pressed was the-bride tenant,
incaluit quotiens saucia vena mero.
grew-hot as-often-as wounded the-vein with-wine.
Nec nocuit tectis ignis, nec Sirius agris,
Nor harmed the-roof fire, nor Sirius the-fields,
nec mersa est pelago nec fuit ulla ratis.
nor sunk was in-the-sea nor was any ship.
Subposita est blando numquam tibi tessera talo,
Substituted was for-coaxing never by-you a-die knucklebone,
alea sed parcae sola fuere nuces.
the-gambling but sparing alone were nuts.
Dic, ubi sit decies, mater quod avara reliquit.
Tell, where is the-million, mother which greedy left.
Nusquam est: fecisti rem, Line, difficilem.
Nowhere it-is: you-have-done a-thing, Linus, difficult.

Praetorem pauper centum sestertia Gaurus 67
A-praetor poor a-hundred thousand-sesterces Gaurus
orabat cana notus amicitia,
was-begging-of white known for-friendship,
dicebatque suis haec tantum deesse trecentis,
and-was-saying from-his this only to-be-lacking three-hundred,
ut posset domino plaudere iustus eques.
that he-might to-the-emperor applaud a-proper knight.
Praetor ait 'Scis me Scorpo Thalloque daturum,
The-praetor says 'You-know me to-Scorpus and-to-Thallus about-to-give,
atque utinam centum milia sola darem.'
and would-that a-hundred thousand only I-were-giving.'
A pudet ingratae, pudet a male divitis arcae.
Ah shame on-the-ungrateful, shame ah on-the-ill rich strongbox.
Quod non das equiti, vis dare, praetor, equo?
What not you-give to-a-knight, you-wish to-give, praetor, to-a-horse?

Invitas centum quadrantibus et bene cenas. 68
You-invite for-a-hundred farthings and well you-dine.
Ut cenem invitor, Sexte, an ut invideam?
That I-may-dine am-I-invited, Sextus, or that I-may-envy?

Tu Setina quidem semper vel Massica ponis, 69
You Setine indeed always or Massic serve,
Papyle, sed rumor tam bona vina negat:
Papylus, but rumor so good wines denies:

diceris hac factus caelebs quater esse lagona.
you-are-said by-this made a-widower four-times to-have-been flagon.
Nec puto nec credo, Papyle, nec sitio.
Nor I-think nor I-believe, Papylus, nor am-I-thirsty.

70 Nihil Ammiano praeter aridam restem
Nothing to-Ammianus except a-dry rope
moriens reliquit ultimis pater ceris.
dying left in-his-last his-father wax-tablets.
Fieri putaret posse quis, Marulline,
To-happen would-think to-be-able who, Marullinus,
ut Ammianus mortuum patrem nollet?
that Ammianus dead his-father would-not-wish?

71 Quaero diu totam, Safroni Rufe, per urbem,
I-seek long whole, Safronius Rufus, through the-city,
si qua puella neget: nulla puella negat.
if any girl refuses: no girl refuses.
Tamquam fas non sit, tamquam sit turpe negare,
As-though right not it-were, as-though it-were base to-refuse,
tamquam non liceat: nulla puella negat.
as-though not it-were-allowed: no girl refuses.
Casta igitur nulla est? sunt castae mille: quid ergo
Chaste then none is? there-are chaste-women a-thousand: what then
casta facit? non dat, non tamen illa negat.
the-chaste does? not she-gives, not yet she refuses.

Exigis, ut donem nostros tibi, Quinte, libellos. 72
You-demand, that I-give our to-you, Quintus, little-books.
Non habeo, sed habet bibliopola Tryphon.
Not I-have, but has the-bookseller Tryphon.
'Aes dabo pro nugis et emam tua carmina sanus?
'Cash shall-I-give for trifles and buy your poems sane?
Non' inquis 'faciam tam fatue.' Nec ego.
Not' you-say 'I-will-do-it so foolishly.' Nor I.

Cum gravis extremas Vestinus duceret horas 73
When heavy his-last Vestinus was-drawing-out hours
et iam per Stygias esset iturus aquas,
and now through Stygian was about-to-go waters,
ultima volventis oravit pensa sorores,
the-last the-spinning he-begged the-tasks sisters,
ut traherent parva stamina pulla mora,
that they-would-draw-out with-small the-threads dark delay,
iam sibi defunctus caris dum vivit amicis.
now to-himself dead for-his-dear while he-lives friends.
Moverunt tetricas tam pia vota deas.
Moved the-grim so pious prayers goddesses.
Tunc largas partitus opes a luce recessit
Then ample having-divided his-wealth from the-light he-withdrew
seque mori post hoc credidit ille senem.
and-himself to-die after this believed he an-old-man.

74 Aspicis, inbelles temptent quam fortia dammae
You-see, unwarlike would-attempt how strong does
proelia? tam timidis quanta sit ira feris?
battles? so in-timid how-great is the-anger beasts?
In mortem parvis concurrere frontibus ardent.
Into death with-small to-clash brows they-burn.
Vis, Caesar, dammis parcere? mitte canes.
Do-you-wish, Caesar, the-does to-spare? send-in the-hounds.

75 O felix animo, felix, Nigrina, marito
O happy in-spirit, happy, Nigrina, in-husband
atque inter Latias gloria prima nurus:
and among Latin the-glory first brides:
te patrios miscere iuvat cum coniuge census,
you your-father's to-mingle pleases with your-spouse wealth,
gaudentem socio participique viro.
rejoicing in-a-partner and-sharing husband.
Arserit Euhadne flammis iniecta mariti,
Granted-she-burned Evadne in-the-flames thrown of-her-husband,
nec minor Alcestin fama sub astra ferat:
nor less Alcestis fame to the-stars carry:
tu melius: certo meruisti pignore vitae,
you better: by-a-sure have-earned pledge of-life,
ut tibi non esset morte probandus amor.
that for-you not be with-death to-be-proved love.

Asked for twelve thousand, a friend sent six, so next time Martial will ask for twenty-four. He has never prayed for riches, but now prays to see Zoilus hanged. Afer, sixty, still runs to greet every great man. Matho, a regular guest at Martial's Tibur farm, buys it. Maro declaims in his fever. Fabulla, told no girl refuses, refuses. Rufus is to commend the book to Venuleius over wine. Naevolus is kind only when anxious. Thais has no boasting lover, since she sucks. Ponticus drinks from opaque cups so his guests cannot see the two wines. The book is sent to Apollinaris' learned ears. Bassa keeps an infant by her to blame her farts, and the book ends, enough.

Milia misisti mihi sex bis sena petenti: 76
Thousands you-sent to-me six twice six asking:
ut bis sena feram, bis duodena petam.
that twice six I-may-get, twice twelve I-shall-ask.

Numquam divitias deos rogavi 77
Never riches the-gods have-I-asked
contentus modicis meoque laetus:
content with-modest-things and-with-my-own glad:
paupertas, veniam dabis, recede.
poverty, leave you-will-give, withdraw.
Causast quae subiti novique voti?
The-reason-is what of-the-sudden and-new prayer?
Pendentem volo Zoilum videre.
Hanging I-wish Zoilus to-see.

78 Condita cum tibi sit iam sexagensima messis
Stored though for-you be now the-sixtieth harvest
et facies multo splendeat alba pilo,
and your-face with-much shine white hair,
discurris tota vagus urbe, nec ulla cathedra est,
you-run-about through-whole wandering the-city, nor any chair is,
cui non mane feras inrequietus Have;
to-which not in-the-morning you-bring restless Hail;
et sine te nulli fas est prodire tribuno,
and without you to-no-one right it-is to-go-out tribune,
nec caret officio consul uterque tuo;
nor lacks attendance consul either your;
et sacro decies repetis Palatia clivo
and by-the-sacred ten-times you-seek-again the-Palatine slope
Sigerosque meros Partheniosque sonas.
Sigeruses mere and-Partheniuses you-sound.
Haec faciant sane iuvenes: deformius, Afer,
These let-do by-all-means the-young: more-unsightly, Afer,
omnino nihil est ardalione sene.
at-all nothing is than-a-busybody old.

79 Hospes eras nostri semper, Matho, Tiburtini.
A-guest you-were of-our always, Matho, Tiburtine-place.
Hoc emis. Inposui: rus tibi vendo tuum.
This you-buy. I-have-cheated: a-farm to-you I-sell your-own.

Declamas in febre, Maron: hanc esse phrenesin 80
You-declaim in fever, Maro: this to-be frenzy
si nescis, non es sanus, amice Maron.
if you-know-not, not you-are sane, friend Maro.
Declamas aeger, declamas hemitritaeos:
You-declaim sick, you-declaim in-semitertian-fevers:
si sudare aliter non potes, est ratio.
if to-sweat otherwise not you-can, there-is reason.
'Magna tamen res est.' Erras; cum viscera febris
'Great yet a-thing it-is.' You-err; when the-vitals fever
exurit, res est magna tacere, Maron.
burns-out, a-thing it-is great to-keep-silent, Maro.

Epigramma nostrum cum Fabulla legisset, 81
Epigram our when Fabulla had-read,
negare nullam quo queror puellarum,
to-refuse none whereby I-complain of-the-girls,
semel rogata bisque terque neglexit
once asked and-twice and-thrice she-neglected
preces amantis. Iam, Fabulla, promitte:
the-prayers of-a-lover. Now, Fabulla, promise:
negare iussi, pernegare non iussi.
to-refuse I-bade, to-refuse-flatly not I-bade.

82 Hos quoque commenda Venuleio, Rufe, libellos,
These also commend to-Venuleius, Rufus, little-books,
inputet et nobis otia parva roga,
let-him-credit also to-us leisure small ask,
immemor et paulum curarum operumque suorum
forgetful and a-little of-cares and-labors his-own
non tetrica nugas exigat aure meas.
not with-grim trifles let-him-examine ear my.
Sed nec post primum legat haec summumve trientem,
But nor after the-first let-him-read these or-the-last cup,
sed sua cum medius proelia Bacchus amat.
but his-own when midway battles Bacchus loves.
Si nimis est legisse duos, tibi charta plicetur
If too-much it-is to-have-read two, to-you the-sheet let-be-folded
altera: divisum sic breve fiet opus.
the-other: divided thus short will-become the-work.

83 Securo nihil est te, Naevole, peius: eodem
When-carefree nothing is than-you, Naevolus, worse: the-same
sollicito nihil est, Naevole, te melius.
when-anxious nothing is, Naevolus, than-you better.
Securus nullum resalutas, despicis omnes,
Carefree no-one you-greet-back, you-despise all,
nec quisquam liber nec tibi natus homo est:
nor anyone free nor to-you born a-man is:
sollicitus donas, dominum regemque salutas,
anxious you-give-gifts, lord and-patron you-greet,
invitas. Esto, Naevole, sollicitus.
you-invite. Be, Naevolus, anxious.

Non est in populo nec urbe tota, 84
Not there-is in the-people nor the-city whole,
a se Thaida qui probet fututam,
by himself Thais who can-prove fucked,
cum multi cupiant rogentque multi.
though many desire and-ask many.
Tam casta est, rogo, Thais? Immo fellat.
So chaste is-she, I-ask, Thais? Rather she-sucks.

Nos bibimus vitro, tu murra, Pontice. Quare? 85
We drink from-glass, you from-murrine, Ponticus. Why?
Prodat perspicuus ne duo vina calix.
May-betray transparent lest two wines the-cup.

Si vis auribus Atticis probari, 86
If you-wish to-ears Attic to-be-approved,
exhortor moneoque te, libelle,
I-urge and-warn you, little-book,
ut docto placeas Apollinari.
that the-learned you-please Apollinaris.
Nil exactius eruditiusque est,
Nothing more-exact and-more-erudite is,
sed nec candidius benigniusque:
but nor more-candid and-kinder:
si te pectore, si tenebit ore,
if you in-his-heart, if he-will-hold on-his-mouth,
nec rhonchos metues maligniorum,
nor the-snorts will-you-fear of-the-more-spiteful,

nec scombris tunicas dabis molestas.
nor to-mackerel tunics will-you-give troublesome.
Si damnaverit, ad salariorum
If he-condemns, to of-the-salt-fish-sellers
curras scrinia protinus licebit,
you-run the-boxes at-once you-will-be-allowed,
inversa pueris arande charta.
on-your-reversed by-boys to-be-plowed sheet.

87 Infantem secum semper tua Bassa, Fabulle,
An-infant with-her always your Bassa, Fabullus,
conlocat et lusus deliciasque vocat,
places and her-plaything and-darling calls,
et, quo mireris magis, infantaria non est.
and, that you-may-wonder more, fond-of-infants not she-is.
Ergo quid in causa est? Pedere Bassa solet.
Therefore what in the-cause is? To-fart Bassa is-wont.

88 Nulla remisisti parvo pro munere dona,
No have-you-sent-back small for gift gifts,
et iam Saturni quinque fuere dies.
and already of-Saturn five have-been days.

Ergo nec argenti sex scripula Septiciani
Therefore neither of-silver six scruples Septician
missa nec a querulo mappa cliente fuit,
sent nor from a-complaining a-napkin client was,
Antipolitani nec quae de sanguine thynni
of-Antipolis nor which from the-blood of-tunny
testa rubet, nec quae cottana parva gerit,
a-jar is-red, nor which figs small carries,
nec rugosarum vimen breve Picenarum,
nor of-wrinkled a-basket short Picene-olives,
dicere te posses ut meminisse mei?
to-say you could that to-have-remembered me?
Decipies alios verbis voltuque benigno,
You-will-deceive others with-words and-with-face kindly,
nam mihi iam notus dissimulator eris.
for to-me now known a-dissembler you-will-be.

Ohe, iam satis est, ohe, libelle, 89
Whoa, now enough it-is, whoa, little-book,
iam pervenimus usque ad umbilicos.
now we-have-come right to the-rods'-ends.
Tu procedere adhuc et ire quaeris,
You to-go-on still and to-go seek,
nec summa potes in schida teneri,
nor the-last can-you on sheet to-be-held,
sic tamquam tibi res peracta non sit,
thus as-though for-you the-thing finished not be,
quae prima quoque pagina peracta est.
which on-the-first even page finished was.

Iam lector queriturque deficitque,
Now the-reader both-complains and-gives-out,
iam librarius hoc et ipse dicit
now the-copyist this and himself says
'Ohe, iam satis est, ohe, libelle.'
'Whoa, now enough it-is, whoa, little-book.'

BOOK V

EPIGRAMS 1–13

The book is sent to Caesar wherever he stays, at Alba, by the sea, or at gleaming Anxur. Its pages are dedicated to matrons, boys, and girls: those who want naughtiness should read the first four, since this fifth jests with its master. Degis, come from the Danube, rejoices to see near at hand the god his brother worships from afar. Myrtale chews bay leaves to hide her wine. Sextus, who serves Palatine Minerva, is asked to shelve the book beside Pedo, Marsus, and Catullus, and Parthenius to bring it to Caesar at the right hour. Rome rises new from its fire like the phoenix. Phasis boasts of the knights' restored seats until Leitus moves him on. Symmachus' hundred pupils with cold hands give Martial a fever, Rome praises only the dead poets, Stella's ringed fingers are praised, and Callistratus' wealth is mocked.

Hoc tibi, Palladiae seu collibus uteris Albae, 1
This to-you, of-Palladian whether the-hills you-enjoy Alba,
Caesar, et hinc Triviam prospicis, inde Thetin,
Caesar, and on-this-side Trivia you-look-out-on, on-that Thetis,
seu tua veridicae discunt responsa sorores,
or your truth-telling learn answers the-sisters,
plana suburbani qua cubat unda freti,
level of-the-suburban where lies the-wave strait,
seu placet Aeneae nutrix, seu filia Solis,
or pleases Aeneas' nurse, or the-daughter of-the-Sun,
sive salutiferis candidus Anxur aquis,
or with-health-giving gleaming Anxur waters,
mittimus, o rerum felix tutela salusque,
we-send, O of-the-world blessed guardian and-safety,
sospite quo gratum credimus esse Iovem.
safe whom welcome we-believe to-be Jove.

Tu tantum accipias: ego te legisse putabo
You only receive: I you to-have-read shall-think
et tumidus Galla credulitate fruar.
and swelling with-Gallic credulity shall-enjoy.

2 Matronae puerique virginesque,
Matrons and-boys and-virgins,
vobis pagina nostra dedicatur.
to-you page our is-dedicated.
Tu, quem nequitiae procaciores
You, whom naughtinesses more-forward
delectant nimium salesque nudi,
delight too-much and-witticisms naked,
lascivos lege quattuor libellos:
the-wanton read four little-books:
quintus cum domino liber iocatur;
the-fifth with his-master book jests;
quem Germanicus ore non rubenti
which Germanicus with-face not blushing
coram Cecropia legat puella.
in-the-presence-of Cecropian may-read the-girl.

Accola iam nostrae Degis, Germanice, ripae, 3
A-dweller now of-our Degis, Germanicus, bank,
a famulis Histri qui tibi venit aquis,
from the-servile of-the-Hister who to-you has-come waters,
laetus et attonitus viso modo praeside mundi
glad and astonished seen lately the-ruler of-the-world
adfatus comites dicitur esse suos:
having-addressed companions is-said to-have his-own:
'Sors mea quam fratris melior, cui tam prope fas est
'Lot my than my-brother's better, to-whom so near right it-is
cernere, tam longe quem colit ille deum.'
to-see, so far-off whom worships he god.'

Fetere multo Myrtale solet vino, 4
To-stink with-much Myrtale is-wont wine,
sed fallat ut nos, folia devorat lauri
but she-may-deceive that us, leaves she-devours of-bay
merumque cauta fronde, non aqua miscet.
and-the-neat-wine with-cautious leaf, not water mixes.
Hanc tu rubentem prominentibus venis
Her you blushing with-standing-out veins
quotiens venire, Paule, videris contra,
as-often-as coming, Paulus, you-see toward-you,
dicas licebit 'Myrtale bibit laurum.'
say you-may 'Myrtale has-drunk bay.'

5 Sexte, Palatinae cultor facunde Minervae,
Sextus, of-Palatine worshiper eloquent Minerva,
ingenio frueris qui propiore dei —
the-genius you-enjoy who nearer of-the-god—
nam tibi nascentes domini cognoscere curas
for to-you as-they-arise of-the-lord to-learn the-cares
et secreta ducis pectora nosse licet—:
and the-secret of-the-leader breast to-know it-is-allowed—:
sit locus et nostris aliqua tibi parte libellis,
let-be a-place also for-our some for-you part little-books,
qua Pedo, qua Marsus quaque Catullus erit.
where Pedo, where Marsus and-where Catullus will-be.
Ad Capitolini caelestia carmina belli
Next-to of-the-Capitoline heavenly songs war
grande coturnati pone Maronis opus.
the-grand of-buskined set Maro work.

6 Si non est grave nec nimis molestum,
If not it-is burdensome nor too troublesome,
Musae, Parthenium rogate vestrum:
Muses, Parthenius ask your:
sic te serior et beata quondam
so you later and blessed one-day
salvo Caesare finiat senectus
with-safe Caesar may-end old-age
et sis invidia favente felix,
and may-you-be with-envy favoring happy,
sic Burrus cito sentiat parentem:
so Burrus quickly may-know his-father:

admittas timidam brevemque chartam
may-you-admit a-timid and-short sheet
intra limina sanctioris aulae.
within the-threshold of-the-holier hall.
Nosti tempora tu Iovis sereni,
You-know the-times you of-Jove serene,
cum fulget placido suoque vultu,
when he-shines with-calm and-his-own face,
quo nil supplicibus solet negare.
with-which nothing to-suppliants he-is-wont to-deny.
Non est quod metuas preces iniquas:
Not there-is why you-should-fear prayers unjust:
numquam grandia nec molesta poscit
never great-things nor troublesome asks
quae cedro decorata purpuraque
which with-cedar adorned and-purple
nigris pagina crevit umbilicis.
black page has-grown with-knobs.
Nec porrexeris ista, sed teneto
Nor should-you-hold-out those-things, but hold
sic tamquam nihil offeras agasque.
thus as-though nothing you-offer and-do.
Si novi dominum novem sororum,
If I-know the-lord of-the-nine sisters,
ultro purpureum petet libellum.
of-his-own-accord the-purple he-will-ask-for little-book.

7 Qualiter Assyrios renovant incendia nidos,
As the-Assyrian renew the-fires nests,
una decem quotiens saecula vixit avis,
one ten as-often-as ages has-lived bird,
taliter exuta est veterem nova Roma senectam
so stripped-off has her-old new Rome old-age
et sumpsit vultus praesidis ipsa sui.
and has-taken-on the-face of-the-ruler herself her-own.
Iam precor oblitus notae Vulcane, querellae
Now I-pray forgetful of-your-known Vulcan, complaint
parce: sumus Martis turba, sed et Veneris:
spare: we-are of-Mars the-crowd, but also of-Venus:
parce, pater: sic Lemniacis lasciva catenis
spare, father: so with-Lemnian wanton chains
ignoscat coniunx et patienter amet.
may-forgive your-wife and patiently love.

8 Edictum domini deique nostri,
The-edict of-the-lord and-god our,
quo subsellia certiora fiunt
by-which the-benches more-fixed become
et puros eques ordines recepit,
and pure the-knight ranks has-recovered,
dum laudat modo Phasis in theatro,
while praises just-now Phasis in the-theater,
Phasis purpureis ruber lacernis,
Phasis in-purple red cloaks,
et iactat tumido superbus ore:
and boasts with-swelling proud mouth:

‘Tandem commodius licet sedere,
‘At-last more-comfortably it-is-allowed to-sit,
nunc est reddita dignitas equestris,
now is restored the-dignity of-the-knights,
turba non premimur nec inquinamur’:
by-the-crowd not we-are-pressed nor are-we-soiled’:
haec et talia dum refert supinus,
these and such while he-relates leaning-back,
illas purpureas et adrogantes
those purple and arrogant
iussit surgere Leïtus lacernas.
ordered to-rise Leitus cloaks.

Languebam: sed tu comitatus protinus ad me 9
I-was-languishing: but you attended at-once to me
venisti centum, Symmache, discipulis.
came a-hundred, Symmachus, pupils.
Centum me tetigere manus aquilone gelatae:
A-hundred me touched hands by-the-north-wind chilled:
non habui febrem, Symmache, nunc habeo.
not I-had a-fever, Symmachus, now I-have.

‘Esse quid hoc dicam, vivis quod fama negatur 10
‘To-be what this shall-I-say, to-the-living that fame is-denied
et sua quod rarus tempora lector amat?’
and his-own that rare times the-reader loves?’

Hi sunt invidiae nimirum, Regule, mores,
These are of-envy doubtless, Regulus, the-ways,
praeferat antiquos semper ut illa novis.
it-prefers the-ancient always that it to-the-new.
Sic veterem ingrati Pompei quaerimus umbram,
Thus the-old of-ungrateful Pompey we-seek colonnade,
sic laudant Catuli vilia templa senes;
thus praise of-Catulus the-cheap temples old-men;
Ennius est lectus salvo tibi, Roma, Marone,
Ennius was read safe for-you, Rome, Maro,
et sua riserunt saecula Maeoniden,
and their-own laughed-at ages the-Maeonian,
rara coronato plausere theatra Menandro,
rare crowned applauded theaters Menander,
norat Nasonem sola Corinna suum.
knew Naso only Corinna her-own.
Vos tamen o nostri ne festinate libelli:
You yet O our do-not hurry little-books:
si post fata venit gloria, non propero.
if after death comes glory, not I-hasten.

11 Sardonychas, zmaragdos, adamantas, iaspidas uno
Sardonyxes, emeralds, diamonds, jaspers on-one
versat in articulo Stella, Severe, meus.
turns on joint Stella, Severus, my.
Multas in digitis, plures in carmine gemmas
Many on his-fingers, more in his-poem gems
invenies: inde est haec, puto, culta manus.
you-will-find: thence is this, I-think, cultured hand.

Quod nutantia fronte perticata 12
That nodding on-his-brow pole-borne
gestat pondera Masclion superbus,
carries weights Masclion proud,
aut grandis Ninus omnibus lacertis
or great Ninus with-all his-arms
septem quod pueros levat vel octo,
seven that boys he-lifts or eight,
res non difficilis mihi videtur,
a-thing not difficult to-me seems,
uno cum digito vel hoc vel illo
one with finger either this or that
portet Stella meus decem puellas.
carries Stella my ten girls.

Sum, fateor, semperque fui, Callistrate, pauper, 13
I-am, I-confess, and-always have-been, Callistratus, poor,
sed non obscurus nec male notus eques,
but not obscure nor ill known a-knight,
sed toto legor orbe frequens et dicitur 'Hic est',
but in-the-whole I-am-read world often and it-is-said 'This is-he',
quodque cinis paucis, hoc mihi vita dedit.
and-what ashes to-few, this to-me life has-given.

At tua centenis incumbunt tecta columnis
But your on-hundreds rest roofs columns
et libertinas arca flagellat opes,
and a-freedman's the-strongbox lashes wealth,
magnaque Niliacae servit tibi glaeba Syenes,
and-great of-Nilotic serves you the-clod Syene,
tondet et innumeros Gallica Parma greges.
shears and countless Gallic Parma flocks.
Hoc ego tuque sumus: sed quod sum, non potes esse:
This I and-you are: but what I-am, not you-can be:
tu quod es, e populo quilibet esse potest.
you what you-are, of the-people anyone to-be can.

EPIGRAMS 14–24

Nanneius, moved from seat to seat by the usher, ends half-standing on a bench's end. The fifth book has hurt no one and gives many lasting fame. Martial writes for the reader's pleasure though pleading would pay, and the ancients had their patrons. Gellia, who would marry only a senator, marries a porter. Martial sends Quintianus only books at the Saturnalia, since gifts to the rich are hooks. Caesar's age is the best but for one fault, that the poor man courts ungrateful friends, so Caesar should be his friend. His friend Martialis is told how they would live if free. Apollodotus has learned names, Paulus' porter turns Martial away after the long climb, Bassus, once in green, now shines in scarlet and purple to pass for a knight, though no cloak is worth a knight's fortune, and Hermes the gladiator is all things.

14 Sedere primo solitus in gradu semper
To-sit the-first accustomed in row always
tunc, cum liceret occupare, Nanneius
then, when it-was-allowed to-occupy, Nanneius
bis excitatus terque transtulit castra,
twice roused and-thrice has-moved camp,

et inter ipsas paene tertius sellas
and between the-very almost third chairs
post Gaiumque Luciumque consedit.
behind and-Gaius and-Lucius sat-down.
Illinc cucullo prospicit caput tectus
From-there with-a-hood looks-out his-head covered
oculoque ludos spectat indecens uno.
and-with-eye the-games watches unseemly one.
Et hinc miser deiectus in viam transit,
And from-here wretched thrown-out into the-passage crosses,
subsellioque semifultus extremo
and-on-the-bench half-propped the-last
et male receptus altero genu iactat
and badly received with-one knee boasts
equiti sedere Leïtoque se stare.
to-the-knight to-be-sitting and-to-Leitus himself to-be-standing.

Quintus nostrorum liber est, Auguste, iocorum, 15
The-fifth of-our book is, Augustus, of-jests,
et queritur laesus carmine nemo meo,
and complains hurt by-poem no-one my,
gaudet honorato sed multus nomine lector,
rejoices honored but many in-his-name reader,
cui victura meo munere fama datur.
to-whom about-to-live by-my gift fame is-given.
'Quid tamen haec prosunt quamvis venerantia multos?'
'What yet do-these profit though honoring many?'
Non prosint sane, me tamen ista iuvant.
Not let-them-profit by-all-means, me yet those please.

16 Seria cum possim, quod delectantia malo
Serious-things though I-can, that delightful-things I-prefer
scribere, tu causa es, lector amice, mihi,
to-write, you the-cause are, reader friend, for-me,
qui legis et tota cantas mea carmina Roma:
who read and through-whole sing my poems Rome:
sed nescis, quanti stet mihi talis amor.
but you-know-not, how-much costs me such love.
Nam si falciferi defendere templa Tonantis
For if of-the-sickle-bearing to-defend the-temples Thunderer
sollicitisque velim vendere verba reis,
and-to-anxious I-should-wish to-sell words defendants,
plurimus Hispanas mittet mihi nauta metretas
very-many Spanish will-send me a-sailor jars
et fiet vario sordidus aere sinus.
and will-become with-various dirty bronze my-purse.
At nunc conviva est comissatorque libellus,
But now a-guest is and-a-reveler my-little-book,
et tantum gratis pagina nostra placet.
and only for-nothing page our pleases.
Sed non et veteres contenti laude fuerunt,
But not also the-ancients content with-praise were,
cum minimum vati munus Alexis erat.
when the-least for-the-bard gift Alexis was.
'Belle' inquis 'dixti: iuvat et laudabimus usque.'
'Prettily' you-say 'you-have-said: it-pleases and we-will-praise always.'
Dissimulas? facies me, puto, causidicum.
You-pretend? you-will-make me, I-think, a-pleader.

17

Dum proavos atavosque refers et nomina magna,
While ancestors and-forebears you-recount and names great,
dum tibi noster eques sordida condicio est,
while to-you our knight a-mean match is,
dum te posse negas nisi lato, Gellia, clavo
while yourself to-be-able you-deny except with-broad, Gellia, stripe
nubere, nupsisti, Gellia, cistibero.
to-wed, you-have-wed, Gellia, a-box-carrier.

18

Quod tibi Decembri mense, quo volant mappae
That to-you in-December month, when fly napkins
gracilesque ligulae cereique chartaeque
and-slender spoons and-candles and-paper
et acuta senibus testa cum Damascenis,
and pointed for-old-men a-jar with Damascene-plums,
praeter libellos vernulas nihil misi,
except little-books home-born nothing I-sent,
fortasse avarus videar aut inhumanus.
perhaps greedy I-may-seem or unkind.
Odi dolosas munerum et malas artes:
I-hate the-crafty of-gifts and wicked arts:
imitantur hamos dona: namque quis nescit,
imitate books gifts: for who knows-not,
avidum vorata decipi scarum musca?
the-greedy by-the-swallowed to-be-deceived parrot-wrasse fly?
Quotiens amico diviti nihil donat,
As-often-as to-a-friend rich nothing gives,
o Quintiane, liberalis est pauper.
O Quintianus, liberal is the-poor-man.

19 Si qua fides veris, praeferri, maxime Caesar,
If any faith in-truths, to-be-preferred, greatest Caesar,
temporibus possunt saecula nulla tuis.
to-the-times can ages none your.
Quando magis dignos licuit spectare triumphos?
When more worthy was-it-allowed to-watch triumphs?
Quando Palatini plus meruere dei?
When the-Palatine more have-deserved gods?
Pulchrior et maior quo sub duce Martia Roma?
More-beautiful and greater what under leader Martian Rome?
Sub quo libertas principe tanta fuit?
Under what freedom prince so-great was?
Est tamen hoc vitium, sed non leve, sit licet unum,
There-is yet this fault, but not light, be though one,
quod colit ingratas pauper amicitias.
that courts ungrateful the-poor friendships.
Quis largitur opes veteri fidoque sodali,
Who bestows wealth on-an-old and-loyal comrade,
aut quem prosequitur non alienus eques?
or whom escorts not a-stranger knight?
Saturnaliciae ligulam misisse selibrae
of-a-Saturnalian a-spoon to-have-sent half-pound
flammarisve togae scripula tota decem
or-of-a-flame-colored toga scruples whole ten
luxuria est, tumidique vocant haec munera reges:
luxury is, and-swollen call these gifts patrons:
qui crepet aureolos, forsitan unus erit.
who may-jingle gold-pieces, perhaps one will-be.
Quatenus hi non sunt, esto tu, Caesar, amicus:
Since these not are, be you, Caesar, a-friend:

nulla ducis virtus dulcior esse potest.
no of-a-leader virtue sweeter to-be can.
Iam dudum tacito rides, Germanice, naso,
Now long-since with-silent you-laugh, Germanicus, nose,
utile quod nobis do tibi consilium.
useful because to-us I-give to-you advice.

Si tecum mihi, care Martialis, 20
If with-you for-me, dear Martialis,
securis liceat frui diebus,
carefree it-were-allowed to-enjoy days,
si disponere tempus otiosum
if to-dispose time idle
et verae pariter vacare vitae:
and true alike to-be-free-for life:
nec nos atria, nec domos potentum,
not we halls, nor houses of-the-powerful,
nec litis tetricas forumque triste
nor lawsuits grim and-the-forum gloomy
nossemus, nec imagines superbas;
would-know, nor busts proud;
sed gestatio, fabulae, libelli,
but the-drive, the-gossip, the-little-books,
Campus, porticus, umbra, virgo, thermae,
the-Field, the-colonnade, the-shade, the-Virgin, the-baths,
haec essent loca semper, hi labores.
these would-be places always, these labors.

Nunc vivit necuter sibi, bonosque
Now lives neither for-himself, and-the-good
soles effugere atque abire sentit,
suns to-flee and to-depart feels,
qui nobis pereunt et inputantur.
which for-us perish and are-charged-to-our-account.
Quisquam vivere cum sciat, moratur?
Anyone to-live when he-knows, does-he-delay?

21 Quintum pro Decimo, pro Crasso, Regule, Macrum
Quintus for Decimus, for Crassus, Regulus, Macer
ante salutabat rhetor Apollodotus.
before used-to-greet the-rhetor Apollodotus.
Nunc utrumque suo resalutat nomine. Quantum
Now each by-his-own he-greets-back name. How-much
cura laborque potest! Scripsit et edidicit.
care and-labor can! He-wrote and learned-it-by-heart.

22 Mane domi nisi te volui meruique videre,
In-the-morning at-home unless you I-have-wished and-deserved to-see,
sint mihi, Paule, tuae longius Esquiliae.
let-be for-me, Paulus, your farther Esquiline.
Sed Tiburtinae sum proximus accola pilae,
But of-the-Tiburtine I-am the-nearest dweller pillar,
qua videt anticum rustica Flora Iovem:
where sees the-ancient rustic Flora Jove:

alta Suburani vincenda est semita clivi
the-steep of-the-Suburan to-be-conquered is path slope
et numquam sicco sordida saxa gradu,
and never with-dry dirty stones step,
vixque datur longas mulorum rumpere mandras
and-hardly is-it-granted the-long of-mules to-break trains
quaeque trahi multo marmora fune vides.
and-those-which to-be-dragged with-much marbles rope you-see.
Illud adhuc gravius, quod te post mille labores,
That still heavier, that you after a-thousand labors,
Paule, negat lasso ianitor esse domi.
Paulus, denies to-me-weary the-doorkeeper to-be at-home.
Exitus hic operis vani togulaeque madentis:
The-outcome this of-labor vain and-of-a-little-toga drenched:
vix tanti Paulum mane videre fuit.
hardly worth-so-much Paulus in-the-morning to-see was.
Semper inhumanos habet officiosus amicos:
Always unkind has the-dutiful friends:
rex, nisi dormieris, non potes esse meus.
patron, unless you-have-slept, not you-can be my.

Herbarum fueras indutus, Basse, colores, 23
Of-grasses you-had-been dressed, Bassus, in-the-colors,
iura theatralis dum siluere loci.
the-laws of-the-theater while were-silent seats.

Quae postquam placidi censoris cura renasci
Which after of-the-calm censor the-care to-be-reborn
iussit et Oceanum certior audit eques,
ordered and Oceanus more-certain hears the-knight,
non nisi vel cocco madida vel murice tincta
not unless either with-scarlet drenched or with-purple dyed
veste nites et te sic dare verba putas.
in-clothing you-shine and you thus to-give words think.
Quadringentorum nullae sunt, Basse, lacernae,
Of-four-hundred-thousand none are, Bassus, cloaks,
aut meus ante omnis Cordus haberet equum.
or my before all Cordus would-have a-horse.

24 Hermes Martia saeculi voluptas,
Hermes Martian of-the-age the-delight,
Hermes omnibus eruditus armis,
Hermes in-all trained arms,
Hermes et gladiator et magister,
Hermes both gladiator and trainer,
Hermes turba sui tremorque ludi,
Hermes the-turmoil of-his-own and-trembling school,
Hermes, quem timet Helius, sed unum,
Hermes, whom fears Helius, but him-alone,
Hermes, cui cadit Advolans, sed uni,
Hermes, to-whom falls Advolans, but to-him-alone,
Hermes vincere nec ferire doctus,
Hermes to-win not to-strike trained,
Hermes subpositicius sibi ipse,
Hermes the-substitute for-himself himself,

Hermes divitiae locariorum,

Hermes the-riches of-the-seat-sellers,

Hermes cura laborque ludiarum,

Hermes the-care and-labor of-the-actresses,

Hermes belligera superbus hasta,

Hermes with-warlike proud spear,

Hermes aequoreo minax tridente,

Hermes with-sea threatening trident,

Hermes casside languida timendus,

Hermes in-helmet drooping to-be-feared,

Hermes gloria Martis universi,

Hermes the-glory of-Mars all,

Hermes omnia solus et ter unus.

Hermes all-things alone and thrice one.

Chaerestratus, short of a knight's fortune, is driven from his seat, and no rich friend helps him, though that would buy more fame than gifts to a racehorse. Cordus, called first of the cloak-wearers, may call Martial second of the toga-wearers. A man with a knight's breeding but not his money is told not to sit pale in the knights' rows. Mamercus likes no one. Gellia's hares should have made her beautiful. Boys dance on bulls' backs in the arena. Crispus left his wife not a farthing. The little slave girl Erotion, dead before her sixth birthday, is entrusted to Fronto and Flaccilla in the underworld and mourned, and Paetus, who bore a rich wife's death, is mocked for the twenty million she left. Calliodorus may not sit on a knight's fortune shared with his brother, and Charinus, who seals his will thirty times a year, has cost Martial thirty cheesecakes.

25 'Quadringenta tibi non sunt, Chaerestrate: surge,
'Four-hundred-thousand to-you not are, Chaerestratus: rise,
Leïtus ecce venit: sta, fuge, curre, late.'
Leitus behold comes: stand, flee, run, hide.'
Ecquis, io, revocat discedentemque reducit?
Does-anyone, ho, call-back and-the-departing bring-back?
Ecquis, io, largas pandit amicus opes?
Does-anyone, ho, ample spread-out a-friend wealth?
Quem chartis famaeque damus populisque loquendum?
Whom to-pages and-to-fame we-give and-to-peoples to-be-spoken-of?
Quis Stygios non volt totus adire lacus?
Who Stygian not wishes whole to-approach the-lakes?
Hoc, rogo, non melius, quam rubro pulpita nimbo
This, I-ask, not better, than with-red the-stage shower
spargere et effuso permaduisse croco?
to-sprinkle and with-poured to-have-been-soaked saffron?

Quam non sensuro dare quadringenta caballo,
Than not about-to-feel to-give four-hundred-thousand to-a-nag,
aureus ut Scorpi nasus ubique micet?
golden that of-Scorpus the-nose everywhere may-flash?
O frustra locuples, o dissimulator amici,
O in-vain rich, O dissembler of-a-friend,
haec legis et laudas? Quae tibi fama perit!
these you-read and praise? What for-you fame perishes!

26

Quod alpha dixi, Corde, paenulatorum
That alpha I-said, Cordus, of-the-cloak-wearers
te nuper, aliqua cum iocarer in charta,
you lately, some while I-joked on page,
si forte bilem movit hic tibi versus,
if by-chance bile has-moved this in-you verse,
dicas licebit beta me togatorum.
say you-may beta me of-the-toga-wearers.

27

Ingenium studiumque tibi moresque genusque
Genius and-zeal to-you and-manners and-birth
sunt equitis, fateor: cetera plebis habes.
are of-a-knight, I-confess: the-rest of-the-commons you-have.
Bis septena tibi non sint subsellia tanti,
Twice seven to-you not let-be benches worth-so-much,
ut sedeas viso pallidus Oceano.
that you-sit at-seeing pale Oceanus.

28 Ut bene loquatur sentiatque Mamercus,
That well may-speak and-think Mamercus,
efficere nullis, Aule, moribus possis:
to-bring-about by-no, Aulus, conduct could-you:
pietate fratres Curvios licet vincas,
in-devotion the-brothers Curvii though you-surpass,
quiete Nervas, comitate Rusones,
in-calm the-Nervae, in-courtesy the-Rusones,
probitate Macros, aequitate Mauricos,
in-honesty the-Macri, in-fairness the-Maurici,
oratione Regulos, iocis Paulos:
in-oratory the-Reguli, in-jests the-Pauli:
robiginosis cuncta dentibus rodit.
with-rusty all-things teeth he-gnaws.
Hominem malignum forsan esse tu credas:
A-man malicious perhaps to-be you may-believe:
ego esse miserum credo, cui placet nemo.
I to-be wretched believe, to-whom pleases no-one.

29 Si quando leporem mittis mihi, Gellia, dicis:
If ever a-hare you-send me, Gellia, you-say:
'Formosus septem, Marce, diebus eris.'
'Handsome for-seven, Marcus, days you-will-be.'
Si non derides, si verum, lux mea, narras,
If not you-mock, if the-truth, light my, you-tell,
edisti numquam, Gellia, tu leporem.
you-have-eaten never, Gellia, you a-hare.

Varro, Sophocleo non infitiande coturno, 30
Varro, by-Sophoclean not to-be-denied buskin,
nec minus in Calabra suspiciende lyra,
nor less on the-Calabrian to-be-admired lyre,
differ opus, nec te facundi scaena Catulli
put-off your-work, nor you of-the-eloquent the-stage Catullus
detineat, cultis aut elegia comis;
detain, with-dressed or elegy hair;
sed lege fumoso non aspernanda Decembri
but read in-smoky not to-be-scorned December
carmina, mittuntur quae tibi mense suo:
poems, are-sent which to-you in-month its-own:
commodius nisi forte tibi potiusque videtur,
more-conveniently unless perhaps to-you and-better it-seems,
Saturnalicias perdere, Varro, nuces.
Saturnalian to-lose, Varro, nuts.

Aspice, quam placidis insultet turba iuvencis 31
Look, how on-calm leaps the-troupe bullocks
et sua quam facilis pondera taurus amet.
and his-own how easy burdens the-bull loves.
Cornibus hic pendet summis, vagus ille per armos
On-the-horns this-one hangs topmost, roaming that-one over the-shoulders
currit et in toto ventilat arma bove.
runs and on the-whole brandishes arms ox.
At feritas inmota riget: non esset harena
But the-fierceness unmoved stiffens: not would-be the-sand
tutior, et poterant fallere plana magis.
safer, and could deceive the-level more.

Nec trepidant gestus, sed de discrimine palmae
Nor tremble the-acts, but about the-hazard of-the-palm
securus puer est, sollicitumque pecus.
secure the-boy is, and-anxious the-beast.

32 Quadrantem Crispus tabulis, Faustine, supremis
A-farthing Crispus in-his-will, Faustinus, last
non dedit uxori. 'Cui dedit ergo?' Sibi.
not gave to-his-wife. 'To-whom gave-he then?' To-himself.

33 Carpere causidicus fertur mea carmina: qui sit,
To-carp-at a-pleader is-said my poems: who he-is,
nescio: si sciero, vae tibi, causidice.
I-know-not: if I-find-out, woe to-you, pleader.

34 Hanc tibi, Fronto pater, genetrix Flaccilla, puellam
This to-you, Fronto father, mother Flaccilla, girl
oscula commendo deliciasque meas,
the-kisses I-commend and-darling my,
parvola ne nigras horrescat Erotion umbras
tiny lest the-black should-shudder-at Erotion shades
oraque Tartarei prodigiosa canis.
and-the-mouths of-the-Tartarean monstrous hound.
Inpletura fuit sextae modo frigora brumae,
About-to-complete she-was of-the-sixth just the-frosts winter,
vixisset totidem ni minus illa dies.
had-she-lived as-many if-not fewer she days.

Inter tam veteres ludat lasciva patronos
Among so old let-her-play wanton patrons
et nomen blaeso garriat ore meum.
and the-name with-lisping let-her-prattle mouth my.
Mollia non rigidus caespes tegat ossa, nec illi,
Soft not rigid turf let-cover bones, nor to-her,
terra, gravis fueris: non fuit illa tibi.
earth, heavy be: not was she to-you.

Dum sibi redire de Patrensibus fundis
While to-himself to-come-in from his-Patrensian farms
ducena clamat coccinatus Euclides
two-hundred-thousand shouts scarlet-clad Euclides
Corinthioque plura de suburbano
and-Corinthian more from his-suburban-estate
longumque pulchra stemma repetit a Leda
and-long beautiful pedigree traces from Leda
et suscitanti Leito reluctatur:
and with-rousing Leitus struggles:
equiti superbo, nobili, locupleti
from-a-knight proud, noble, rich
cecidit repente magna de sinu clavis.
fell suddenly a-great from his-lap key.
Numquam, Fabulle, nequior fuit clavis.
Never, Fabullus, more-worthless was a-key.

36 Laudatus nostro quidam, Faustine, libello
Praised in-our a-certain-man, Faustinus, little-book
dissimulat, quasi nil debeat: inposuit.
pretends, as-though nothing he-owed: he-has-cheated.

37 Puella senibus dulcior mihi cycnis,
A-girl than-old sweeter to-me swans,
agna Galaesi mollior Phalantini,
a-lamb than-of-Galaesus softer Phalantine,
concha Lucrini delicatior stagni,
than-the-shell of-the-Lucrine more-delicate pool,
cui nec lapillos praeferas Erythraeos,
to-whom neither the-pebbles would-you-prefer Erythraean,
nec modo politum pecudis Indicae dentem
nor just-now polished of-the-beast Indian tusk
nivesque primas liliumque non tactum;
and-the-snows first and-the-lily not touched;
quae crine vicit Baetici gregis vellus
who with-her-hair beat of-the-Baetic flock the-fleece
Rhenique nodos aureamque nitelam;
and-the-Rhine's knots and-the-golden dormouse;
fragravit ore, quod rosarium Paesti,
smelled with-her-mouth, what the-rose-garden of-Paestum,
quod Atticarum prima mella cerarum,
what of-Attic the-first honey combs,
quod sucinorum rapta de manu glaeba;
what of-amber snatched from a-hand lump;
cui conparatus indecens erat pavo,
to-whom compared unsightly was the-peacock,

inamabilis sciurus et frequens phoenix:
unlovable the-squirrel and common the-phoenix:
adhuc recenti tepet Erotion busto,
still in-fresh warm-lies Erotion pyre,
quam pessimorum lex amara fatorum
whom of-the-worst the-law bitter fates
sexta peregit hieme, nec tamen tota,
in-the-sixth has-finished winter, nor yet whole,
nostros amores gaudiumque lususque —
our love and-joy and-plaything—
et esse tristem me meus vetat Paetus,
and to-be sad me my forbids Paetus,
pectusque pulsans pariter et comam vellens:
and-breast beating alike and hair tearing:
'Deflere non te vernulae pudet mortem?
'To-mourn not you of-a-little-slave does-it-shame the-death?
Ego coniugem' inquit 'extuli, et tamen vivo,
I a-wife' he-says 'have-buried, and yet I-live,
notam, superbam, nobilem, locupletem.'
noted, proud, noble, rich.'
Quid esse nostro fortius potest Paeto?
What to-be than-our braver can Paetus?
Ducentiens accepit, et tamen vivit.
Twenty-million he-received, and yet he-lives.

Calliodorus habet censum — quis nescit? — equestrem, 38
Calliodorus has a-property —who knows-not? —knight's,
Sexte, sed et fratrem Calliodorus habet.
Sextus, but also a-brother Calliodorus has.

‘Quadringenta secat’, qui dicit σῦκα μερίζει:
‘Four-hundred-thousand he-cuts’, who says figs he-divides:
uno credis equo posse sedere duos?
on-one do-you-think horse to-be-able to-sit two?
Quid cum fratre tibi, quid cum Polluce molesto?
What with your-brother to-you, what with Pollux troublesome?
Non esset Pollux si tibi, Castor eras.
Not there-would-be Pollux if you, Castor were.
Unus cum sitis, duo, Calliodore, sedebis?
One though you-are, two, Calliodorus, will-you-sit?
Surge: σολοικισμὸν, Calliodore, facis.
Rise: a-solecism, Calliodorus, you-commit.
Aut imitare genus Ledae — cum fratre sedere
Or imitate the-race of-Leda —with your-brother to-sit
non potes—: alternis, Calliodore, sede.
not you-can—: by-turns, Calliodorus, sit.

39 Supremas tibi triciens in anno
Last to-you thirty-times in a-year
signanti tabulas, Charine, misi
sealing your-will, Charinus, I-have-sent
Hyblaeis madidas thymis placentas.
in-Hyblaean soaked thyme cheesecakes.
Defeci: miserere iam, Charine:
I-am-exhausted: pity now, Charinus:
signa rarius, aut semel fac illud,
seal more-rarely, or once do that,
mentitur tua quod subinde tussis.
lies your which again-and-again cough.

Excussi loculosque sacculumque:
I-have-shaken-out both-my-purse and-my-little-bag:
Croeso divitior licet fuissem,
than-Croesus richer though I-had-been,
Iro pauperior forem, Charine,
than-Irus poorer I-would-be, Charinus,
si conchem totiens meam comesses.
if bean-pottage so-often my you-ate.

EPIGRAMS 40–60

Artemidorus paints Venus and worships Minerva. Didymus, softer than a eunuch, prates of the knights' rows, though he may not sit among the husbands. Only what is given to friends is safe from fortune. Thais' teeth are black and her own, Laecania's white and bought. Dento, once hunting Martial for dinner, has found a richer table. Philo, who swears he never dines at home, goes without dinner whenever no one invites him. Labienus' bald head with hair at the sides won him three baskets at the Emperor's December handout. A grave man with a train of secretaries cannot say hello. Postumus spoils his gifts by talking of them. Bassus should write a flood or a fire. Lupus' son should learn a paying trade. Postumus always says he will live tomorrow, Stella gets earthenware, and a barking enemy is denied the fame he wants.

Pinxisti Venerem, colis, Artemidore, Minervam: 40
You-painted Venus, you-worship, Artemidorus, Minerva:
et miraris, opus displicuisse tuum?
and you-wonder, the-work to-have-displeased your?

41 Spadone cum sis eviratior fluxo,
Than-a-eunuch though you-are more-unmanned limp,
et concubino mollior Celaenaeo,
and than-the-catamite softer Celaenaean,
quem sectus ululat matris entheae Gallus,
whom gelded howls of-the-Mother inspired the-Gallus,
theatra loqueris et gradus et edicta,
theaters you-talk-of and rows and edicts,
trabeasque et Idus fibulasque censusque,
and-state-robes and Ides and-brooches and-property-ratings,
et pumicata pauperes manu monstras.
and with-pumiced the-poor hand you-point-out.
Sedere in equitum liceat an tibi scamnis,
To-sit on of-the-knights it-is-allowed whether to-you the-benches,
videbo, Didyme: non licet maritorum.
I-will-see, Didymus: not it-is-allowed of-husbands.

42 Callidus effracta nummos fur auferet arca,
A-crafty from-a-broken coins thief will-carry-off strongbox,
prosternet patrios impia flamma lares:
will-lay-low ancestral impious a-flame household-gods:
debitor usuram pariter sortemque negabit,
a-debtor the-interest alike and-the-principal will-deny,
non reddet sterilis semina iacta seges:
not will-return barren seeds sown the-crop:
dispensatorem fallax spoliabit amica,
the-steward a-deceitful will-strip mistress,
mercibus extructas obruet unda rates.
with-wares piled will-overwhelm the-wave ships.

Extra fortunam est, quidquid donatur amicis:
Outside fortune is, whatever is-given to-friends:
quas dederis, solas semper habebis opes.
which you-have-given, alone always you-will-have wealth.

Thais habet nigros, niveos Laecania dentes. 43
Thais has black, snow-white Laecania teeth.
Quae ratio est? Emptos haec habet, illa suos.
What the-reason is? Bought this-one has, that-one her-own.

Quid factum est, rogo, quid repente factum, 44
What happened has, I-ask, what suddenly done,
ad cenam mihi, Dento, quod vocanti —
to dinner to-me, Dento, that inviting—
quis credat? — quater ausus es negare?
who would-believe? —four-times dared you-have to-refuse?
Sed nec respicis et fugis sequentem,
But nor do-you-look-back and you-flee one-following,
quem thermis modo quaerere et theatris
whom in-the-baths lately to-seek and in-theaters
et conclavibus omnibus solebas.
and in-rooms all you-were-wont.
Sic est, captus es unctiore mensa
Thus it-is, caught you-are by-a-richer table
et maior rapuit canem culina.
and a-bigger has-snatched the-dog kitchen.

Iam te, sed cito, cognitum et relictum
Soon you, but quickly, known and abandoned
cum fastidierit popina dives,
when shall-have-grown-tired the-cookshop rich,
antiquae venies ad ossa cenae.
of-the-old you-will-come to the-bones dinner.

45 Dicis formosam, dicis te, Bassa, puellam.
You-call beautiful, you-call yourself, Bassa, a-girl.
Istud quae non est dicere, Bassa, solet.
That she-who not is to-say, Bassa, is-wont.

47 Numquam se cenasse domi Philo iurat, et hoc est:
Never himself to-have-dined at-home Philo swears, and this is:
non cenat, quotiens nemo vocavit eum.
not he-dines, as-often-as no-one has-invited him.

49 Vidissem modo forte cum sedentem
Had-I-seen just-now by-chance when sitting
solum te, Labiene, tres putavi.
alone you, Labienus, three I-thought.
Calvae me numerus tuae fefellit:
Of-the-bald-head me the-number your deceived:
sunt illinc tibi, sunt et hinc capilli,
are on-that-side to-you, are also on-this-side hairs,
quales vel puerum decere possunt;
such-as even a-boy become can;

nudumst in medio caput, nec ullus
naked-is in the-middle your-head, nor any
in longa pilus area notatur.
in the-long hair space is-noted.
Hic error tibi profuit Decembri,
This mistake you profited in-December,
tum, cum prandia misit Imperator:
then, when lunches sent the-Emperor:
cum panariolis tribus redisti.
with bread-baskets three you-went-back.
Talem Geryonem fuisse credo.
Such Geryon to-have-been I-believe.
Vites, censeo, porticum Philippi:
Avoid, I-advise, the-colonnade of-Philippus:
si te viderit Hercules, peristi.
if you shall-see Hercules, you-have-perished.

Ceno domi quotiens, nisi te, Charopine, vocavi, 50
I-dine at-home as-often-as, unless you, Charopinus, I-have-invited,
protinus ingentes sunt inimicitiae,
at-once huge are enmities,
meque potes stricto medium transfigere ferro,
and-me you-can drawn through-the-middle pierce with-steel,
si nostrum sine te scis caluisse focum.
if our without you you-know to-have-been-warm hearth.
Nec semel ergo mihi furtum fecisse licebit?
Not once therefore for-me a-theft to-have-done will-it-be-allowed?
Inprobius nihil est hac, Charopine, gula.
More-shameless nothing is than-this, Charopinus, gullet.

Desine iam nostram, precor, observare culinam,
Stop now our, I-pray, to-watch kitchen,
atque aliquando meus det tibi verba cocus.
and sometime my may-give to-you words cook.

51 Hic, qui libellis praegravem gerit laevam,
This-man, who with-little-books weighed-down carries his-left,
notariorum quem premit chorus levis,
of-secretaries whom presses the-chorus nimble,
qui codicillis hinc et inde prolatis
who with-notebooks here and there brought-forth
epistulisque commodat gravem voltum
and-to-letters lends a-grave face
similis Catoni Tullioque Brutoque,
like Cato and-Tullius and-Brutus,
exprimere, Rufe, fidiculae licet cogant,
to-squeeze-out, Rufus, the-rack though may-force,
have Latinum, χαῖρε non potest Graecum.
hail in-Latin, hello not can in-Greek.
Si fingere istud me putas, salutemus.
If to-invent this me you-think, let-us-greet-him.

52 Quae mihi praestiteris memini semperque tenebo.
What to-me you-have-provided I-remember and-always will-hold.
Cur igitur taceo, Postume? Tu loqueris.
Why then am-I-silent, Postumus? You speak.

Incipio quotiens alicui tua dona referre,
I-begin as-often-as to-someone your gifts to-relate,
protinus exclamat 'Dixerat ipse mihi.'
at-once he-exclaims 'He-had-told himself me.'
Non belle quaedam faciunt duo: sufficit unus
Not prettily some-things do two: suffices one
huic operi: si vis, ut loquar, ipse tace.
for-this work: if you-wish, that I-should-speak, yourself be-silent.
Crede mihi, quamvis ingentia, Postume, dona
Believe me, though huge, Postumus, gifts
auctoris pereunt garrulitate sui.
of-the-giver perish by-the-garrulity their-own.

Colchida quid scribis, quid scribis, amice, Thyesten? 53
the-Colchian why do-you-write, why do-you-write, friend, Thyestes?
Quo tibi vel Nioben, Basse, vel Andromachen?
For-what to-you either Niobe, Bassus, or Andromache?
Materia est, mihi crede, tuis aptissima chartis
The-material is, me believe, for-your most-fitting pages
Deucalion vel, si non placet hic, Phaethon.
Deucalion or, if not pleases he, Phaethon.

Extemporalis factus est meus rhetor: 54
Extempore become has my rhetorician:
Calpurnium non scripsit, et salutavit.
Calpurnius not he-wrote, and he-greeted.

56 Cui tradas, Lupe, filium magistro,
To-what you-should-hand, Lupus, your-son teacher,
quaeris sollicitus diu rogasque.
you-ask anxious long and-ask.
Omnes grammaticosque rhetorasque
All grammarians and-rhetoricians
devites, moneo: nihil sit illi
avoid, I-advise: nothing let-there-be for-him
cum libris Ciceronis aut Maronis,
with the-books of-Cicero or of-Maro,
famae Tutilium suae relinquat;
to-fame Tutilius his-own let-him-leave;
si versus facit, abdices poetam.
if verses he-makes, disown the-poet.
Artes discere vult pecuniosas?
Arts to-learn he-wishes moneymaking?
Fac discat citharoedus aut choraules;
Make-him he-learn a-lyre-singer or a-piper;
si duri puer ingeni videtur,
if dull the-boy of-wit seems,
praeconem facias vel architectum.
an-auctioneer make-him or an-architect.

57 Cum voco te dominum, noli tibi, Cinna, placere:
When I-call you lord, do-not with-yourself, Cinna, be-pleased:
saepe etiam servum sic resaluto tuum.
often even the-slave thus I-greet-back your.

58

Cras te victurum, cras dicis, Postume, semper.
Tomorrow you about-to-live, tomorrow you-say, Postumus, always.
Dic mihi, cras istud, Postume, quando venit?
Tell me, tomorrow that, Postumus, when does-it-come?
Quam longe cras istud, ubi est? aut unde petendum?
How far-off tomorrow that, where is-it? or whence to-be-sought?
Numquid apud Parthos Armeniosque latet?
Surely-not among the-Parthians and-the-Armenians does-it-lie-hidden?
Iam cras istud habet Priami vel Nestoris annos.
Already tomorrow that has of-Priam or of-Nestor the-years.
Cras istud quanti, dic mihi, possit emi?
Tomorrow that for-how-much, tell me, could be-bought?
Cras vives? hodie iam vivere, Postume, serum est:
Tomorrow you-will-live? today already to-live, Postumus, late is:
ille sapit, quisquis, Postume, vixit heri.
he is-wise, whoever, Postumus, lived yesterday.

59

Quod non argentum, quod non tibi mittimus aurum,
That not silver, that not to-you we-send gold,
hoc facimus causa, Stella diserte, tua.
this we-do for-the-sake, Stella eloquent, your.
Quisquis magna dedit, voluit sibi magna remitti;
Whoever great-things has-given, has-wished to-himself great-things to-be-sent-back;
fictilibus nostris exoneratus eris.
by-earthenware our relieved you-will-be.

60 Adlatres licet usque nos et usque
You-may-bark-at though on us and on
et gannitibus inprobis lacessas,
and with-yelpings shameless provoke,
certum est hanc tibi pernegare famam,
resolved it-is this to-you to-refuse-flatly fame,
olim quam petis, in meis libellis
one-day which you-seek, in my little-books
qualiscumque legaris ut per orbem.
of-whatever-kind you-may-be-read that through the-world.
Nam te cur aliquis sciat fuisse?
For you why anyone should-know to-have-existed?
Ignotus pereas, miser, necesse est.
Unknown you-must-perish, wretch, necessary it-is.
Non deerunt tamen hac in urbe forsan
Not will-be-lacking yet this in city perhaps
unus vel duo tresve quattuorve,
one or two or-three or-four,
pellem rodere qui velint caninam:
the-skin to-gnaw who would-wish of-a-dog:
nos hac a scabie tenemus ungues.
we this from itch keep our-nails.

Marianus says the curly-haired fop who clings to his wife manages her affairs, and is told whose affairs he manages. A guest is welcome at Martial's bare villa if he brings his own furniture. Ponticus asks what Martial thinks of his books, and gets the praise he wants. Martial calls for wine, balm, and roses, since the Mausoleum nearby teaches that even gods die. Caesar's arena outdoes Hercules' labors, and heaven will come to him late. Pontilianus never greets first. The bird that tore Itys is torn by her kind. Antony killed Cicero, and now all speak for him. Syriscus ate up ten million in cookshops, Trebula calls Faustinus for the summer before Tibur in winter, and Toranius is invited to a plain dinner of leeks, beans, and olives.

61

Crispulus iste quis est, uxori semper adhaeret
Curly-head that who is-he, to-the-wife always clings
qui, Mariane, tuae? crispulus iste quis est?
who, Marianus, your? curly-head that who is-he?
Nescio quid dominae teneram qui garrit in aurem
I-know-not what the-lady's tender who chatters into ear
et sellam cubito dexteriore premit?
and her-chair with-elbow right presses?
Per cuius digitos currit levis anulus omnes,
Through whose fingers runs a-light ring all,
crura gerit nullo qui violata pilo?
legs wears with-no who violated hair?
Nil mihi respondes? 'Uxoris res agit' inquis
Nothing to-me you-answer? 'Of-the-wife the-business he-does' you-say
'iste meae.' Sane certus et asper homo est,
'that-man my.' By-all-means reliable and harsh a-man he-is,
procuratorem voltu qui praeferat ipso:
an-agent with-his-face who would-show itself:
acrior hoc Chius non erit Aufidius.
keener than-this Chian not will-be Aufidius.

O quam dignus eras alapis, Mariane, Latini:
O how worthy you-were of-the-slaps, Marianus, of-Latinus:
te successurum credo ego Panniculo.
you about-to-succeed believe I Panniculus.
Res uxoris agit? res ullas crispulus iste?
The-business of-your-wife does? business any curly-head that?
Res non uxoris, res agit iste tuas.
The-business not of-your-wife, the-business does that-man your.

62 Iure tuo nostris maneas licet, hospes, in hortis,
By-right your-own our stay you-may, guest, in gardens,
si potes in nudo ponere membra solo,
if you-can on bare to-lay your-limbs ground,
aut si portatur tecum tibi magna supellex:
or if is-carried with-you for-you great furniture:
nam mea iam digitum sustulit hospitibus.
for mine already a-finger has-raised to-guests.
Nulla tegit fractos — nec inanis — culcita lectos,
No covers broken —nor empty —mattress couches,
putris et abrupta fascia reste iacet.
rotten and broken the-webbing from-the-cord lies.
Sit tamen hospitium nobis commune duobus:
Let-be yet the-lodging for-us shared for-two:
emi hortos; plus est: instrue tu; minus est.
I-have-bought the-gardens; more it-is: furnish you; less it-is.

‘Quid sentis’ inquis ‘de nostris, Marce, libellis?’ 63
‘What do-you-think’ you-say ‘of our, Marcus, little-books?’
Sic me sollicitus, Pontice, saepe rogas.
Thus me anxious, Ponticus, often you-ask.
Admiror, stupeo: nihil est perfectius illis,
I-admire, I-am-astonished: nothing is more-perfect than-they,
ipse tuo cedet Regulus ingenio.
himself to-your will-yield Regulus genius.
‘Hoc sentis?’ inquis ‘faciat tibi sic bene Caesar,
‘This you-think?’ you-say ‘may-do to-you so well Caesar,
sic Capitolinus Iuppiter.’ Immo tibi.
so Capitoline Jupiter.’ Rather to-you.

Sextantes, Calliste, duos infunde Falerni, 64
Sixths, Callistus, two pour of-Falernian,
tu super aestivas, Alcime, solve nives,
you over-them summer, Alcimus, melt snows,
pinguescat nimio madidus mihi crinis amomo
let-grow-sleek with-too-much drenched my hair balsam
lassenturque rosis tempora sutilibus.
and-let-be-wearied with-roses my-temples stitched.
Tam vicina iubent nos vivere Mausolea,
So near bid us to-live the-Mausolea,
cum doceant, ipsos posse perire deos.
since they-teach, the-very to-be-able to-perish gods.

Astra polumque dedit, quamvis obstante noverca,
The-stars and-the-sky gave, though opposing the-stepmother,
Alcidae Nemees terror et Arcas aper
to-Alcides of-Nemea the-terror and the-Arcadian boar
et castigatum Libycae ceroma palaestrae
and the-chastened of-Libyan the-ring wrestling-ground
et gravis in Siculo pulvere fusus Eryx,
and heavy in Sicilian dust stretched Eryx,
silvarumque tremor, tacita qui fraude solebat
and-of-the-woods the-terror, with-silent who trickery was-wont
ducere non rectas Cacus in antra boves.
to-drag not straight Cacus into his-cave cows.
Ista tuae, Caesar, quota pars spectatur harenae?
Those of-your, Caesar, what part is-watched sand?
Dat maiora novus proelia mane dies.
Gives greater new battles in-the-morning day.
Quot graviora cadunt Nemeaeo pondera monstro!
How-many heavier fall than-the-Nemean weights monster!
Quot tua Maenalios conlocat hasta sues!
How-many your Maenalian lays-low spear boars!
Reddatur si pugna triplex pastoris Hiberi,
Let-be-restored if the-fight triple of-the-shepherd Iberian,
est tibi qui possit vincere Geryonen.
there-is for-you one-who could conquer Geryon.
Saepe licet Graiae numeretur belua Lernae,
Often though of-Greek may-be-counted the-beast Lerna,
inproba Niliacis quid facit Hydra feris?
the-shameless with-Nilotic what does-it-do Hydra beasts?

Pro meritis caelum tantis, Auguste, dederunt
For merits heaven so-great, Augustus, gave
Alcidae cito di, sed tibi sero dabunt.
to-Alcides quickly the-gods, but to-you late will-give.

Saepe salutatus numquam prior ipse salutas: 66
Often greeted never first yourself you-greet:
sic eris 'Aeternum', Pontiliane, 'vale'.
thus you-will-be 'For-ever', Pontilianus, 'farewell'.

Hibernos peterent solito cum more recessus 67
Wintry they-sought with-wonted when custom retreats
Atthides, in nidis una remansit avis.
the-Attic, in the-nests one remained bird.
Deprendere nefas ad tempora verna reversae,
Caught the-wicked-one at the-time of-spring returned,
et profugam volucres diripuere suae.
and the-runaway the-birds tore-apart her-own.
Sero dedit poenas: discerpi noxia mater
Late she-paid the-penalty: to-be-torn guilty the-mother
debuerat, sed tunc, cum laceravit Ityn.
she-ought-to-have, but then, when she-tore Itys.

Arctoa de gente comam tibi, Lesbia, misi, 68
the-northern from race hair to-you, Lesbia, I-have-sent,
ut scires, quanto sit tua flava magis.
that you-might-know, how-much be your fair more.

69 Antoni Phario nil obiecture Pothino
Antony to-the-Pharian nothing about-to-reproach Pothinus
et levius tabula quam Cicerone nocens:
and less with-the-tablet than with-Cicero guilty:
quid gladium demens Romana stringis in ora?
why the-sword madman Roman do-you-draw against the-face?
Hoc admisisset nec Catilina nefas.
This would-have-committed not-even Catiline crime.
Impius infando miles corrumpitur auro,
The-impious with-unspeakable soldier is-corrupted gold,
et tantis opibus vox tacet una tibi.
and with-so-great wealth a-voice is-silent one for-you.
Quid prosunt sacrae pretiosa silentia linguae?
What do-they-profit of-the-sacred the-costly silences tongue?
Incipient omnes pro Cicerone loqui.
Will-begin all for Cicero to-speak.

70 Infusum sibi nuper a patrono
Poured-on himself lately by his-patron
plenum, Maxime, centiens Syriscus
full, Maximus, ten-million Syriscus
in sellariolis vagus popinis
in stool-furnished wandering cookshops
circa balnea quattuor peregit.
around the-baths four he-ran-through.
O quanta est gula, centiens comesse!
O how-great is the-gullet, ten-million to-eat-up!
Quanto maior adhuc, nec accubare!
How-much greater still, not-even to-recline!

Umida qua gelidas summittit Trebula valles 71
Damp where cool sends-down Trebula valleys
et viridis cancri mensibus alget ager,
and the-green in-Cancer's months is-chill field,
rura Cleonaeo numquam temerata leone
fields by-the-Cleonaean never violated lion
et domus Aeolio semper amica Noto,
and a-house to-Aeolian always friendly the-South-Wind,
te, Faustine, vocant: longas his exige messes
you, Faustinus, call: long on-these spend harvests
collibus; hibernum iam tibi Tibur erit.
hills; wintry now to-you Tibur will-be.

Qui potuit Bacchi matrem dixisse tonantem, 72
Who could of-Bacchus the-mother have-called the-Thunderer,
ille potest Semelen dicere, Rufe, patrem.
he can Semele call, Rufus, father.

Non donem tibi cur meos libellos 73
Not should-I-give you why my little-books
oranti totiens et exigenti,
begging so-often and demanding,
miraris, Theodore? Magna causa est:
you-wonder, Theodorus? Great the-reason is:
dones tu mihi ne tuos libellos.
may-give you me lest your little-books.

74 Pompeios iuvenes Asia atque Europa, sed ipsum
the-Pompeian youths Asia and Europe, but himself
terra tegit Libyes, si tamen ulla tegit.
the-land covers of-Libya, if yet any covers.
Quid mirum toto si spargitur orbe? Iacere
What wonder over-the-whole if be-is-scattered world? To-lie
uno non poterat tanta ruina loco.
in-one not could so-great a-ruin place.

75 Quae legis causa nupsit tibi Laelia, Quinte,
Who for-the-law's sake married you Laelia, Quintus,
uxorem potes hanc dicere legitimam.
a-wife you-can her call lawful.

76 Profecit poto Mithridates saepe veneno,
Gained by-drunk Mithridates often poison,
toxica ne possent saeva nocere sibi.
poisons lest could savage harm him.
Tu quoque cavisti cenando tam male semper,
You also have-taken-care by-dining so badly always,
ne posses umquam, Cinna, perire fame.
lest you-could ever, Cinna, perish of-hunger.

77 Narratur belle quidam dixisse, Marulle,
Is-told prettily a-certain-man to-have-said, Marullus,
qui te ferre oleum dixit in auricula.
who you to-carry oil said in your-ear.

Si tristi domicenio laboras, 78
If over-a-sad dinner-at-home you-labor,
Torani, potes esurire mecum.
Toranius, you-can go-hungry with-me.
Non deerunt tibi, si soles προπίνειν,
Not will-be-lacking to-you, if you-are-wont to-drink-first,
viles Cappadocae gravesque porri,
cheap Cappadocian and-heavy leeks,
divisis cybium latebit ovis.
on-divided tunny will-lie-hidden eggs.
Ponetur digitis tenendus ustis
Will-be-served by-fingers to-be-held burnt
nigra coliculus virens patella,
black a-cabbage-sprout green in-a-dish,
algentem modo qui reliquit hortum,
cold just-now which has-left the-garden,
et pultem niveam premens botellus,
and porridge snow-white pressing a-sausage,
et pallens faba cum rubente lardo.
and pale bean with blushing bacon.
Mensae munera si voles secundae,
Of-the-table the-gifts if you-want second,
marcentes tibi porrigentur uvae
withered to-you will-be-held-out grapes
et nomen pira quae ferunt Syrorum,
and the-name pears which bear of-the-Syrians,
et quas docta Neapolis creavit,
and those-which learned Naples has-produced,
lento castaneae vapore tostae:
with-slow chestnuts steam roasted:

vinum tu facies bonum bibendo.
the-wine you will-make good by-drinking.
Post haec omnia forte si movebit
After these all perchance if shall-stir
Bacchus quam solet esuritionem,
Bacchus as he-is-wont hunger,
succurrent tibi nobiles olivae,
will-come-to-the-rescue for-you noble olives,
Piceni modo quas tulere rami,
of-Picenum just-now which have-borne the-branches,
et fervens cicer et tepens lupinus.
and hot chickpea and warm lupine.
Parva est cenula — quis potest negare?—,
Small is the-little-dinner —who can deny?—,
sed finges nihil audiesve fictum
but you-will-feign nothing or-hear feigned
et voltu placidus tuo recumbes;
and with-face calm your you-will-recline;
nec crassum dominus leget volumen,
nor a-fat the-host will-read volume,
nec de Gadibus inprobis puellae
nor from Gades shameless girls
vibrabunt sine fine prurientes
will-quiver without end itching
lascivos docili tremore lumbos;
wanton with-practiced trembling loins;
sed quod non grave sit nec infacetum,
but what not tiresome is nor witless,
parvi tibia condyli sonabit.
of-little the-pipe Condylus will-sound.

Haec est cenula. Claudiam sequeris.
This is the-little-dinner. Claudia you-will-follow.
Quam nobis cupis esse tu priorem?
Which-woman to-us do-you-wish to-be you before?

EPIGRAMS 79–84

Zoilus changes his dinner suit eleven times at one dinner so the sweat will not chill him, and Martial, who wears one, does not sweat at all. Severus is asked for less than an hour to read the book with Secundus, whose censor's file will make it safe. A poor man will stay poor, since riches are given only to the rich. Gaurus promised two hundred thousand and could not give ten. The Saturnalia is over and the gambler pleads with the aedile; Galla sent no gift, and Martial will repay her at the women's Saturnalia on the Kalends of March.

79

Undecies una surrexti, Zoile, cena,
Eleven-times at-one you-rose, Zoilus, dinner,
et mutata tibi est synthesis undecies,
and changed for-you was the-dinner-suit eleven-times,
sudor inhaereret madida ne veste retentus
the-sweat should-cling wet lest in-the-garment kept
et laxam tenuis laederet aura cutem.
and the-loose thin should-harm air skin.
Quare ego non sudo, qui tecum, Zoile, ceno?
Why I not sweat, who with-you, Zoilus, dine?
Frigus enim magnum synthesis una facit.
Cold for great dinner-suit one makes.

Non totam mihi, si vacabis, horam,
Not a-whole to-me, if you-will-be-free, hour,
dones et licet inputes, Severe,
you-may-give and though you-charge-it, Severus,
dum nostras legis exigisque nugas.
while our you-read and-weigh trifles.
'Durum est perdere ferias': rogamus,
'Hard it-is to-lose holidays': we-ask,
iacturam patiaris hanc ferasque.
the-loss would-you-bear this and-endure.
Quod si legeris ista cum diserto
But if you-read those with the-eloquent
— sed numquid sumus inprobi? — Secundo,
—but surely-not are-we shameless? —Secundus,
plus multo tibi debiturus hic est,
more much to-you about-to-owe this-one is,
quam debet domino suo, libellus.
than owes to-the-master its-own, a-little-book.
Nam securus erit, nec inquieta
For carefree it-will-be, nor restless
lassi marmora Sisyphi videbit,
of-weary the-marble Sisyphus will-see,
quem censoria cum meo Severo
which the-censor's with my Severus
docti lima momorderit Secundi.
of-learned the-file has-bitten Secundus.

Semper pauper eris, si pauper es, Aemiliane. 81
Always poor you-will-be, if poor you-are, Aemilianus.
Dantur opes nullis nunc nisi divitibus.
Are-given riches to-none now except the-rich.

Quid promittebas mihi milia, Gaure, ducenta, 82
Why were-you-promising me thousands, Gaurus, two-hundred,
si dare non poteras milia, Gaure, decem?
if to-give not you-could thousands, Gaurus, ten?
An potes et non vis? Rogo, non est turpius istud?
Or can-you and not wish? I-ask, not is baser that?
I, tibi dispereas, Gaure: pusillus homo es.
Go, for-yourself perish, Gaurus: a-petty man you-are.

Iam tristis nucibus puer relictis 84
Now sad with-the-nuts the-boy abandoned
clamoso revocatur a magistro,
the-shouting is-called-back by teacher,
et blando male proditus fritillo,
and by-the-coaxing ill betrayed dice-box,
arcana modo raptus e popina,
the-secret just-now dragged from cookshop,
aedilem rogat udus aleator.
the-aedile begs the-soaked gambler.
Saturnalia transiere tota,
the-Saturnalia have-passed whole,

nec munuscula parva nec minora
nor presents small nor smaller
misisti mihi, Galla, quam solebas.
have-you-sent me, Galla, than you-were-wont.
Sane sic abeat meus December:
By-all-means thus let-pass my December:
scis certe, puto, vestra iam venire
you-know surely, I-think, your already to-be-coming
Saturnalia, Martias Kalendas;
Saturnalia, the-March Kalends;
tunc reddam tibi, Galla, quod dedisti.
then I-will-return to-you, Galla, what you-have-given.

BOOK VI

EPIGRAMS 1–21

The sixth book goes first to Martial's dear Martialis to be polished before it reaches Caesar. Caesar has forbidden adultery and castration. A son is hoped for Caesar. Rome owes him most for her chastity. Caecilianus' silence means he expects not to be repaid. Since the Julian law was renewed, Telesilla has married her tenth husband, an adulteress by law. Two praetors, four tribunes, seven pleaders, and ten poets sought a girl, and the old man gave her to an auctioneer. Jupiter, asked for money, refers Martial to Caesar, whose calm face Pallas says has not yet refused. Marcus cannot have a Pylades unless he feeds his friend as himself. Julia's statue, Laberius' unwritten verses, an ant in amber, and Venus' warning to Stella follow.

Sextus mittitur hic tibi libellus, 1
The-sixth is-sent this to-you little-book,
in primis mihi care Martialis:
above all to-me dear Martialis:
quem si terseris aure diligenti,
which if you-polish with-ear careful,
audebit minus anxius tremensque
it-will-dare less anxious and-trembling
magnas Caesaris in manus venire.
great of-Caesar into the-hands to-come.

Lusus erat sacrae conubia fallere taedae, 2
A-sport it-was of-the-sacred the-wedlock to-cheat torch,
lusus et inmeritos execuisse mares.
a-sport and blameless to-have-castrated males.

Utraque tu prohibes, Caesar, populisque futuris
Both you forbid, Caesar, and-to-peoples future
succurris, nasci quos sine fraude iubes.
you-bring-help, to-be-born whom without fraud you-bid.
Nec spado iam nec moechus erit te praeside quisquam:
Nor eunuch now nor adulterer will-be you as-ruler anyone:
at prius — o mores! — et spado moechus erat.
but before —O morals! —even a-eunuch an-adulterer was.

3 Nascere Dardanio promissum nomen Iulo,
Be-born to-Dardan promised name Iulus,
vera deûm suboles; nascere, magne puer:
true of-the-gods offspring; be-born, great boy:
cui pater aeternas post saecula tradat habenas,
to-whom your-father the-eternal after ages may-hand reins,
quique regas orbem cum seniore senex.
and-who may-rule the-world with your-elder an-old-man.
Ipsa tibi niveo trahet aurea pollice fila
Herself for-you with-snow-white will-draw golden thumb threads
et totam Phrixi Iulia nebit ovem.
and whole of-Phrixus Julia will-spin the-ram.

4 Censor maxime principumque princeps,
Censor greatest and-of-princes prince,
cum tot iam tibi debeat triumphos,
though so-many now to-you may-owe triumphs,
tot nascentia templa, tot renata,
so-many being-born temples, so-many reborn,

tot spectacula, tot deos, tot urbes:
so-many spectacles, so-many gods, so-many cities:
plus debet tibi Roma, quod pudica est.
more owes to-you Rome, that chaste she-is.

Rustica mercatus multis sum praedia nummis: 5
Country having-bought for-many I-am estates coins:
mutua des centum, Caeciliane, rogo.
on-loan would-you-give a-hundred, Caecilianus, I-ask.
Nil mihi respondes? Tacitum te dicere credo
Nothing to-me you-answer? Silently you to-say I-believe
'Non reddes': ideo, Caeciliane, rogo.
'Not you-will-return-it': therefore, Caecilianus, I-ask.

Comoedi tres sunt, sed amat tua Paula, Luperce, 6
Comic-actors three there-are, but loves your Paula, Lupercus,
quattuor: et κωφὸν Paula πρόσωπον amat.
four: and the-mute Paula mask loves.

Iulia lex populis ex quo, Faustine, renata est 7
the-Julian law for-the-peoples from when, Faustinus, reborn has-been
atque intrare domos iussa Pudicitia est,
and to-enter homes ordered Chastity has-been,
aut minus aut certe non plus tricesima lux est,
either less or surely not more the-thirtieth light it-is,
et nubit decimo iam Telesilla viro.
and weds the-tenth now Telesilla husband.

Quae nubit totiens, non nubit: adultera lege est.
She-who weds so-often, not weds: an-adulteress by-law she-is.
Offendor moecha simpliciore minus.
I-am-offended by-an-adulteress more-straightforward less.

8 Praetores duo, quattuor tribuni,
Praetors two, four tribunes,
septem causidici, decem poetae
seven pleaders, ten poets
cuiusdam modo nuptias petebant
a-certain-girl's lately marriage were-seeking
a quodam sene. Non moratus ille
from a-certain old-man. Not delaying he
praeconi dedit Eulogo puellam.
to-the-auctioneer gave Eulogus the-girl.
Dic, numquid fatue, Severe, fecit?
Say, surely-not foolishly, Severus, he-acted?

9 In Pompeiano dormis, Laevine, theatro:
In the-Pompeian you-sleep, Laevinus, theater:
et quereris, si te suscitat Oceanus?
and you-complain, if you rouses Oceanus?

10 Pauca Iovem nuper cum milia forte rogarem,
A-few Jove lately when thousands by-chance I-asked,
'Ille dabit' dixit 'qui mihi templa dedit.'
'He will-give' said 'who me temples gave.'

Templa quidem dedit ille Iovi, sed milia nobis
Temples indeed gave he to-Jove, but thousands to-us
nulla dedit: pudet, a, pauca rogasse Iovem
none gave: I-am-ashamed, ah, a-few to-have-asked Jove
at quam non tetricus, quam nulla nubilus ira,
but how not grim, how by-no clouded anger,
quam placido nostras legerat ore preces!
how with-calm our had-read face prayers!
Talis supplicibus tribuit diademata Dacis
Such to-suppliants he-granted diadems Dacians
et Capitolinas itque reditque vias.
and the-Capitoline both-goes and-returns ways.
Dic, precor, o nostri dic conscia virgo Tonantis,
Tell, I-pray, O of-our tell knowing virgin Thunderer,
si negat hoc vultu, quo solet ergo dare?
if he-refuses with-this face, with-which he-is-wont therefore to-give?
Sic ego: sic breviter posita mihi Gorgone Pallas:
Thus I: thus briefly laid-aside to-me her-Gorgon Pallas:
'Quae nondum data sunt, stulte, negata putas?'
'What not-yet given have-been, foolish, denied do-you-think?'

Quod non sit Pylades hoc tempore, non sit Orestes, 11
That not there-be a-Pylades at-this time, not there-be an-Orestes,
miraris? Pylades, Marce, bibebat idem,
you-wonder? Pylades, Marcus, used-to-drink the-same,
nec melior panis turdusve dabatur Orestae,
nor better bread or-thrush was-given to-Orestes,
sed par atque eadem cena duobus erat.
but equal and the-same dinner for-the-two was.

Tu Lucrina voras, me pascit aquosa peloris:
You Lucrine devour, me feeds watery clam:
non minus ingenua est et mihi, Marce, gula.
not less noble is also mine, Marcus, gullet.
Te Cadmea Tyros, me pinguis Gallia vestit:
You Cadmean Tyre, me fat Gaul clothes:
vis te purpureum, Marce, sagatus amem?
do-you-wish you purple, Marcus, cloaked I-should-love?
Ut praestem Pyladen, aliquis mihi praestet Oresten.
That I-may-provide a-Pylades, let-someone for-me provide an-Orestes.
Hoc non fit verbis, Marce: ut ameris, ama.
This not is-done by-words, Marcus: that you-may-be-loved, love.

12 Iurat capillos esse, quos emit, suos
She-swears the-hair to-be, which she-buys, her-own
†Fabulla: numquid, Paule, peierat†?
Fabulla: surely-not, Paulus, does-she-perjure-herself?

13 Quis te Phidiaco formatam, Iulia, caelo,
Who you by-Phidian shaped, Julia, graver,
vel quis Palladiae non putet artis opus?
or who of-Palladian not would-think art the-work?
Candida non tacita respondet imagine lygdos
White not with-silent answers likeness marble
et placido fulget vivus in ore decor.
and calm shines living on her-face beauty.

Ludit Acidalio, sed non manus aspera, nodo,
Plays with-Acidalian, but not hand rough, knot,
quem rapuit collo, parve Cupido, tuo.
which he-snatched from-the-neck, little Cupid, your.
Ut Martis revocetur amor summique Tonantis,
That of-Mars may-be-recalled the-love and-of-the-highest Thunderer,
a te Iuno petat ceston et ipsa Venus.
from you Juno may-ask the-girdle and herself Venus.

14

Versus scribere posse te disertos
Verses to-write to-be-able you eloquent
adfirmas, Laberi: quid ergo non vis?
you-affirm, Laberius: why then not do-you-wish?
Versus scribere qui potest disertos,
Verses to-write who can eloquent,
non scribat, Laberi: virum putabo.
and-does-not write, Laberius: a-man I-will-think-him.

15

Dum Phaethontea formica vagatur in umbra,
While Phaethon's an-ant wanders in shade,
inplicuit tenuem sucina gutta feram.
entangled the-slender amber drop beast.
Sic modo quae fuerat vita contempta manente,
Thus lately which had-been in-life despised while-it-remained,
funeribus facta est nunc pretiosa suis.
by-funeral made has-been now precious its-own.

17 Cinnam, Cinname, te iubes vocari.
Cinna, Cinnamus, you bid to-be-called.
Non est hic, rogo, Cinna, barbarismus?
Not is this, I-ask, Cinna, a-barbarism?
Tu si Furius ante dictus esses,
You if Furius before called had-been,
fur ista ratione dicereris.
thief by-that reasoning you-would-be-called.

18 Sancta Salonini terris requiescit Hiberis,
Holy of-Saloninus in-lands rests Iberian,
qua melior Stygias non videt umbra domos.
than-which better Stygian not sees shade homes.
Sed lugere nefas: nam qui te, Prisce, reliquit,
But to-mourn wrong: for he-who you, Priscus, has-left,
vivit qua voluit vivere parte magis.
lives in-which he-wished to-live part more.

19 Non de vi neque caede nec veneno,
Not about violence nor murder nor poison,
sed lis est mihi de tribus capellis:
but the-suit is for-me about three she-goats:
vicini queror has abesse furto.
my-neighbor's I-complain these to-be-missing by-theft.
Hoc iudex sibi postulat probari:
This the-judge for-himself demands to-be-proved:

tu Cannas Mithridaticumque bellum
you Cannae and-the-Mithridatic war
et periuria Punici furoris
and the-perjuries of-Punic fury
et Sullas Mariosque Muciosque
and Sullas and-Mariuses and-Muciuses
magna voce sonas manuque tota.
with-great voice you-sound and-with-hand whole.
Iam dic, Postume, de tribus capellis.
Now speak, Postumus, about the-three she-goats.

Mutua te centum sestertia, Phoebe, rogavi, 20
On-loan you a-hundred thousand-sesterces, Phoebus, I-asked,
cum mihi dixisses 'exigis ergo nihil?'
when to-me you-had-said 'you-demand therefore nothing?'
Inquiris, dubitas, cunctaris meque diebus
You-inquire, you-hesitate, you-delay and-me for-days
teque decem crucias: iam rogo, Phoebe, nega.
and-yourself ten you-torture: now I-ask, Phoebus, refuse.

Perpetuam Stellae dum iungit Ianthida vati 21
Everlasting to-Stella while she-joins Ianthis the-bard
laeta Venus, dixit 'Plus dare non potui.'
glad Venus, said 'More to-give not I-could.'
Haec coram domina; sed nequius illud in aurem:
This in-the-presence-of the-lady; but more-naughtily that into his-ear:
'Tu ne quid pecces, exitiose, vide.
'You lest anything you-sin, ruinous-one, see.

Saepe ego lascivom Martem furibunda cecidi,
Often I wanton Mars in-a-fury have-beaten,
legitimos esset cum vagus ante toros.
lawful he-was when roving before beds.
Sed postquam meus est, nulla me paelice laesit:
But since mine he-is, no me rival has-hurt:
tam frugi Iuno vellet habere Iovem.'
so frugal Juno would-wish to-have Jove.'
Dixit, et arcano percussit pectora loro.
She-said, and with-secret struck his-breast strap.
Plaga iuvat: sed tu iam, dea, caede deos.
The-blow pleases: but you now, goddess, beat the-gods.

EPIGRAMS 22–38

Proculina marries her lover to escape the Julian law, and so confesses. Lesbia cannot command an erection. Charisianus wears a toga at the Saturnalia. Marcellinus, serving under the northern Bear, is urged to be brave with caution. Sotades is in danger of his head. Nepos should drink his old Falernian rather than save it for his daughter. Melior's freedman Glaucias, dead at twelve, is mourned in two epitaphs. Paetus delayed his gift too long to earn thanks. Charidemus lets a doctor sleep with his wife. Otho's death outdid Cato's. Caecilianus drinks during his speech, and the infant Regulus praises his father.

22 Quod nubis, Proculina, concubino
That you-wed, Proculina, your-paramour
et, moechum modo, nunc facis maritum,
and, the-adulterer just-now, now you-make your-husband,

ne lex Iulia te notare possit:
lest the-law Julian you to-brand might-be-able:
non nubis, Proculina, sed fateris.
not you-wed, Proculina, but you-confess.

Stare iubes nostrum semper tibi, Lesbia, penem: 23
To-stand you-bid our always for-you, Lesbia, penis:
crede mihi, non est mentula, quod digitus.
believe me, not is a-prick, what a-finger.
Tu licet et manibus blandis et vocibus instes,
You though both with-hands coaxing and with-words press,
te contra facies imperiosa tua est.
you against face imperious your is.

Nil lascivius est Charisiano: 24
Nothing more-wanton is than-Charisianus:
Saturnalibus ambulat togatus.
at-the-Saturnalia he-walks in-a-toga.

Marcelline, boni suboles sincera parentis, 25
Marcellinus, of-a-good offspring true parent,
horrida Parrhasio quem tegit ursa iugo,
shaggy on-the-Parrhasian whom covers the-Bear ridge,
ille vetus pro te patriusque quid optet amicus,
he old for you and-your-father's what he-may-wish friend,
accipe et haec memori pectore vota tene:
receive and these in-mindful breast prayers hold:

cauta sit ut virtus, nec te temerarius ardor
cautious be that your-valor, nor you rash ardor
in medios enses saevaque tela ferat.
into the-middle-of swords and-savage weapons carry.
Bella velint Martemque ferum rationis egentes,
Wars let-wish and-Mars fierce of-reason the-lacking,
tu potes et patris miles et esse ducis.
you can both of-your-father a-soldier and to-be of-the-leader.

26 Periclitatur capite Sotades noster.
Is-in-peril of-his-head Sotades our.
Reum putatis esse Sotaden? non est.
Accused you-think to-be Sotades? not he-is.
Arrigere desît posse Sotades: lingit.
To-get-it-up has-ceased to-be-able Sotades: he-licks.

27 Bis vicine Nepos — nam tu quoque proxima Florae
Twice neighbor Nepos —for you also next to-Flora
incolis et veteres tu quoque Ficelias —
dwell and the-old you also Ficeliae—
est tibi, quae patria signatur imagine voltus,
there-is to-you, who by-her-father's is-sealed likeness face,
testis maternae nata pudicitiae.
witness of-her-mother's a-daughter chastity.
Tu tamen annoso nimium ne parce Falerno,
You yet the-aged too-much do-not spare Falernian,
et potius plenos aere relinque cados.
and rather full with-money leave jars.

Sit pia, sit locuples, sed potet filia mustum:
Let-her-be dutiful, let-her-be rich, but let-drink your-daughter must:
amphora cum domina nunc nova fiet anus.
the-amphora with the-lady now new will-become an-old-woman.
Caecuba non solos vindemia nutriat orbos:
Caecuban not alone the-vintage should-nourish the-childless:
possunt et patres vivere, crede mihi.
can also fathers live, believe me.

28

Libertus Melioris ille notus,
The-freedman of-Melior he known,
tota qui cecidit dolente Roma,
whole who fell grieving Rome,
cari deliciae breves patroni,
of-a-dear the-darling brief patron,
hoc sub marmore Glaucias humatus
this under marble Glaucias buried
iuncto Flaminiae iacet sepulchro:
joined to-the-Flaminian lies tomb:
castus moribus, integer pudore,
chaste in-manners, pure in-modesty,
velox ingenio, decore felix.
swift in-wit, in-beauty blessed.
Bis senis modo messibus peractis
Twice six just-now harvests completed
vix unum puer adplicabat annum.
hardly one the-boy was-adding year.
Qui fles talia, nil fleas, viator.
You-who weep such-things, nothing may-you-weep, wayfarer.

29 Non de plebe domus nec avarae verna catastae,
Not from the-commons' house nor of-a-greedy a-home-born auction-stand,
sed domini sancto dignus amore puer,
but of-his-master's holy worthy love a-boy,
munera cum posset nondum sentire patroni,
the-gifts when he-could not-yet feel of-his-patron,
Glaucia libertus iam Melioris erat.
Glaucias a-freedman already of-Melior was.
Moribus hoc formaeque datum: quis blandior illo?
To-his-manners this and-beauty given: who more-charming than-he?
Aut quis Apollineo pulchrior ore fuit?
Or who than-Apollo's more-beautiful face was?
Inmodicis brevis est aetas et rara senectus.
To-the-immoderate brief is life and rare old-age.
Quidquid ames, cupias non placuisse nimis.
Whatever you-love, wish not to-have-pleased too-much.

30 Sex sestertia si statim dedisses,
Six thousand-sesterces if at-once you-had-given,
cum dixti mihi 'Sume, tolle, dono',
when you-said to-me 'Take, carry-off, I-give',
deberem tibi, Paete, pro ducentis.
I-would-owe you, Paetus, for two-hundred.
At nunc cum dederis diu moratus,
But now since you-have-given long delaying,
post septem, puto, vel novem Kalendas,
after seven, I-think, or nine Kalends,

vis dicam tibi veriora veris?
do-you-wish I-tell you truer than-truths?
Sex sestertia, Paete, perdidisti.
Six thousand-sesterces, Paetus, you-have-lost.

Uxorem, Charideme, tuam scis ipse sinisque 31
The-wife, Charidemus, your you-know yourself and-allow
a medico futui: vis sine febre mori.
by a-doctor to-be-fucked: you-wish without fever to-die.

Cum dubitaret adhuc belli civilis Enyo 32
While hesitated still of-war civil Enyo
forsitan et posset vincere mollis Otho,
perhaps and might conquer soft Otho,
damnavit multo staturum sanguine Martem
he-condemned at-much about-to-cost blood Mars
et fodit certa pectora tota manu.
and pierced with-sure his-breast whole hand.
Sit Cato, dum vivit, sane vel Caesare maior:
Let-be Cato, while he-lives, by-all-means even than-Caesar greater:
dum moritur, numquid maior Othone fuit?
while he-dies, surely-not greater than-Otho was?

Nil miserabilius, Matho, pedicone Sabello 33
Nothing more-wretched, Matho, than-the-bugger Sabellus
vidisti, quo nil laetius ante fuit.
you-have-seen, than-whom nothing happier before was.

Furta, fugae, mortes servorum, incendia, luctus
Thefts, flights, deaths of-slaves, fires, griefs
adfligunt hominem, iam miser et futuit.
afflict the-man, now wretched even he-fucks.

35 Septem clepsydras magna tibi voce petenti
Seven water-clocks with-great to-you voice asking
arbiter invitus, Caeciliane, dedit.
the-judge unwilling, Caecilianus, gave.
At tu multa diu dicis vitreisque tepentem
But you many-things long say and-from-glass warm
ampullis potas semisupinus aquam.
flasks you-drink half-reclining water.
Ut tandem saties vocemque sitimque, rogamus,
That at-last you-may-sate your-voice and-your-thirst, we-ask,
iam de clepsydra, Caeciliane, bibas.
now from the-water-clock, Caecilianus, drink.

36 Mentula tam magna est, quantus tibi, Papyle, nasus,
Your-prick so big is, as-great-as for-you, Papylus, your-nose,
ut possis, quotiens arrigis, olfacere.
that you-can, as-often-as you-get-it-up, smell-it.

37 Secti podicis usque ad umbilicum
Of-his-split arse right to the-navel
nullas reliquias habet Charinus,
no remains has Charinus,

et prurit tamen usque ad umbilicum.
and he-itches yet right to the-navel.
O quanta scabie miser laborat!
O with-how-great itch the-wretch labors!
Culum non habet, est tamen cinaedus.
An-arse not he-has, he-is yet a-catamite.

Aspicis, ut parvus nec adhuc trieteride plena 38
You-see, how little nor yet three-years full
Regulus auditum laudet et ipse patrem?
Regulus heard should-praise also himself his-father?
Maternosque sinus viso genitore relinquat
And-his-mother's lap seen his-father leave
et patrias laudes sentiat esse suas?
and his-father's praises feel to-be his-own?
Iam clamor centumque viri densumque corona
Now the-shouting and-the-hundred men and-dense the-ring
volgus et infanti Iulia tecta placent.
crowd and to-the-infant Julian halls please.
Acris equi suboles magno sic pulvere gaudet,
Of-a-spirited horse the-offspring in-great thus dust rejoices,
sic vitulus molli proelia fronte cupit.
thus the-calf with-soft battles brow desires.
Di, servate, precor, matri sua vota patrique,
Gods, preserve, I-pray, for-the-mother her-own prayers and-the-father,
audiat ut natum Regulus, illa duos.
may-hear that the-son Regulus, she both.

Lycoris was once preferred to all, and now Glycera is. A reciter wrapped in wool can neither speak nor be silent. Oppianus will die unwashed unless he bathes at Etruscus' little baths, whose marbles and light outdo every spring and resort. Castricus enjoys Baiae while Martial is content with his Nomentan cottage. Calliodorus' jests would win him no toasts if Martial told the truth. Laetoria's marriage to Lygdus is worse than her adultery. Marcus repays Stella's nymph for the water he drank when sick. A column of living cypress warns thieves of the fig it will plant in them. Telesinus grew rich by keeping catamites. The barber boy Pantagathus is buried, Andragoras died after dreaming of his doctor, Coracinus' perfumes are mocked, and Phoebus' painted hair needs a sponge, not a barber.

40 Femina praeferri potuit tibi nulla, Lycori:
A-woman to-be-preferred could to-you no, Lycoris:
praeferri Glycerae femina nulla potest.
to-be-preferred to-Glycera a-woman no can.
Haec erit hoc quod tu: tu non potes esse quod haec est
This-one will-be this which you: you not can be what this-one is
tempora quid faciunt! hanc volo, te volui.
the-times what do-they-do! her I-want, you I-wanted.

41 Qui recitat lana fauces et colla revinctus,
Who recites with-wool his-throat and neck bound,
hic se posse loqui, posse tacere negat.
this-man himself to-be-able to-speak, to-be-able to-be-silent denies.

Etrusci nisi thermulis lavaris, 42
Of-Etruscus unless in-the-little-baths you-bathe,
inlotus morieris, Oppiane.
unbathed you-will-die, Oppianus.
Nullae sic tibi blandientur undae,
No thus you will-caress waters,
nec fontes Aponi rudes puellis,
nor the-springs of-Aponus untried by-girls,
non mollis Sinuessa fervidique
not soft Sinuessa and-the-boiling
fluctus Passeris aut superbus Anxur,
waves of-Passer or proud Anxur,
non Phoebi vada principesque Baiae.
not Phoebus' shallows and-princely Baiae.
Nusquam tam nitidum vacat serenum:
Nowhere so gleaming is-free serene:
lux ipsa est ibi longior, diesque
the-light itself is there longer, and-the-day
nullo tardius a loco recedit.
no later from place withdraws.
Illic Taygeti virent metalla
There of-Taygetus are-green the-quarries
et certant vario decore saxa,
and vie in-varied beauty stones,
quae Phryx et Libys altius cecidit.
which the-Phrygian and the-Libyan deeper has-cut.
Siccos pinguis onyx anhelat aestus
Dry the-rich onyx breathes heats
et flamma tenui calent ophitae:
and with-flame thin are-warm serpentines:

ritus si placeant tibi Laconum,
the-rites if please you of-the-Spartans,
contentus potes arido vapore
content you-can with-dry steam
cruda Virgine Marciave mergi;
in-raw Virgin or-Marcia be-plunged;
quae tam candida, tam serena lucet,
which so white, so serene shines,
ut nullas ibi suspiceris undas
that no there you-would-suspect waters
et credas vacuam nitere lygdon.
and believe empty to-gleam the-marble.
Non adtendis, et aure me supina
Not you-attend, and with-ear me upturned
iam dudum quasi neglegenter audis.
now long-since as-though carelessly you-hear.
Inlotus morieris, Oppiane.
Unbathed you-will-die, Oppianus.

43 Dum tibi felices indulgent, Castrice, Baiae
While you happy indulge, Castricus, Baiae
canaque sulphureis nympha natatur aquis,
and-the-white with-sulfurous nymph is-swum waters,
me Nomentani confirmant otia ruris
me of-the-Nomentan strengthen the-leisures farm
et casa iugeribus non onerosa suis.
and a-cottage to-the-acres not burdensome its-own.

Hoc mihi Baiani soles mollisque Lucrinus,
This to-me the-Baian suns and-soft Lucrinus,
hoc mihi sunt vestrae, Castrice, divitiae.
this to-me are your, Castricus, riches.
Quondam laudatas quocumque libebat ad undas
Once praised wherever it-pleased to waters
currere nec longas pertimuisse vias,
to-run and-not long to-have-feared roads,
nunc urbis vicina iuvant facilesque recessus,
now of-the-city neighboring please and-easy retreats,
et satis est, pigro si licet esse mihi.
and enough it-is, to-a-lazy if it-is-allowed to-be me.

44

Festive credis te, Calliodore, iocari
Wittily you-believe you, Calliodorus, to-joke
et solum multo permaduisse sale.
and alone with-much to-have-been-soaked salt.
Omnibus adrides, dicteria dicis in omnis;
At-all you-smile, witticisms you-say against all;
sic te convivam posse placere putas.
thus you as-a-guest to-be-able to-please you-think.
At si ego non belle, sed vere dixero quiddam,
But if I not prettily, but truly shall-have-said something,
nemo propinabit, Calliodore, tibi.
no-one will-drink-to, Calliodorus, you.

45 Lusistis, satis est: lascivi nubite cunni:
You-have-played, enough it-is: wanton wed cunts:
permissa est vobis non nisi casta Venus.
permitted is to-you not except chaste Venus.
Haec est casta Venus? nubit Laetoria Lygdo:
This is chaste Venus? weds Laetoria Lygdus:
turpius uxor erit, quam modo moecha fuit.
more-basely a-wife she-will-be, than just-now an-adulteress was.

46 Vapulat adsidue veneti quadriga flagello,
Is-flogged constantly of-the-Blue the-four-horse-team with-the-whip,
nec currit: magnam rem, Catiane, facit.
and-does-not run: a-great thing, Catianus, he-does.

47 Nympha, mei Stellae quae fonte domestica puro
Nymph, of-my Stella who from-spring domestic pure
laberis et domini gemmea tecta subis,
glide and of-your-master the-jeweled roof pass-under,
sive Numae coniunx Triviae te misit ab antris,
whether Numa's wife of-Trivia you sent from caves,
sive Camenarum de grege nona venis:
or of-the-Camenae from the-flock ninth you-come:
exolvit votis hac se tibi virgine porca
has-discharged his-vows with-this himself to-you virgin sow
Marcus, furtivam quod bibit aeger aquam.
Marcus, stolen because he-drank sick water.

Tu contenta meo iam crimine gaudia fontis
You content with-my now fault the-joys of-the-spring
da secura tui: sit mihi sana sitis.
give secure of-you: may-be to-me healthy thirst.

Quod tam grande sophos clamat tibi turba togata, 48
That so great a-bravo shouts to-you the-crowd togaed,
non tu, Pomponi, cena diserta tua est.
not you, Pomponius, the-dinner eloquent your is.

Non sum de fragili dolatus ulmo, 49
Not I-am from brittle hewn elm,
nec quae stat rigida supina vena,
nor what stands with-rigid upturned vein,
de ligno mihi quolibet columna est,
of wood to-me any a-column is,
sed viva generata de cupressu:
but living begotten from cypress:
quae nec saecula centiens peracta
which neither ages a-hundred-times completed
nec longae cariem timet senectae.
nor of-long the-decay fears old-age.
Hanc tu, quisquis es, o malus, timeto.
This you, whoever you-are, O wicked, fear.
Nam si vel minimos manu rapaci
For if even the-smallest with-hand grasping
hoc de palmite laeseris racemos,
this from vine-shoot you-harm grapes,

nascetur, licet hoc velis negare,
there-will-grow, though this you-may-wish to-deny,
inserta tibi ficus a cupressu.
planted in-you a-fig from the-cypress.

50 Cum coleret puros pauper Telesinus amicos,
When cultivated pure poor Telesinus friends,
errabat gelida sordidus in togula:
he-wandered chilly dirty in a-little-toga:
obscenos ex quo coepit curare cinaedos,
obscene from when he-began to-tend catamites,
argentum, mensas, praedia solus emit.
silver, tables, estates alone he-bought.
Vis fieri dives, Bithynice? conscius esto:
Do-you-wish to-become rich, Bithynicus? an-accomplice be:
nil tibi vel minimum basia pura dabunt.
nothing to-you even the-least kisses pure will-give.

51 Quod convivaris sine me tam saepe, Luperce,
That you-dine without me so often, Lupercus,
inveni, noceam qua ratione tibi.
I-have-found, I-may-harm by-what means you.
Irascor: licet usque voces mittasque rogesque —
I-am-angry: though always you-call and-send and-ask—
'Quid facies?' inquis. Quid faciam? veniam.
'What will-you-do?' you-say. What shall-I-do? I-will-come.

Hoc iacet in tumulo raptus puerilibus annis 52
This lies in tomb snatched in-boyish years
Pantagathus, domini cura dolorque sui,
Pantagathus, of-the-master the-care and-grief his-own,
vix tangente vagos ferro resecare capillos
hardly touching straying with-steel to-trim hair
doctus et hirsutas excoluisse genas.
skilled and bristly to-have-tended cheeks.
Sis licet, ut debes, tellus, placata levisque,
Be though, as you-ought, earth, appeased and-light,
artificis levior non potes esse manu.
than-the-artist's lighter not you-can be hand.

Lotus nobiscum est, hilaris cenavit, et idem 53
Bathed with-us he-has, cheerful he-dined, and the-same
inventus mane est mortuus Andragoras.
found in-the-morning was dead Andragoras.
Tam subitae mortis causam, Faustine, requiris?
So of-sudden death the-cause, Faustinus, you-seek?
In somnis medicum viderat Hermocraten.
In his-dreams the-doctor he-had-seen Hermocrates.

Tantos et tantas si dicere Sextilianum, 54
Such-great and such-great if to-say Sextilianus,
Aule, vetes, iunget vix tria verba miser.
Aulus, you-forbid, will-join hardly three words the-wretch.

‘Quid sibi vult?’ inquis. Dicam, quid suspicer esse.
‘What for-himself does-he-mean?’ you-say. I-will-tell, what I-suspect to-be.
tantos et tantas Sextilianus amat.
such-great and such-great Sextilianus loves.

55 Quod semper casiaque cinnamoque
That always of-cassia and-cinnamon
et nido niger alitis superbae
and from-the-nest black of-the-bird proud
fragras plumbea Nicerotiana,
you-smell leaden Niceros’-perfumes,
rides nos, Coracine, nil olentis:
you-laugh-at us, Coracinus, nothing smelling:
malo, quam bene olere, nil olere.
I-prefer, than well to-smell, nothing to-smell.

56 Quod tibi crura rigent saetis et pectora villis,
That your legs bristle with-hairs and your-chest with-shag,
verba putas famae te, Charideme, dare?
words you-think to-fame you, Charidemus, to-give?
Extirpa, mihi crede, pilos de corpore toto
Uproot, me believe, the-hairs from body whole
teque pilare tuas testificare natis.
and-yourself to-depilate your attest buttocks.
‘Quae ratio est?’ inquis. Scis multos dicere multa:
‘What the-reason is?’ you-say. You-know many say many-things:
fac pedicari te, Charideme, putent.
make-sure to-be-buggered you, Charidemus, they-think.

Mentiris fictos unguento, Phoebe, capillos 57
You-feign false with-ointment, Phoebus, hair
et tegitur pictis sordida calva comis.
and is-covered with-painted dirty bald-head locks.
Tonsorem capiti non est adhibere necesse:
A-barber for-your-head not it-is to-employ necessary:
radere te melius spongia, Phoebe, potest.
to-shave you better a-sponge, Phoebus, can.

EPIGRAMS 58–70

Martial nearly died while Aulus Pudens served on the northern frontier, and prays they will meet again in Italy. Baccara longs for cold weather to wear his six hundred frieze cloaks. Rome loves Martial's books, and one man blushes and hates them. Pompullus' writings are clever, but a book needs genius to live. Salanus has lost his only son, and Oppianus is asked why he is slow to send gifts. Marianus makes his legacy-hunter his heir. A presumptuous critic, softer than his ancestors, is warned that Martial's bile would brand him and that the bear can bite. Tucca thinks some epigrams long. The auctioneer kisses the girl he is selling and loses the bid, and Cotta at sixty-two has never been ill a day, for life is being well.

Cernere Parrhasios dum te iuvat, Aule, triones 58
To-see the-Parrhasian while you it-pleases, Aulus, Plow-oxen
comminus et Getici sidera ferre poli,
close-at-hand and of-the-Getic the-stars to-bear sky,
o quam paene tibi Stygias ego raptus ad undas
O how nearly from-you Stygian I snatched to the-waves
Elysiae vidi nubila fusca plagae!
of-the-Elysian saw the-clouds dark region!

Quamvis lassa, tuos quaerebant lumina vultus
Although weary, your sought eyes face
atque erat in gelido plurimus ore Pudens.
and was on chilly very-much my-lips Pudens.
Si mihi lanificae ducunt non pulla sorores
If for-me the-wool-working draw not dark sisters
stamina nec surdos vox habet ista deos,
the-threads nor deaf voice has this gods,
sospite me sospes Latias reveheris ad urbes
safe I safe Latin you-will-be-brought-back to cities
et referes pili praemia clarus eques.
and will-bring-back of-the-chief-centurionship the-rewards a-famous knight.

59 Et dolet et queritur, sibi non contingere frigus,
Both he-grieves and complains, to-himself not to-befall cold,
propter sescentas Baccara gausapinas,
because-of six-hundred Baccara frieze-cloaks,
optat et obscuras luces ventosque nivesque,
he-wishes-for and dark days and-winds and-snows,
odit et hibernos, si tepuere, dies.
he-hates and wintry, if have-grown-warm, days.
Quid fecere mali nostrae tibi, saeve, lacernae,
What have-they-done of-harm our to-you, cruel, cloaks,
tollere de scapulis quas levis aura potest?
to-lift from your-shoulders which a-light breeze can?
Quanto simplicius, quanto est humanius illud,
How-much more-simple, how-much is more-humane that,
mense vel Augusto sumere gausapinas!
in-month even August to-put-on frieze-cloaks!

Laudat, amat, cantat nostros mea Roma libellos, 60
Praises, loves, sings our my Rome little-books,
meque sinus omnes, me manus omnis habet.
and-me laps all, me hand every has.
Ecce rubet quidam, pallet, stupet, oscitat, odit.
Behold blushes a-certain-man, is-pale, is-dumbstruck, yawns, hates.
Hoc volo: nunc nobis carmina nostra placent.
This I-want: now to-us poems our please.

Rem factam Pompullus habet, Faustine: legetur 61
A-thing done Pompullus has, Faustinus: he-will-be-read
et nomen toto sparget in orbe suum.
and the-name whole will-scatter in the-world his-own.
'Sic leve flavorum valeat genus Usiporum,
'So fickle of-the-fair may-fare-well the-race Usipi,
quisquis et Ausonium non amat imperium.'
whoever also Ausonian not loves empire.'
Ingeniosa tamen Pompulli scripta feruntur.
Clever yet of-Pompullus the-writings are-reported.
'Sed famae non est hoc, mihi crede, satis:
'But for-fame not is this, to-me believe, enough:
quam multi tineas pascunt blattasque diserti,
how many moths feed and-cockroaches eloquent-men,
et redimunt soli carmina docta coci!
and buy-up alone poems learned cooks!
Nescio quid plus est, quod donat saecula chartis:
I-know-not what more there-is, which grants ages to-pages:
victurus genium debet habere liber.'
about-to-live a-genius ought to-have book.'

62 Amisit pater unicum Salanus:
Has-lost a-father his-only Salanus:
cessas munera mittere, Oppiane?
do-you-delay gifts to-send, Oppianus?
Heu, crudele nefas malaeque Parcae!
Alas, cruel crime and-evil Fates!
Cuius vulturis hoc erit cadaver?
Of-what vulture this will-be carcass?

63 Scis te captari, scis hunc qui captat, avarum,
You-know you to-be-hunted, you-know this-one who hunts, greedy,
et scis qui captat, quid, Mariane, velit.
and you-know he-who hunts, what, Marianus, he-wants.
Tu tamen hunc tabulis heredem, stulte, supremis
You yet him in-your-will heir, fool, last
scribis et esse tuo vis, furiose, loco.
write and to-be in-your you-wish, madman, place.
'Munera magna tamen misit.' Sed misit in hamo;
'Gifts great yet he-sent.' But he-sent on a-hook;
et piscatorem piscis amare potest?
and the-fisherman a-fish love can?
Hicine deflebit vero tua fata dolore?
This-man will-he-bewail with-true your fate grief?
Si cupis, ut ploret, des, Mariane, nihil.
If you-desire, that he-should-weep, give, Marianus, nothing.

Cum sis nec rigida Fabiorum gente creatus 64
Though you-are neither of-the-rigid of-the-Fabii race born
nec qualem Curio, dum prandia portat aranti,
nor such-as to-Curius, while lunch she-carries to-him-plowing,
hirsuta peperit rubicunda sub ilice coniunx,
shaggy bore ruddy under holm-oak wife,
sed patris ad speculum tonsi matrisque togatae
but of-a-father at the-mirror shaved and-of-a-mother togaed
filius et possit sponsam te sponsa vocare:
the-son and could betrothed you a-betrothed-girl call:
emendare meos, quos novit fama, libellos
to-correct my, which knows fame, little-books
et tibi permittis felicis carpere nugas, —
and to-yourself you-allow of-the-happy to-carp-at trifles,—
has, inquam, nugas, quibus aurem advertere totam
these, I-say, trifles, to-which their-ear to-turn whole
non aspernantur proceres urbisque forique,
not disdain the-leaders both-of-the-city and-of-the-forum,
quas et perpetui dignantur scrinia Sili
which also of-undying deem-worthy the-book-boxes Silius
et repetit totiens facundo Regulus ore,
and repeats so-often with-eloquent Regulus mouth,
quique videt propius magni certamina Circi
and-he-who sees nearer of-the-great the-contests Circus
laudat Aventinae vicinus Sura Dianae,
praises of-Aventine neighbor Sura Diana,
ipse etiam tanto dominus sub pondere rerum
himself too so-great the-lord under weight of-affairs
non dedignatur bis terque revolvere Caesar.
not disdains twice and-thrice to-unroll Caesar.

Sed tibi plus mentis, tibi cor limante Minerva
But you more mind, you heart with-polishing Minerva
acrius et tenues finxerunt pectus Athenae.
more-keenly and slender have-formed breast Athens.
Ne valeam, si non multo sapit altius illud,
May-not I-fare-well, if not much is-wiser more-deeply that,
quod cum panticibus laxis et cum pede grandi
which with paunches slack and with foot huge
et rubro pulmone vetus nasisque timendum
and red lung old and-to-noses to-be-feared
omnia crudelis lanius per compita portat.
everything the-cruel butcher through the-crossroads carries.
Audes praeterea, quos nullus noverit, in me
You-dare moreover, which no-one will-know, against me
scribere versiculos miseras et perdere chartas.
to-write little-verses wretched and to-waste sheets.
At si quid nostrae tibi bilis inusserit ardor,
But if anything of-our on-you of-bile shall-brand the-heat,
vivet et haerebit totoque legetur in orbe,
it-will-live and will-cling and-whole will-be-read in the-world,
stigmata nec vafra delebit Cinnamus arte.
the-brands nor with-crafty will-erase Cinnamus art.
Sed miserere tui, rabido nec perditus ore
But pity yourself, with-rabid nor desperate mouth
fumantem nasum vivi temptaveris ursi.
the-smoking nose of-a-living may-you-try bear.
Sit placidus licet et lambat digitosque manusque,
Let-him-be calm though and lick both-fingers and-hands,
si dolor et bilis, si iusta coegerit ira,
if pain and bile, if just shall-have-forced anger,

ursus erit: vacua dentes in pelle fatiges
a-bear he-will-be: empty your-teeth on skin you-may-weary
et tacitam quaeras, quam possis rodere, carnem.
and silent seek, which you-could gnaw, flesh.

'Hexametris epigramma facis' scio dicere Tuccam. 65
'In-hexameters an-epigram you-make' I-know to-say Tucca.
Tucca, solet fieri, denique, Tucca, licet.
Tucca, is-wont to-be-done, in-short, Tucca, it-is-allowed.
'Sed tamen hoc longum est.' Solet hoc quoque, Tucca,
'But yet this long is.' It-is-wont this also, Tucca,
licetque:
and-it-is-allowed:
si breviora probas, disticha sola legas.
if shorter-ones you-approve, couplets only read.
Conveniat nobis, ut fas epigrammata longa
Let-it-be-agreed between-us, that right epigrams long
sit transire tibi, scribere, Tucca, mihi.
be to-skip for-you, to-write, Tucca, for-me.

Famae non nimium bonae puellam, 66
Of-fame not too good a-girl,
quales in media sedent Subura,
such-as in mid sit Subura,
vendebat modo praeco Gellianus.
was-selling lately the-auctioneer Gellianus.
Parvo cum pretio diu liceret,
At-small when price long she-was-bid,

dum puram cupit adprobare cunctis,
while pure he-desires to-recommend-her to-all,
adtraxit prope se manu negantem
he-drew near himself with-his-hand her-refusing
et bis terque quaterque basiavit.
and twice and-thrice and-four-times kissed.
Quid profecerit osculo, requiris?
What he-achieved with-the-kiss, you-ask?
Sescentos modo qui dabat, negavit.
Six-hundred just-now who was-giving, refused.

67 Cur tantum eunuchos habeat tua Caelia, quaeris,
Why only eunuchs has your Caelia, you-ask,
Pannyche? volt futui Caelia nec parere.
Pannychus? she-wishes to-be-fucked Caelia nor to-bear.

69 Non miror, quod potat aquam tua Bassa, Catulle:
Not I-wonder, that drinks water your Bassa, Catullus:
miror, quod Bassi filia potat aquam.
I-wonder, that Bassus' daughter drinks water.

70 Sexagesima, Marciane, messis
The-sixtieth, Marcianus, harvest
acta est et, puto, iam secunda Cottae,
done has-been and, I-think, now the-second of-Cotta,

nec se taedia lectuli calentis
nor himself the-tedium of-the-bed warm
expertum meminit die vel uno.
to-have-experienced remembers in-day even one.
Ostendit digitum, sed inpudicum,
He-shows his-finger, but the-unchaste,
Alconti Dasioque Symmachoque.
to-Alcon and-Dasius and-Symmachus.
At nostri bene computentur anni
But our well be-counted years
et quantum tetricae tulere febres
and as-much-as grim have-taken fevers
aut languor gravis aut mali dolores,
or languor heavy or evil pains,
a vita meliore separentur:
from the-life better be-separated:
infantes sumus, et senes videmur.
infants we-are, and old-men we-seem.
Aetatem Priamique Nestorisque
The-age of-Priam and-of-Nestor
longam qui putat esse, Marciane,
long who thinks to-be, Marcianus,
multum decipiturque falliturque.
much both-is-deceived and-is-cheated.
Non est vivere, sed valere vita est.
Not is to-live, but to-be-well life is.

The master who once sold Telethusa, the dancer from Gades, as a slave now buys her back as his mistress. A thief who found nothing in a garden but its marble Priapus stole the god. Hilarus' cypress Priapus warns the neighbors. A bald guest who picks his teeth lies, Aefulanus, for he has none. Pontia sends her leftovers. Fuscus, prefect of Caesar's guard, lies buried, and the Dacian now bears the yoke. Afer, poor, rides in a litter of six. Phryx drank on and lost his eye. Lupus is sad in his good fortune. Egypt sent Caesar winter roses, and Rome's roses shame them. Charidemus washes his groin in the public bath. A stranger who recognizes Martial asks why his cloak is shabby, so Rufus should send a good one. Caesar's recalled thunderbolt spared Etruscus' father, and Camonius Rufus' death is mourned.

71 Edere lascivos ad Baetica crusmata gestus
To-perform wanton to Baetic castanets gestures
et Gaditanis ludere docta modis,
and in-Gaditane to-play skilled measures,
tendere quae tremulum Pelian Hecubaeque maritum
to-excite who trembling Pelias and-Hecuba's husband
posset ad Hectoreos sollicitare rogos,
could at Hector's to-arouse pyre,
urit et excruciat dominum Telethusa priorem:
burns and tortures her-master Telethusa former:
vendidit ancillam, nunc redimit dominam.
he-sold a-slave-girl, now he-buys-back a-mistress.

72 Fur notae nimium rapacitatis
A-thief of-known too-much rapacity
conpilare Cilix volebat hortum,
to-plunder Cilix wished a-garden,

ingenti sed erat, Fabulle, in horto
huge but there-was, Fabullus, in garden
praeter marmoreum nihil Priapum.
except a-marble nothing Priapus.
Dum non vult vacua manu redire,
While not he-wishes with-empty hand to-return,
ipsum subripuit Cilix Priapum.
himself stole Cilix Priapus.

Non rudis indocta fecit me falce colonus: 73
Not a-rough with-unskilled made me sickle farmer:
dispensatoris nobile cernis opus.
of-the-steward a-noble you-see work.
Nam Caeretani cultor ditissimus agri
For of-the-Caeretan the-tiller richest field
hos Hilarus colles et iuga laeta tenet.
these Hilarus hills and ridges glad holds.
Aspice, quam certo videar non ligneus ore
Look, with-how sure I-seem not wooden face
nec devota focis inguinis arma geram,
nor devoted to-the-hearth of-the-groin arms do-I-bear,
sed mihi perpetua numquam moritura cupresso
but for-me from-everlasting never about-to-die cypress
Phidiaca rigeat mentula digna manu.
Phidian let-stiffen a-prick worthy hand.
Vicini, moneo, sanctum celebrate Priapum
Neighbors, I-warn, holy worship Priapus
et bis septenis parcite iugeribus.
and twice seven spare acres.

74 Medio recumbit imus ille qui lecto,
In-the-middle reclines lowest that-man who couch,
calvam trifilem semitatus unguento,
his-bald-head three-haired streaked with-ointment,
foditque tonsis ora laxa lentiscis,
and-digs with-trimmed his-mouth slack mastic-picks,
mentitur, Aefulane: non habet dentes.
lies, Aefulanus: not he-has teeth.

75 Cum mittis turdumve mihi quadramve placentae,
When you-send either-a-thrush to-me or-a-slice of-cheesecake,
sive femur leporis, sive quid his simile est,
or a-thigh of-a-hare, or something to-these like is,
buccellas misisse tuas te, Pontia, dicis.
morsels to-have-sent your you, Pontia, say.
Has ego non mittam, Pontia, sed nec edam.
These I not will-send, Pontia, but nor will-eat.

76 Ille sacri lateris custos Martisque togati,
He of-the-sacred side guardian and-of-Mars togaed,
credita cui summi castra fuere ducis,
entrusted to-whom of-the-highest the-camp were leader,
hic situs est Fuscus. Licet hoc, Fortuna, fateri:
here laid is Fuscus. It-is-allowed this, Fortune, to-confess:
non timet hostiles iam lapis iste minas;
not fears hostile now stone this threats;

grande iugum domita Dacus cervice recepit,
the-great yoke on-tamed the-Dacian neck received,
et famulum victrix possidet umbra nemus.
and a-slave conquering possesses shade grove.

77

Cum sis tam pauper, quam nec miserabilis Iros,
Since you-are as poor, as not-even pitiable Irus,
tam iuvenis, quam nec Parthenopaeus erat,
as young, as not-even Parthenopaeus was,
tam fortis, quam nec, cum vinceret, Artemidorus,
as strong, as not-even, when he-won, Artemidorus,
quid te Cappadocum sex onus esse iuvat?
why you of-Cappadocians six the-burden to-be pleases?
Rideris multoque magis traduceris, Afer,
You-are-laughed-at and-much more you-are-exposed, Afer,
quam nudus medio si spatiere foro.
than naked in-the-middle if you-should-walk forum.
Non aliter monstratur Atlans cum compare ginno
Not otherwise is-pointed-out Atlas with matching a-mule
quaeque vehit similem belua nigra Libyn.
and-the-one-which carries a-like beast black Libyan.
Invidiosa tibi quam sit lectica, requiris?
Odious to-you how be the-litter, you-ask?
Non debes ferri mortuus hexaphoro.
Not you-ought to-be-carried dead in-a-six-bearer-litter.

78 Potor nobilis, Aule, lumine uno
A-drinker noble, Aulus, in-eye one
luscus Phryx erat alteroque lippus.
one-eyed Phryx was and-in-the-other bleary.
Huic Heras medicus 'Bibas caveto:
To-him Heras the-doctor 'Drink beware:
vinum si biberis, nihil videbis.'
wine if you-drink, nothing will-you-see.'
Ridens Phryx oculo 'Valebis' inquit.
Laughing Phryx to-his-eye 'Farewell' he-said.
Misceri sibi protinus deunces,
To-be-mixed for-himself at-once eleven-twelfths,
sed crebros iubet. Exitum requiris?
but frequent he-orders. The-outcome you-ask?
Vinum Phryx, oculus bibit venenum.
Wine Phryx, his-eye drank poison.

79 Tristis es et felix. Sciat hoc Fortuna caveto:
Sad you-are and happy. Let-know this Fortune beware:
ingratum dicet te, Lupe, si scierit.
ungrateful she-will-call you, Lupus, if she-knows.

80 Ut nova dona tibi, Caesar, Nilotica tellus
As new gifts to-you, Caesar, the-Nilotic land
miserat hibernas ambitiosa rosas.
had-sent wintry ambitious roses.

Navita derisit Pharios Memphiticus hortos,
The-sailor mocked the-Pharian Memphian gardens,
urbis ut intravit limina prima tuae:
of-the-city when he-entered the-threshold first your:
tantus veris honos et odorae gratia Florae,
so-great of-spring the-honor and of-fragrant the-grace Flora,
tantaque Paestani gloria ruris erat;
and-so-great of-the-Paestan the-glory countryside was;
sic quacumque vagus gressumque oculosque ferebat,
thus wherever wandering both-his-step and-eyes he-carried,
tonsilibus sertis omne rubebat iter.
with-clipped garlands every blushed road.
At tu Romanae iussus iam cedere brumae,
But you to-Roman bidden now to-yield winter,
mitte tuas messes, accipe, Nile, rosas.
send your harvests, receive, Nile, roses.

Iratus tamquam populo, Charideme, lavaris: 81
Angry as-if with-the-people, Charidemus, you-bathe:
inguina sic toto subluis in solio.
your-groin thus whole you-wash-under in tub.
Nec caput hic vellem sic te, Charideme, lavare.
Nor your-head here would-I-wish thus you, Charidemus, to-wash.
Et caput, ecce, lavas: inguina malo laves.
And your-head, behold, you-wash: your-groin I-prefer you-wash.

82 Quidam me modo, Rufe, diligenter
A-certain-man me just-now, Rufus, carefully
inspectum, velut emptor aut lanista,
inspected, like a-buyer or a-trainer,
cum vultu digitoque subnotasset,
when with-face and-finger he-had-marked,
'Tune es, tune' ait 'ille Martialis,
'You are, you' says 'he Martial,
cuius nequitias iocosque novit,
whose naughtinesses and-jests knows,
aurem qui modo non habet Batavam?'
ear whoever only not has Batavian?'
Subrisi modice, levique nutu
I-smiled moderately, and-with-a-light nod
me quem dixerat esse non negavi.
me whom he-had-said to-be not I-denied.
'Cur ergo' inquit 'habes malas lacernas?'
'Why then' he-said 'have-you shabby cloaks?'
Respondi: 'quia sum malus poeta'.
I-answered: 'because I-am a-shabby poet'.
Hoc ne saepius accidat poetae,
This lest more-often befall a-poet,
mittas, Rufe, mihi bonas lacernas.
send, Rufus, me good cloaks.

83 Quantum sollicito fortuna parentis Etrusco,
As-much-as to-anxious the-fortune of-his-father Etruscus,
tantum, summe ducum, debet uterque tibi.
so-much, highest of-leaders, owes each to-you.

Nam tu missa tua revocasti fulmina dextra:
For you sent your have-recalled thunderbolts right-hand:
hos cuperem mores ignibus esse Iovis;
these I-would-wish ways to-the-fires to-be of-Jove;
si tua sit summo, Caesar, natura Tonanti,
if your were to-the-highest, Caesar, nature Thunderer,
utetur toto fulmine rara manus.
will-use whole thunderbolt rare the-hand.
Muneris hoc utrumque tui testatur Etruscus,
Of-the-gift this both-things your attests Etruscus,
esse quod et comiti contigit et reduci.
to-be because both to-the-companion it-befell and to-the-returned.

Octaphoro sanus portatur, Avite, Philippus. 84
By-an-eight-bearer-litter healthy is-carried, Avitus, Philippus.
Hunc tu si sanum credis, Avite, furis.
Him you if healthy you-believe, Avitus, are-mad.

Editur en sextus sine te mihi, Rufe Camoni, 85
Is-published look the-sixth without you for-me, Rufus Camonius,
nec te lectorem sperat, amice, liber:
nor you as-reader hopes, friend, the-book:
impia Cappadocum tellus et numine laevo
the-impious of-the-Cappadocians land and with-godhead unlucky
visa tibi cineres reddit et ossa patri.
seen by-you ashes returns and bones to-your-father.

Funde tuo lacrimas orbata Bononia Rufo,
Pour for-your tears bereaved Bologna Rufus,
et resonet tota planctus in Aemilia:
and let-resound whole lamentation in Aemilia:
heu qualis pietas, heu quam brevis occidit aetas!
alas what devotion, alas how brief has-perished an-age!
Viderat Alphei praemia quinta modo.
He-had-seen of-the-Alpheus the-prizes fifth just-now.
Pectore tu memori nostros evolvere lusus,
With-breast you mindful our to-unroll sports,
tu solitus totos, Rufe, tenere iocos,
you accustomed whole, Rufus, to-hold jests,
accipe cum fletu maesti breve carmen amici
receive with weeping of-a-sad a-brief poem friend
atque haec absentis tura fuisse puta.
and these of-an-absent incense to-have-been think.

86 Setinum dominaeque nives densique trientes,
Setine and-the-lady's snows and-crowded cups,
quando ego vos medico non prohibente bibam?
when I you with-the-doctor not forbidding shall-drink?
Stultus et ingratus nec tanto munere dignus,
A-fool and ungrateful nor of-so-great gift worthy,
qui mavult heres divitis esse Midae.
who prefers heir of-rich to-be Midas.
Possideat Libycas messis Hermumque Tagumque,
Let-him-possess Libyan harvests and-Hermus and-Tagus,
et potet caldam, qui mihi livet, aquam.
and let-him-drink hot, who of-me is-jealous, water.

Martial prays the gods and Caesar give Caesar what he deserves, and himself what he wishes, if he has deserved it. He greeted Caecilianus by name, not as lord, and the freedom cost him his dole. Panaretus, drunk, filled a flagon with as much as he had drunk, and it held it all, since he had drunk his wine neat. Gellia has one lover and is the wife of two. Caesar's censorship forbids adultery, and Zoilus is told to rejoice, since he does not fuck. Annianus drinks Vatican from a cup engraved with a serpent, and so drinks poison. Thais smells worse than a list of foul things, however she covers it. Calpetanus is always served gold plate, and none of it his own.

Di tibi dent et tu, Caesar, quaecumque mereris: 87
May-the-gods to-you give and you, Caesar, whatever you-deserve:
di mihi dent et tu, quae volo, si merui.
may-the-gods to-me give and you, what I-wish, if I-have-deserved.

Mane salutavi vero te nomine casu, 88
In-the-morning I-greeted by-your-true you name by-chance,
nec dixi dominum, Caeciliane, meum.
nor did-I-call-you lord, Caecilianus, my.
Quanti libertas constet mihi tanta, requiris?
How-much freedom costs me so-great, you-ask?
Centum quadrantes abstulit illa mihi.
A-hundred farthings has-taken it from-me.

89 Cum peteret seram media iam nocte matellam
When he-asked-for late in-the-middle now of-the-night the-chamber-pot
arguto madidus pollice Panaretus,
with-a-snapping drunk thumb Panaretus,
Spoletina data est, sed quam siccaverat ipse,
a-Spoletine given was, but which had-drained he-himself,
nec fuerat soli tota lagona satis.
nor had-been for-him-alone whole the-flagon enough.
Ille fide summa testae sua vina remensus
He with-faith highest to-the-jar his wines measuring-back
reddidit oenophori pondera plena sui.
returned of-the-wine-jar the-weight full his-own.
Miraris, quantum biberat, cepisse lagonam?
You-wonder, how-much he-had-drunk, to-have-held the-flagon?
Desine mirari, Rufe: merum biberat.
Cease to-wonder, Rufus: neat-wine he-had-drunk.

90 Moechum Gellia non habet nisi unum.
An-adulterer Gellia not has except one.
Turpe est hoc magis: uxor est duorum.
Base is this more: a-wife she-is of-two.

91 Sancta ducis summi prohibet censura vetatque
The-holy of-the-leader highest forbids censorship and-prohibits
moechari. Gaude, Zoile, non futuis.
to-commit-adultery. Rejoice, Zoilus, not you-fuck.

Caelatus tibi cum sit, Anniane, 92
Engraved for-you though there-is, Annianus,
serpens in patera Myronos arte,
a-serpent on the-bowl by-Myron's art,
Vaticana bibis: bibis venenum.
Vatican you-drink: you-drink poison.

Tam male Thais olet, quam non fullonis avari 93
So badly Thais smells, as not of-a-fuller greedy
testa vetus, media sed modo fracta via,
a-jar old, in-the-middle-of but just-now broken road,
non ab amore recens hircus, non ora leonis,
not from love fresh a-he-goat, not the-mouth of-a-lion,
non detracta cani transtiberina cutis,
not stripped from-a-dog trans-Tiberine skin,
pullus abortivo nec cum putrescit in ovo,
a-chick aborted nor when it-rots in the-egg,
amphora corrupto nec vitiata garo.
a-jar with-spoiled nor tainted fish-sauce.
Virus ut hoc alio fallax permutet odore,
The-stench that this with-another deceitful she-may-change smell,
deposita quotiens balnea veste petit,
laid-aside as-often-as the-baths her-clothes she-seeks,
psilothro viret aut acida latet oblita creta
with-depilatory is-green or with-acid lies-hidden smeared chalk
aut tegitur pingui terque quaterque faba.
or is-covered with-rich thrice and-four-times bean.

Cum bene se tutam per fraudes mille putavit,
When well herself safe through tricks a-thousand she-has-thought,
omnia cum fecit, Thaida Thais olet.
everything when she-has-done, of-Thais Thais smells.

94 Ponuntur semper chrysendeta Calpetano
Are-served always gold-inlaid-dishes to-Calpetanus
sive foris seu cum cenat in urbe domi.
whether out or when he-dines in the-city at-home.
Sic etiam in stabulo semper, sic cenat in agro.
Thus even in the-inn always, thus he-dines in the-country.
Non habet ergo aliud? Non habet immo suum.
Not has-he therefore other? Not he-has rather his-own.

BOOK VII

EPIGRAMS 1–17

Caesar's new boar-hoof cuirass, impenetrable to Sarmatian arrows, will be an aegis on his breast and is told to bring him back quickly. Martial does not send Pontilianus his books so as not to get his. Rome longs for Caesar's return from the north, Fame announces it, and the laurels of the Sarmatian victory are hailed; the people's minds are so fixed on him they forget the races. December brings the god home, and the soldiers' jests and the light verses may be heard. Olus minds everyone's business but his own. Pudens asks for copies corrected in Martial's hand. Martial's jests hurt no one, and others' venom is passed off under his name. Julius Martialis' library takes the seven books.

Accipe belligerae crudum thoraca Minervae, 1
Receive of-warlike the-raw breastplate Minerva,
ipsa Medusaeae quem timet ira comae.
the-very of-Medusan which fears the-wrath hair.
Dum vacat, haec, Caesar, poterit lorica vocari:
While it-is-free, this, Caesar, can a-cuirass be-called:
pectore cum sacro sederit, aegis erit.
on-your-breast when holy it-has-sat, an-aegis it-will-be.

Invia Sarmaticis domini lorica sagittis 2
Impenetrable to-Sarmatian of-the-lord the-cuirass arrows
et Martis Getico tergore fida magis,
and of-Mars Getic than-the-hide trusty more,
quam vel ad Aetolae securam cuspidis ictus
which even against of-the-Aetolian safe spear the-blows
texuit innumeri lubricus unguis apri:
has-woven of-countless the-slippery hoof boar:

felix sorte tua, sacrum cui tangere pectus
happy in-lot your, the-sacred to-whom to-touch breast
fas erit et nostri mente calere dei.
right it-will-be and of-our in-the-mind to-glow god.
I comes et magnos inlaesa merere triumphos
Go as-companion and great unharmed earn triumphs
palmataeque ducem, sed cito, redde togae.
and-to-the-palm-embroidered the-leader, but quickly, return toga.

3 Cur non mitto meos tibi, Pontiliane, libellos?
Why not do-I-send my to-you, Pontilianus, little-books?
Ne mihi tu mittas, Pontiliane, tuos.
Lest to-me you should-send, Pontilianus, your.

4 Esset, Castrice, cum mali coloris,
He-was, Castricus, since of-bad color,
versus scribere coepit Oppianus.
verses to-write began Oppianus.

5 Si desiderium, Caesar, populique patrumque
If the-longing, Caesar, of-the-people and-of-the-fathers
respicis et Latiae gaudia vera togae,
you-regard and of-the-Latin the-joys true toga,
redde deum votis poscentibus. Invidet hosti
give-back the-god to-the-prayers demanding. Envies the-enemy
Roma suo, veniat laurea multa licet:
Rome her-own, may-come laurel much though:

terrarum dominum propius videt ille, tuoque
of-the-lands the-lord nearer sees he, and-at-your
terretur vultu barbarus et fruitur.
is-terrified face the-barbarian and enjoys-it.

Ecquid Hyperboreis ad nos conversus ab oris 6
Does-at-all Hyperborean to us turned from shores
Ausonias Caesar iam parat ire vias?
Ausonian Caesar now prepares to-go roads?
Certus abest auctor, sed vox hoc nuntiat omnis:
Sure is-absent the-source, but a-voice this announces every:
credo tibi, verum dicere, Fama, soles.
I-believe to-you, the-truth to-tell, Fame, you-are-wont.
Publica victrices testantur gaudia chartae,
Public victorious attest the-joys letters,
Martia laurigera cuspide pila virent.
the-Martian with-laureled point javelins are-green.
Rursus, io, magnos clamat tibi Roma triumphos
Again, ho, great shouts to-you Rome triumphs
invictusque tua, Caesar, in urbe sonas.
and-unconquered your, Caesar, in city you-sound.
Sed iam laetitiae quo sit fiducia maior,
But now of-gladness that may-be the-confidence greater,
Sarmaticae laurus nuntius ipse veni.
of-the-Sarmatian laurel messenger yourself come.

7 Hiberna quamvis Arctos et rudis Peuce
Wintry although the-Bear and rough Peuce
et ungularum pulsibus calens Hister
and with-the-hooves' beats warm the-Hister
fractusque cornu iam ter inprobo Rhenus
and-broken in-horn now thrice shameless Rhine
teneat domantem regna perfidae gentis
hold taming the-realms of-a-treacherous race
te, summe mundi rector et parens orbis:
you, highest of-the-world ruler and father of-the-globe:
abesse nostris non tamen potes votis.
to-be-absent from-our not yet you-can prayers.
Illic et oculis et animis sumus, Caesar,
There both in-eyes and in-souls we-are, Caesar,
adeoque mentes omnium tenes unus,
and-so the-minds of-all you-hold alone,
ut ipsa magni turba nesciat Circi,
that the-very of-the-great crowd may-not-know Circus,
utrumne currat Passerinus an Tigris.
whether runs Passerinus or Tigris.

8 Nunc hilares, si quando mihi, nunc ludite, Musae:
Now cheerful, if ever for-me, now sport, Muses:
victor ab Odrysio redditur orbe deus.
victor from the-Odrysian is-restored world god.
Certa facis populi tu primus vota, December:
Sure you-make of-the-people you first the-prayers, December:
iam licet ingenti dicere voce 'Venit!'
now it-is-allowed with-huge to-say voice 'He-comes!'

Felix sorte tua! Poteras non cedere Iano,
Happy in-lot your! You-could not yield to-Janus,
gaudia si nobis, quae dabit ille, dares.
the-joys if to-us, which will-give he, you-gave.
Festa coronatus ludet convicia miles,
Festive garlanded will-sport abuse the-soldier,
inter laurigeros cum comes ibit equos.
among the-laureled when as-companion he-will-go horses.
Fas audire iocos levioraque carmina, Caesar,
Right-it-is to-hear jests and-lighter poems, Caesar,
et tibi, si lusus ipse triumphus amat.
even for-you, if sports itself the-triumph loves.

9

Cum sexaginta numeret Cascellius annos,
Though sixty counts Cascellius years,
ingeniosus homo est: quando disertus erit?
a-clever man he-is: when eloquent will-he-be?

10

Pedicatur Eros, fellat Linus: Ole, quid ad te,
Is-buggered Eros, sucks Linus: Olus, what to you,
de cute quid faciant ille vel ille sua?
about skin what they-may-do he or he their-own?
Centenis futuit Matho milibus: Ole, quid ad te?
For-a-hundred fucks Matho thousands: Olus, what to you?
Non tu propterea, sed Matho pauper erit.
Not you on-that-account, but Matho poor will-be.

In lucem cenat Sertorius: Ole, quid ad te,
Till dawn dines Sertorius: Olus, what to you,
cum liceat tota stertere nocte tibi?
since it-is-allowed whole to-snore the-night to-you?
Septingenta Tito debet Lupus: Ole, quid ad te?
Seven-hundred to-Titus owes Lupus: Olus, what to you?
Assem ne dederis crediderisve Lupo.
A-penny not give or-lend to-Lupus.
Illud dissimulas, ad te quod pertinet, Ole,
That you-ignore, to you which pertains, Olus,
quodque magis curae convenit esse tuae.
and-which more to-care suits to-be your.
Pro togula debes: hoc ad te pertinet, Ole.
For a-little-toga you-owe: this to you pertains, Olus.
Quadrantem nemo iam tibi credit: et hoc.
A-farthing no-one now to-you lends: and this.
Uxor moecha tibi est: hoc ad te pertinet, Ole.
Your-wife an-adulteress to-you is: this to you pertains, Olus.
Poscit iam dotem filia grandis: et hoc.
Asks now a-dowry your-daughter grown: and this.
Dicere quindecies poteram, quod pertinet ad te:
To-say fifteen-times I-could, what pertains to you:
sed quid agas, ad me pertinet, Ole, nihil.
but what you-do, to me pertains, Olus, nothing.

11 Cogis me calamo manuque nostra
You-force me with-pen and-hand my
emendare meos, Pudens, libellos.
to-correct my, Pudens, little-books.

O quam me nimium probas amasque,
O how me too-much you-approve and-love,
qui vis archetypas habere nugas!
who wish autograph to-have trifles!

Sic me fronte legat dominus, Faustine, serena 12
So me with-brow may-read the-lord, Faustinus, serene
excipiatque meos, qua solet aure, iocos,
and-may-receive my, with-which he-is-wont ear, jests,
ut mea nec, iuste quos odit, pagina laesit,
as my not-even, justly whom it-hates, page has-hurt,
et mihi de nullo fama rubore placet.
and to-me from no-one's fame blushing pleases.
Quid prodest, cupiant cum quidam nostra videri,
What does-it-profit, they-desire though some our to-seem,
si qua Lycambeo sanguine tela madent,
if any with-Lycambean blood weapons drip,
vipereumque vomat nostro sub nomine virus,
and-viperish may-vomit our under name venom,
qui Phoebi radios ferre diemque negat?
who of-Phoebus the-rays to-bear and-the-daylight refuses?
Ludimus innocui: scis hoc bene: iuro potentis
We-play harmless: you-know this well: I-swear the-powerful
per genium Famae Castaliumque gregem
by genius of-Fame and-the-Castalian flock
perque tuas aures, magni mihi numinis instar,
and-by your ears, of-great to-me godhead the-equal,
lector inhumana liber ab invidia.
reader inhuman free from envy.

13 Dum Tiburtinis albescere solibus audit
While by-Tiburtine to-grow-white suns she-hears
antiqui dentis fusca Lycoris ebur,
of-old tusk dark Lycoris the-ivory,
venit in Herculeos colles. Quid Tiburis alti
she-came to Herculean hills. What of-Tibur lofty
aura valet! Parvo tempore nigra redit.
the-air can! In-a-short time black she-returns.

14 Accidit infandum nostrae scelus, Aule, puellae;
Has-befallen an-unspeakable our crime, Aulus, girl;
amisit lusus deliciasque suas:
she-has-lost the-plaything and-darling her-own:
non quales teneri ploravit amica Catulli
not such-as of-tender wept the-mistress Catullus
Lesbia, nequitiis passeris orba sui,
Lesbia, by-the-naughtinesses of-the-sparrow bereaved her-own,
vel Stellae cantata meo quas flevit Ianthis,
or of-Stella sung my which wept Ianthis,
cuius in Elysio nigra columba volat:
whose in Elysium the-black dove flies:
lux mea non capitur nugis neque moribus istis,
light my not is-caught by-trifles nor by-ways those,
nec dominae pectus talia damna movent:
nor of-my-lady the-breast such losses move:
bis denos puerum numerantem perdidit annos,
twice ten a-boy counting she-has-lost years,
mentula cui nondum sesquipedalis erat.
a-prick whose not-yet a-foot-and-a-half was.

Aera domi non sunt, superest hoc, Regule, solum, 16
Bronze at-home not there-is, remains this, Regulus, only,
ut tua vendamus munera: numquid emis?
that your we-may-sell gifts: surely-not you-buy?

Ruris bibliotheca delicati, 17
Of-the-country-house library delightful,
vicinam videt unde lector urbem,
the-neighboring sees whence the-reader city,
inter carmina sanctiora si quis
among poems holier if any
lascivae fuerit locus Thaliae,
for-wanton shall-be place Thalia,
hos nido licet inseras vel imo,
these in-a-pigeonhole you-may insert even the-lowest,
septem quos tibi misimus libellos
seven which to-you we-have-sent little-books
auctoris calamo sui notatos:
of-the-author with-the-pen their-own marked:
haec illis pretium facit litura.
this to-them value makes erasure.
At tu munere dedicata parvo
But you by-gift dedicated small
quae cantaberis orbe nota toto,
who will-be-sung in-the-world known whole,
pignus pectoris hoc mei tuere,
the-pledge of-heart this my guard,
Iuli bibliotheca Martialis.
of-Julius library Martialis.

Galla's body is noisy in bed while she is silent, and she would do better to talk. A small plank of the first ship to sail the unknown sea is holier than a whole ship. Santra, invited to dinner, crams everything into his napkin and sells it the next day. Lucan's birthday is honored, and Polla is bidden to keep her husband's memory. A slanderer is cursed for trying to set Martial against Juvenal. Sweet epigrams with no salt or gall are for infants. The book is sent to Apollinaris, its protector against the malicious. The boar Dexter killed would cost too much to cook. Fuscus is asked to read the jests and say what he truly thinks. Caelia sleeps with every nation but her own, and Regulus is told Martial's farm sends nothing, since all comes from the Subura.

18 Cum tibi sit facies, de qua nec femina possit
Since for-you is a-face, about which not-even a-woman could
dicere, cum corpus nulla litura notet,
speak, since your-body no blemish marks,
cur te tam rarus cupiat repetatque fututor,
why you so rare should-desire and-seek-again a-fucker,
miraris? Vitium est non leve, Galla, tibi:
you-wonder? A-fault is not light, Galla, in-you:
accessi quotiens ad opus mixtisque movemur
I-have-come as-often-as to the-work and-mingled we-move
inguinibus, cunnus non tacet, ipsa taces.
groins, your-cunt not is-silent, yourself you-are-silent.
Di facerent, ut tu loquereris et ille taceret:
The-gods would-make, that you should-speak and it should-be-silent:
offendor cunni garrulitate tui.
I-am-offended by-the-cunt's garrulity your.

Pedere te mallem: namque hoc nec inutile dicit
To-fart you I-would-prefer: for this not useless says
Symmachus et risum res movet ista simul:
Symmachus and laughter a-thing stirs that at-once:
quis ridere potest fatui poppysmata cunni?
who to-laugh can of-a-foolish at-the-smackings cunt?
Cum sonat hic, cui non mentula mensque cadit?
When sounds this, for-whom not the-prick and-the-mind falls?
Dic aliquid saltem clamosoque obstrepe cunno,
Say something at-least and-the-noisy drown cunt,
et si adeo muta es, disce vel inde loqui.
and if so dumb you-are, learn even from-it to-speak.

Fragmentum quod vile putas et inutile lignum, 19
A-fragment which worthless you-think and useless wood,
haec fuit ignoti prima carina maris.
this was of-the-unknown the-first keel sea.
Quam nec Cyaneae quondam potuere ruinae
Which neither the-Cyanean once could clashing-rocks
frangere nec Scythici tristior ira freti,
break nor of-the-Scythian sadder the-wrath strait,
saecula vicerunt: sed quamvis cesserit annis,
the-ages have-overcome: but although it-has-yielded to-the-years,
sanctior est salva parva tabella rate.
holier is than-safe small the-plank ship.

Nihil est miserius neque gulosius Santra.
Nothing is more-wretched nor more-gluttonous than-Santra.
Rectam vocatus cum cucurrit ad cenam,
A-proper invited when he-has-run to dinner,
quam tot diebus noctibusque captavit,
which so-many days and-nights he-has-angled-for,
ter poscit apri glandulas, quater lumbum,
three-times he-asks-for of-the-boar the-glands, four-times the-loin,
et utramque coxam leporis et duos armos,
and both haunches of-the-hare and two shoulders,
nec erubescit peierare de turdo
nor blushes to-perjure-himself about a-thrush
et ostreorum rapere lividos cirros.
and of-the-oysters to-snatch the-livid fringes.
Buccis placentae sordidam linit mappam;
With-mouthfuls of-cheesecake his-dirty smears napkin;
illic et uvae conlocantur ollares
there also grapes are-stored jar-kept
et Punicorum pauca grana malorum
and of-Punic a-few seeds pomegranates
et excavatae pellis indecens volvae
and of-hollowed-out skin unsightly sow's-womb
et lippa ficus debilisque boletus.
and a-bleary fig and-a-limp mushroom.
Sed mappa cum iam mille rumpitur furtis,
But the-napkin when now with-a-thousand bursts thefts,
rosos tepenti spondylos sinu condit
gnawed in-his-warm vertebrae bosom he-hides
et devorato capite turturem truncum.
and with-devoured head a-turtle-dove maimed.

Colligere longa turpe nec putat dextra,
To-collect with-long base nor thinks right-hand,
analecta quidquid et canes reliquerunt.
the-sweepings whatever even the-dogs have-left.
Nec esculenta sufficit gulae praeda,
Nor edible suffices to-his-gullet loot,
mixto lagonam replet ad pedes vino.
with-mixed a-flagon he-fills at his-feet wine.
Haec per ducentas cum domum tulit scalas
These up two-hundred when home he-has-carried stairs
seque obserata clusit anxius cella
and-himself in-a-bolted has-shut anxious room
gulosus ille, postero die vendit.
gluttonous that-man, on-the-next day sells.

Haec est illa dies, magni quae conscia partus 21
This is that day, of-a-great which knowing birth
Lucanum populis et tibi, Polla, dedit.
Lucan to-the-peoples and to-you, Polla, gave.
Heu! Nero crudelis nullaque invisior umbra,
Alas! Nero cruel and-than-no more-hated shade,
debuit hoc saltem non licuisse tibi.
ought this at-least not to-have-been-allowed to-you.

Vatis Apollinei magno memorabilis ortu 22
Of-the-bard of-Apollo by-great memorable birth
lux redit: Aonidum turba, favete sacris.
the-light returns: of-the-Aonians crowd, be-favorable to-the-rites.

Haec meruit, cum te terris, Lucane, dedisset,
This it-has-earned, when you to-the-earth, Lucan, had-given,
mixtus Castaliae Baetis ut esset aquae.
mingled with-the-Castalian Baetis that might-be water.

23 Phoebe, veni, sed quantus eras, cum bella tonanti
Phoebus, come, but as-great-as you-were, when wars to-the-thunderer
ipse dares Latiae plectra secunda lyrae.
yourself you-gave of-the-Latin the-plectrum second lyre.
Quid tanta pro luce precer? Tu, Polla, maritum
What so-great for a-day shall-I-pray? You, Polla, your-husband
saepe colas et se sentiat ille coli.
often may-you-honor and himself may-feel he to-be-honored.

24 Cum Iuvenale meo quae me committere temptas,
With Juvenal my who me to-set-at-odds try,
quid non audebis, perfida lingua, loqui?
what not will-you-dare, treacherous tongue, to-say?
Te fingente nefas Pyladen odisset Orestes,
With-you inventing the-crime Pylades would-have-hated Orestes,
Thesea Pirithoi destituisset amor,
Theseus of-Pirithous would-have-forsaken the-love,
tu Siculos fratres et maius nomen Atridas
you the-Sicilian brothers and a-greater name the-Atridae
et Ledae poteras dissociare genus.
and of-Leda could separate the-race.

Hoc tibi pro meritis et talibus inprecor ausis,
This to-you for your-merits and such I-pray daring,
ut facias illud, quod, puto, lingua, facis.
that you-may-do that, which, I-think, with-your-tongue, you-do.

Dulcia cum tantum scribas epigrammata semper 25
Sweet since only you-write epigrams always
et cerussata candidiora cute,
and than-a-white-leaded whiter skin,
nullaque mica salis nec amari fellis in illis
and-no grain of-salt nor of-bitter gall in them
gutta sit, o demens, vis tamen illa legi!
a-drop is, O madman, you-wish yet them to-be-read!
Nec cibus ipse iuvat morsu fraudatus aceti,
Nor food itself pleases of-the-bite cheated of-vinegar,
nec grata est facies, cui gelasinus abest.
nor pleasing is a-face, from-which the-dimple is-absent.
Infanti melimela dato fatuasque mariscas:
To-an-infant honey-apples give and-insipid figs:
nam mihi, quae novit pungere, Chia sapit.
for to-me, which knows to-sting, Chian has-flavor.

Apollinarem conveni meum, Scazon; 26
Apollinaris visit my, Scazon;
et si vacabit — ne molestus accedas—,
and if he-shall-be-free —lest troublesome you-approach—,
hoc qualecumque, cuius aliqua pars ipse est,
this whatever-it-is, of-which some part himself is,

dabis: haec facetum carmen inbuant aures.
you-will-give: this witty poem let-steep ears.
Si te receptum fronte videris tota,
If you received with-brow you-see whole,
noto rogabis ut favore sustentet.
with-known you-will-ask that favor he-support-you.
Quanto mearum, scis, amore nugarum
With-how-great my, you-know, love trifles
flagret: nec ipse plus amare te possum.
he-burns: nor myself more love you can-I.
Contra malignos esse si cupis tutus,
Against the-malicious to-be if you-desire safe,
Apollinarem conveni meum, Scazon.
Apollinaris visit my, Scazon.

27 Tuscae glandis aper populator et ilice multa
Of-Tuscan acorn a-boar the-ravager and with-holm-oak much
iam piger, Aetolae fama secunda ferae,
now sluggish, of-the-Aetolian in-fame second beast,
quem meus intravit splendenti cuspide Dexter,
whom my has-entered with-gleaming spear Dexter,
praeda iacet nostris invidiosa focis:
the-prey lies on-our enviable hearths:
pinguescant madido laeti nidore penates
let-grow-fat with-dripping glad savor household-gods
flagret et exciso festa culina iugo.
let-blaze and from-a-felled festive kitchen ridge.

Sed cocus ingentem piperis consumet acervum
But the-cook a-huge of-pepper will-consume heap
addet et arcano mixta Falerna garo:
will-add and with-secret mixed Falernian fish-sauce:
ad dominum redeas, noster te non capit ignis,
to your-master go-back, our you not holds fire,
conturbator aper: vilius esurio.
bankrupting boar: more-cheaply I-go-hungry.

Sic Tiburtinae crescat tibi silva Dianae 28
So of-Tiburtine may-grow for-you the-wood Diana
et properet caesum saepe redire nemus,
and may-hasten cut often to-return the-grove,
nec Tartesiacis Pallas tua, Fusce, trapetis
nor to-Tartessian Pallas your, Fuscus, presses
cedat et inmodici dent bona musta lacus;
yield and immoderate give good musts vats;
sic fora mirentur, sic te palatia laudent,
so the-forums may-admire, so you the-palaces may-praise,
excolat et geminas plurima palma fores:
may-adorn and twin very-many palm doors:
otia dum medius praestat tibi parva December,
the-leisure while mid provides you small December,
exige, sed certa, quos legis, aure iocos.
weigh, but with-sure, which you-read, ear jests.
'Scire libet verum? res est haec ardua.' Sed tu
'To-know it-pleases the-truth? a-thing is this hard.' But you
quod tibi vis dici, dicere, Fusce, potes.
what to-you you-wish to-be-said, to-say, Fuscus, you-can.

30 Das Parthis, das Germanis, das, Caelia, Dacis,
You-give to-the-Parthians, you-give to-the-Germans, you-give, Caelia, to-the-Dacians,
nec Cilicum spernis Cappadocumque toros;
nor of-the-Cilicians you-scorn and-the-Cappadocians the-beds;
et tibi de Pharia Memphiticus urbe fututor
and to-you from Pharian a-Memphian city fucker
navigat, a rubris et niger Indus aquis;
sails, from the-red and black the-Indian waters;
nec recutitorum fugis inguina Iudaeorum,
nor of-the-circumcised you-flee the-groins Jews,
nec te Sarmatico transit Alanus equo.
nor you on-Sarmatian passes-by the-Alan horse.
Qua ratione facis, cum sis Romana puella,
By-what reasoning do-you-do-it, since you-are a-Roman girl,
quod Romana tibi mentula nulla placet?
that Roman to-you prick no pleases?

31 Raucae chortis aves et ova matrum
Of-the-hoarse farmyard the-birds and the-eggs of-the-mothers
et flavas medio vapore Chias
and yellow in-mid steam Chian-figs
et fetum querulae rudem capellae
and the-offspring of-a-bleating young she-goat
nec iam frigoribus pares olivas
and no-longer for-colds fit olives
et canum gelidis holus pruinis
and white with-icy greens frosts
de nostro tibi missa rure credis?
from our to-you sent farm you-believe?

O quam, Regule, diligenter erras!
O how, Regulus, carefully you-err!
Nil nostri, nisi me, ferunt agelli.
Nothing our, except me, bear little-fields.
Quidquid vilicus Umber aut colonus
Whatever the-steward Umbrian or tenant
aut rus marmore tertio notatum
or the-farm with-marble third marked
aut Tusci tibi Tusculive mittunt,
or the-Tuscans for-you or-Tusculum send,
id tota mihi nascitur Subura.
that whole for-me grows Subura.

EPIGRAMS 32–46

Atticus, heir of an eloquent house, takes no part in the gymnasium's games and only runs, and Martial calls play lazy when one can run. Cinna's dirty toga drags over his white shoes. Charinus, the worst of men, did one good thing, the baths, as Nero did. Laecania's slave wears a pouch while she bathes with naked men. Stella's tiles roof Martial's villa but not its farmer. A quaestor's wiping of his nose was his signal for a death sentence, so in a December cold his colleagues held his hands. Caelius feigned gout so long that he got it. Etruscus' father lies with his mother in Elysium. Castricus is sent poor verses, as fruit to Alcinous, Cinna neither grants nor quickly refuses, and Caesonius Maximus' friend Ovidius followed him into exile.

32 Attice, facundae renovas qui nomina gentis
Atticus, of-the-eloquent you-renew who the-names family
nec sinis ingentem conticuisse domum,
nor you-allow the-great to-have-fallen-silent house,
te pia Cecropiae comitatur turba Minervae,
you the-dutiful of-Cecropian attends crowd Minerva,
te secreta quies, te sophos omnis amat.
you secret quiet, you sage every loves.
At iuvenes alios fracta colit aure magister
But youths other with-broken courts ear the-trainer
et rapit inmeritas sordidus unctor opes.
and snatches undeserved the-dirty masseur wealth.
Non pila, non follis, non te paganica thermis
Not the-ball, not the-bladder, not you the-country-ball for-the-baths
praeparat, aut nudi stipitis ictus hebes,
prepares, or of-the-bare stump the-blow blunt,
vara nec in lento ceromate bracchia tendis,
bandy nor in sticky wrestlers'-salve arms do-you-stretch,
non harpasta vagus pulverulenta rapis,
not the-scrimmage-balls roaming dusty you-snatch,
sed curris niveas tantum prope Virginis undas,
but you-run the-snowy only near of-the-Virgin waters,
aut ubi Sidonio taurus amore calet.
or where with-Sidonian the-bull love is-warm.
Per varias artes, omnis quibus area servit,
Through various arts, every which the-court serves,
ludere, cum liceat currere, pigritia est.
to-play, though it-is-allowed to-run, laziness is.

Sordidior caeno cum sit toga, calceus autem 33
Dirtier than-mud though be your-toga, your-shoe however
candidior prima sit tibi, Cinna, nive:
whiter than-the-first be for-you, Cinna, snow:
deiecto quid, inepte, pedes perfundis amictu?
with-lowered why, foolish, your-feet do-you-drench cloak?
Collige, Cinna, togam; calceus ecce perit.
Gather, Cinna, your-toga; your-shoe behold perishes.

Quo possit fieri modo, Severe, 34
By-what could it-come-about way, Severus,
ut vir pessimus omnium Charinus
that a-man worst of-all Charinus
unam rem bene fecerit, requiris?
one thing well has-done, you-ask?
Dicam, sed cito. Quid Nerone peius?
I-will-tell, but quickly. What than-Nero worse?
Quid thermis melius Neronianis?
What than-the-baths better Neronian?
Non deest protinus, ecce, de malignis,
Not is-lacking at-once, behold, among the-malicious,
qui sic rancidulo loquatur ore:
one-who thus with-rancid should-speak mouth:
'Quid tu tot domini deique nostri
'What you so-many of-the-lord and-god our
praefers muneribus?' Neronianas
do-you-prefer to-the-gifts?' the-Neronian
thermas praefero balneis cinaedi.
baths I-prefer to-the-baths of-a-catamite.

35 Inguina succinctus nigra tibi servos aluta
Groin girded black for-you a-slave with-leather
stat, quotiens calidis tota foveris aquis.
stands, as-often-as in-hot whole you-are-bathed waters.
Sed meus, ut de me taceam, Laecania, servos
But my, that about myself I-may-be-silent, Laecania, slave
Iudaeum nuda sub cute pondus habet,
a-Jewish naked under skin weight has,
sed nudi tecum iuvenesque senesque lavantur.
but naked with-you both-youths and-old-men bathe.
An sola est servi mentula vera tui?
Or only is of-the-slave the-prick genuine your?
Ecquid femineos sequeris, matrona, recessus,
Do-you-perhaps female you-seek, as-a-matron, retreats,
secretusque tua, cunne, lavaris aqua?
and-secluded in-your, cunt, are-you-washed water?

36 Cum pluvias madidumque Iovem perferre negaret
When the-rains and-dripping Jove to-endure refused
et rudis hibernis villa nataret aquis,
and rough with-wintry the-villa swam waters,
plurima, quae posset subitos effundere nimbos,
a-great-many, which could sudden to-pour-out showers,
muneribus venit tegula missa tuis.
by-gifts came tiles sent your.
Horridus, ecce, sonat Boreae stridore December:
Shaggy, behold, sounds with-Boreas' shrieking December:
Stella, tegis villam, non tegis agricolam.
Stella, you-roof the-villa, not you-roof the-farmer.

37

Nosti mortiferum quaestoris, Castrice, signum?
You-know the-deadly of-the-quaestor, Castricus, sign?
Est operae pretium discere theta novum:
It-is of-the-trouble worth to-learn theta new:
exprimeret quotiens rorantem frigore nasum,
he-wiped as-often-as dripping with-cold his-nose,
letalem iuguli iusserat esse notam.
deadly of-the-throat he-had-ordered to-be a-mark.
Turpis ab inviso pendebat stiria naso,
Foul from his-hated hung an-icicle nose,
cum flaret madida fauce December atrox:
when blew with-dripping throat December fierce:
collegae tenuere manus; quid plura requiris?
his-colleagues held his-hands; what more do-you-ask?
Emungi misero, Castrice, non licuit.
To-blow-his-nose for-the-wretch, Castricus, not it-was-allowed.

38

Tantus es et talis, nostri Polypheme Severi,
So-great you-are and such, of-our Polyphemus Severus,
ut te mirari possit et ipse Cyclops.
that you to-wonder-at could even himself the-Cyclops.
Sed nec Scylla minor. Quod si fera monstra duorum
But nor Scylla smaller-is. But if the-fierce monsters of-the-two
iunxeris, alterius fiet uterque timor.
you-join, of-the-other will-become each the-fear.

39 Discursus varios vagumque mane
The-runnings-about various and-roaming in-the-morning
et fastus et have potentiorum
and the-airs and the-hail of-the-more-powerful
cum perferre patique iam negaret,
when to-bear and-endure now he-refused,
coepit fingere Caelius podagram.
began to-feign Caelius gout.
Quam dum volt nimis adprobare veram
Which while he-wishes too-much to-prove true
et sanas linit obligatque plantas
and healthy he-smears and-bandages soles
inceditque gradu laborioso,
and-walks with-step labored,
— quantum cura potest et ars doloris! —
—as-much-as care can and the-art of-pain!—
desît fingere Caelius podagram.
he-ceased to-feign Caelius gout.

40 Hic iacet ille senex Augusta notus in aula,
Here lies that old-man the-Augustan known in hall,
pectore non humili passus utrumque deum;
with-a-heart not lowly having-endured both gods;
natorum pietas sanctis quem coniugis umbris
of-his-sons the-devotion to-the-holy whom of-his-wife shade
miscuit: Elysium possidet ambo nemus.
mingled: the-Elysian possesses both grove.
Occidit illa prior viridi fraudata iuventa:
Perished she first of-green cheated youth:

hic prope ter senas vixit Olympiadas.
he near three-times six lived Olympiads.
Sed festinatis raptum tibi credidit annis,
But with-hurried snatched from-you believed years,
aspexit lacrimas quisquis, Etrusce, tuas.
saw tears whoever, Etruscus, your.

Cosmicos esse tibi, Semproni Tucca, videris: 41
Cosmetic to-be to-you, Sempronius Tucca, you-seem:
cosmica, Semproni, tam mala, quam bona sunt.
cosmetics, Sempronius, as bad, as good are.

Muneribus cupiat si quis contendere tecum, 42
With-gifts should-desire if anyone to-vie with-you,
audeat hic etiam, Castrice, carminibus.
let-him-dare he also, Castricus, with-poems.
Nos tenues in utroque sumus vincique parati:
We slight in both are and-to-be-beaten ready:
inde sopor nobis et placet alta quies.
hence sleep for-us and pleases deep quiet.
Tam mala cur igitur dederim tibi carmina, quaeris?
So bad why then I-gave to-you poems, you-ask?
Alcinoo nullum poma dedisse putas?
to-Alcinous no-one fruit to-have-given do-you-think?

43 Primum est, ut praestes, si quid te, Cinna, rogabo;
The-first is, that you-provide, if anything you, Cinna, I-ask;
illud deinde sequens, ut cito, Cinna, neges.
that then following, that quickly, Cinna, you-refuse.
Diligo praestantem; non odi, Cinna, negantem:
I-love one-providing; not I-hate, Cinna, one-refusing:
sed tu nec praestas nec cito, Cinna, negas.
but you neither provide nor quickly, Cinna, refuse.

44 Maximus ille tuus, Ovidi, Caesonius hic est,
Maximus that your, Ovidius, Caesonius this is,
cuius adhuc vultum vivida cera tenet.
whose still face the-living wax holds.
Hunc Nero damnavit; sed tu damnare Neronem
Him Nero condemned; but you to-condemn Nero
ausus es et profugi, non tua, fata sequi:
dared you-have and of-the-exile, not your-own, fate to-follow:
aequora per Scyllae magnus comes exulis isti,
the-seas through of-Scylla a-great companion of-an-exile you-went,
qui modo nolueras consulis ire comes.
who lately had-refused of-the-consul to-go as-companion.
Si victura meis mandantur nomina chartis
If about-to-live to-my are-entrusted names pages
et fas est cineri me superesse meo:
and right it-is to-the-ashes me to-survive my:
audiet hoc praesens venturaque turba, fuisse
will-hear this the-present and-the-coming crowd, to-have-been
illi te, Senecae quod fuit ille suo.
to-him you, Seneca what was he to-his-own.

Facundi Senecae potens amicus, 45
Of-eloquent Seneca the-powerful friend,
caro proximus aut prior Sereno,
to-dear next or before Serenus,
hic est Maximus ille, quem frequenti
this is Maximus that-one, whom with-frequent
felix littera pagina salutat.
the-happy letter page greets.
Hunc tu per Siculas secutus undas,
Him you through Sicilian following waves,
o nullis, Ovidi, tacende linguis,
O by-no, Ovidius, to-be-passed-over tongues,
sprevisti domini furentis iras.
you-scorned of-the-lord raging the-wrath.
Miretur Pyladen suum vetustas,
Let-wonder-at Pylades its-own antiquity,
haesit qui comes exuli parentis:
clung who as-companion to-the-exile of-his-mother:
quis discrimina comparet duorum?
who the-hazards could-compare of-the-two?
Haesisti comes exuli Neronis.
You-clung as-companion to-the-exile of-Nero.

46 Commendare tuum dum vis mihi carmine munus
To-commend your while you-wish to-me in-a-poem gift
Maeonioque cupis doctius ore loqui,
and-with-Maeonian you-desire more-learnedly mouth to-speak,
excrucias multis pariter me teque diebus,
you-torture for-many alike me and-yourself days,
et tua de nostro, Prisce, Thalia tacet.
and your from our, Priscus, Thalia is-silent.
Divitibus poteris musas elegosque sonantes
To-the-rich you-will-be-able the-Muses and-elegies resounding
mittere: pauperibus munera πεζὰ dato.
to-send: to-the-poor gifts prosaic give.

EPIGRAMS 47–63

Licinius Sura, almost dead, is restored and told to live as one who has escaped. Annius' servants rush the courses past so fast the dinner walks. Severus is sent eggs and fruit. Urbicus can hear Martial's books recited by Pompeius Auctus, who knows them by heart, and Celer, governor of Spain, is a judge rather than a listener. Umber sent a heap of cheap Saturnalia gifts by eight porters. Nasidianus' dreams about Martial have cost Martial his flock in expiatory sacrifices. The house Rabirius builds for Caesar is fit for Jove. Galla keeps marrying catamites, and even the stern ones are. Jupiter is asked to keep Caesar. Caesar cleared the streets of shops. Amillus buggers with the door open, and Silius turned from the consulship to poetry.

Doctorum Licini celeberrime Sura virorum, 47
Of-learned Licinius most-renowned Sura men,
cuius prisca gravis lingua reduxit avos,
whose old weighty tongue has-brought-back forebears,
redderis — heu, quanto fatorum munere! — nobis,
you-are-restored —alas, by-how-great of-the-fates gift! —to-us,
gustata Lethes paene remissus aqua.
tasted of-Lethe almost sent-back water.
Perdiderant iam vota metum securaque flebat
Had-lost already prayers fear and-carefree wept
tristitia, et lacrimis iamque peractus eras:
sadness, and with-tears and-already finished you-were:
non tulit invidiam taciti regnator Averni
not bore the-odium of-silent the-ruler Avernus
et raptas Fatis reddidit ipse colus.
and snatched to-the-Fates gave-back himself the-distaffs.
Scis igitur, quantas hominum mors falsa querellas
You-know therefore, how-great of-men death false laments
moverit, et frueris posteritate tua.
has-stirred, and you-enjoy posterity your-own.
Vive velut rapto fugitivaque gaudia carpe:
Live as-if snatched and-fleeting joys pluck:
perdiderit nullum vita reversa diem.
let-lose no life returned day.

Cum mensas habeat fere trecentas, 48
Though tables he-has nearly three-hundred,
pro mensis habet Annius ministros:
instead-of tables has Annius servants:

transcurrunt gabatae volantque lances.
run-across platters and-fly dishes.
Has vobis epulas habete, lauti:
These for-yourselves feasts keep, elegant-ones:
nos offendimur ambulante cena.
we are-offended by-a-walking dinner.

49 Parva suburbani munuscula mittimus horti:
Small of-a-suburban little-gifts we-send garden:
faucibus ova tuis, poma, Severe, gulae.
for-throat eggs your, fruit, Severus, for-gullet.

51 Mercari nostras si te piget, Urbice, nugas
To-buy our if you it-irks, Urbicus, trifles
et lasciva tamen carmina nosse libet,
and wanton yet poems to-know it-pleases,
Pompeium quaeres — et nosti forsitan — Auctum;
Pompeius you-will-seek —and you-know perhaps —Auctus;
ultoris prima Martis in aede sedet:
of-the-avenger first of-Mars in the-temple he-sits:
iure madens varioque togae limatus in usu,
in-law soaked and-in-varied of-the-toga polished in practice,
non lector meus hic, Urbice, sed liber est.
not a-reader my this-man, Urbicus, but a-book is.
Sic tenet absentes nostros cantatque libellos,
Thus he-holds absent our and-sings little-books,
ut pereat chartis littera nulla meis:
that perishes from-pages letter no my:

denique, si vellet, poterat scripsisse videri;
in-short, if he-wished, he-could to-have-written seem;
sed famae mavult ille favere meae.
but fame prefers he to-favor my.
Hunc licet a decuma — neque enim satis ante vacabit —
Him you-may from the-tenth —nor indeed enough before will-he-be-free—
sollicites; capiet cenula parva duos;
invite; will-hold a-dinner small two;
ille leget, bibe tu; nolis licet, ille sonabit;
he will-read, drink you; you-may-not-wish though, he will-sound;
et cum 'Iam satis est' dixeris, ille leget.
and when 'Now enough it-is' you-have-said, he will-read.

Gratum est, quod Celeri nostros legis, Aucte, libellos, 52
Welcome it-is, that to-Celer our you-read, Auctus, little-books,
si tamen et Celerem, quod legis, Aucte, iuvat.
if yet also Celer, what you-read, Auctus, pleases.
Ille meas gentes et Celtas rexit Hiberos,
He my peoples and Celtic ruled Iberians,
nec fuit in nostro certior orbe fides.
nor was in our more-certain world faith.
Maior me tanto reverentia turbat, et aures
Greater me so-much awe troubles, and ears
non auditoris, iudicis esse puto.
not of-a-listener, of-a-judge to-be I-think.

53 Omnia misisti mihi Saturnalibus, Umber,
All you-sent me at-the-Saturnalia, Umber,
munera, contulerant quae tibi quinque dies:
gifts, had-collected which for-you five days:
bis senos triplices et dentiscalpia septem;
twice six triple-tablets and toothpicks seven;
his comes accessit spongia, mappa, calix,
to-these as-companion was-added a-sponge, a-napkin, a-cup,
semodiusque fabae cum vimine Picenarum,
and-a-half-peck of-beans with a-basket of-Picene-olives,
et Laletanae nigra lagona sapae;
and of-Laletanian a-black flagon of-must;
parvaque cum canis venerunt cottana prunis
and-small with white came figs plums
et Libycae fici pondere testa gravis.
and of-Libyan figs with-weight a-jar heavy.
Vix puto triginta nummorum tota fuisse
Hardly I-think thirty sesterces whole to-have-been
munera, quae grandes octo tulere Syri.
gifts, which tall eight carried Syrians.
Quanto commodius nullo mihi ferre labore
How-much more-conveniently with-no to-me to-bring labor
argenti potuit pondera quinque puer!
of-silver could pounds five a-boy!

54 Semper mane mihi de me mera somnia narras,
Always in-the-morning to-me about me mere dreams you-tell,
quae moveant animum sollicitentque meum.
which may-move mind and-trouble my.

Iam prior ad faecem, sed et haec vindemia venit,
Already the-first to the-dregs, but also this vintage has-come,
exorat noctes dum mihi saga tuas;
she-pleads-away the-nights while for-me the-wise-woman your;
consumpsi salsasque molas et turis acervos;
I-have-used-up and-salted meal and of-incense heaps;
decrevere greges, dum cadit agna frequens;
have-shrunk the-flocks, while falls the-lamb frequent;
non porcus, non chortis aves, non ova supersunt.
not a-pig, not of-the-farmyard birds, not eggs remain.
Aut vigila aut dormi, Nasidiane, tibi.
Either wake or sleep, Nasidianus, for-yourself.

Nulli munera, Chreste, si remittis, 55
To-no-one gifts, Chrestus, if you-send-back,
nec nobis dederis remiserisque:
nor to-us should-you-have-given and-sent-back:
credam te satis esse liberalem.
I-would-believe you enough to-be generous.
Sed si reddis Apicio Lupoque
But if you-return to-Apicius and-Lupus
et Gallo Titioque Caesioque,
and Gallus and-Titius and-Caesius,
linges non mihi — nam proba et pusilla est—,
you-will-lick not mine —for honest and small it-is—,
sed quae de Solymis venit perustis
but that-which from Solyma comes burnt-up
damnatam modo mentulam tributis.
condemned lately prick by-taxes.

56 Astra polumque pia cepisti mente, Rabiri,
The-stars and-the-sky with-dutiful you-have-grasped mind, Rabirius,
Parrhasiam mira qui struis arte domum.
Parrhasian with-marvelous who you-build art house.
Phidiaco si digna Iovi dare templa parabit,
to-Phidian if worthy Jove to-give temples she-shall-prepare,
has petet a nostro Pisa Tonante manus.
these will-seek from our Pisa Thunderer hands.

57 Castora de Polluce Gabinia fecit Achillan:
a-Castor out-of a-Pollux Gabinia has-made Achillas:
πὺξ ἀγαθὸς fuerat, nunc erit ἱππόδαμος.
in-boxing good he-had-been, now he-will-be a-horse-tamer.

58 Iam sex aut septem nupsisti, Galla, cinaedis,
Already six or seven you-have-married, Galla, catamites,
dum coma te nimium pexaque barba iuvat.
while the-hair you too-much and-combed beard pleases.
Deinde experta latus madidoque simillima loro
Then having-tested the-flank and-to-a-soaked most-like strap
inguina nec lassa stare coacta manu,
groins nor with-weary to-stand forced hand,
deseris inbelles thalamos mollemque maritum;
you-desert unwarlike bedchambers and-the-soft husband;
rursus et in similes decidis usque toros.
again and into similar you-fall always beds.

Quaere aliquem Curios semper Fabiosque loquentem,
Seek someone the-Curii always and-the-Fabii talking-of,
hirsutum et dura rusticitate trucem:
shaggy and with-harsh rusticity grim:
invenies: sed habet tristis quoque turba cinaedos.
you-will-find: but has the-sad also crowd catamites.
Difficile est vero nubere, Galla, viro.
Difficult it-is to-a-true to-wed, Galla, man.

Non cenat sine apro noster, Tite, Caecilianus. 59
Not dines without a-boar our, Titus, Caecilianus.
Bellum convivam Caecilianus habet.
A-pretty guest Caecilianus has.

Tarpeiae venerande rector aulae, 60
of-the-Tarpeian revered ruler hall,
quem salvo duce credimus Tonantem,
whom safe with-our-leader we-believe the-Thunderer,
cum votis sibi quisque te fatiget
since with-prayers for-himself each you wearies
et poscat dare, quae dei potestis:
and asks you-to-give, what gods you-can:
nil pro me mihi, Iuppiter, petenti
nothing for myself to-me, Jupiter, asking
ne suscensueris velut superbo.
do-not be-angry as-if with-a-proud-man.

Te pro Caesare debeo rogare:
You for Caesar I-ought to-ask:
pro me debeo Caesarem rogare.
for myself I-ought Caesar to-ask.

61 Abstulerat totam temerarius institor urbem,
Had-taken-away the-whole the-rash hawker city,
inque suo nullum limine limen erat.
and-on its-own no threshold threshold was.
Iussisti tenuis, Germanice, crescere vicos,
You-ordered the-slender, Germanicus, to-grow streets,
et modo quae fuerat semita, facta via est.
and just-now what had-been a-path, made a-road is.
Nulla catenatis pila est praecincta lagonis,
No with-chained pillar is girt flagons,
nec praetor medio cogitur ire luto,
nor the-praetor in-the-middle is-forced to-go of-the-mud,
stringitur in densa nec caeca novacula turba,
is-drawn in a-dense nor blind razor crowd,
occupat aut totas nigra popina vias.
occupies or whole the-black cookshop roads.
Tonsor, copo, cocus, lanius sua limina servant.
The-barber, the-innkeeper, the-cook, the-butcher their-own thresholds keep.
Nunc Roma est, nuper magna taberna fuit.
Now Rome it-is, lately a-great shop it-was.

Reclusis foribus grandes percidis, Amille, 62
With-opened doors grown you-bugger, Amillus,
et te deprendi, cum facis ista, cupis,
and yourself to-be-caught, when you-do that, you-desire,
ne quid liberti narrent servique paterni
lest anything freedmen may-tell and-slaves of-your-father
et niger obliqua garrulitate cliens.
and black with-sidelong garrulity a-client.
Non pedicari se qui testatur, Amille,
Not to-be-buggered himself who attests, Amillus,
illud saepe facit, quod sine teste facit.
that often does, which without witness he-does.

Perpetui numquam moritura volumina Sili 63
Of-undying never about-to-die the-volumes Silius
qui legis et Latia carmina digna toga,
who read and of-the-Latin poems worthy toga,
Pierios tantum vati placuisse recessus
Pierian only the-bard to-have-pleased retreats
credis et Aoniae Bacchica serta comae?
do-you-believe and of-Aonian Bacchic garlands hair?
Sacra coturnati non attigit ante Maronis,
The-sacred of-the-buskined not he-touched before Maro,
implevit magni quam Ciceronis opus:
he-fulfilled of-great than of-Cicero the-work:
hunc miratur adhuc centum gravis hasta virorum,
him admires still of-the-hundred grave the-spear men,
hunc loquitur grato plurimus ore cliens.
him speaks-of with-grateful very-many mouth client.

Postquam bis senis ingentem fascibus annum
After with-twice six the-great rods year
rexerat, adserto qui sacer orbe fuit,
he-had-ruled, by-the-freed who sacred world was,
emeritos Musis et Phoebo tradidit annos,
the-served-out to-the-Muses and to-Phoebus he-handed years,
proque suo celebrat nunc Helicona foro.
and-instead-of his-own he-throngs now Helicon forum.

EPIGRAMS 64–86

Cinnamus, a barber made a knight by a lady's gift, fled to Sicily and will be a barber again. Gargilianus has spent twenty years on one lawsuit he could have lost. Instantius Rufus is asked not to commend the jests to his father-in-law. Canius' Theophila is as learned as she is chaste. Everyone in a family has sores except their field. Paulus is asked to cry out that a malicious poem passed off as Martial's is not his. Maximus lives everywhere and so nowhere. Philomusus amuses the powerful, but he is not loved. Papylus sends away the dishes he could eat. A singer's sheath slips in the palaestra. While Martial's portrait is painted for Caecilius Secundus, the book goes to him on the Danube as a truer likeness, and Sextus, who no longer invites Martial, feeds gifts, not friends.

64 Qui tonsor fueras tota notissimus urbe,
You-who a-barber had-been through-whole best-known the-city,
et post hoc dominae munere factus eques,
and after this by-a-lady's gift made a-knight,
Sicanias urbes Aetnaeaque regna petisti,
Sicilian cities and-Aetnaean realms you-sought,
Cinname, cum fugeres tristia iura fori.
Cinnamus, when you-fled the-grim laws of-the-forum.
Qua nunc arte graves tolerabis inutilis annos?
By-what now art heavy will-you-bear useless years?

Quid facit infelix et fugitiva quies?
What does unhappy and runaway quiet?
Non rhetor, non grammaticus ludive magister,
Not a-rhetorician, not a-grammarian or-of-a-school a-master,
non Cynicus, non tu Stoicus esse potes,
not a-Cynic, not you a-Stoic to-be can,
vendere nec vocem Siculis plausumque theatris:
to-sell nor your-voice to-Sicilian and-applause theaters:
quod superest, iterum, Cinname, tonsor eris.
what remains, again, Cinnamus, a-barber you-will-be.

Lis te bis decumae numerantem frigora brumae 65
A-lawsuit you twice of-the-tenth counting the-colds winter
conterit una tribus, Gargiliane, foris.
wears-out one in-three, Gargilianus, forums.
A miser et demens! viginti litigat annis
Ah wretched and mad! for-twenty litigates years
quisquam, cui vinci, Gargiliane, licet?
anyone, for-whom to-be-beaten, Gargilianus, it-is-allowed?

Heredem Fabius Labienum ex asse reliquit: 66
Heir Fabius Labienus out-of the-whole left:
plus meruisse tamen se Labienus ait.
more to-have-deserved yet himself Labienus says.

68 Commendare meas, Instanti Rufe, Camenas
To-commend my, Instantius Rufus, Muses
parce precor socero: seria forsan amat.
spare I-pray to-your-father-in-law: serious-things perhaps he-loves.
Quod si lascivos admittit et ille libellos,
But if wanton he-admits also he little-books,
haec ego vel Curio Fabricioque legam.
these I even to-Curius and-Fabricius will-read.

69 Haec est illa tibi promissa Theophila, Cani,
This is she to-you promised Theophila, Canius,
cuius Cecropia pectora dote madent:
whose with-Cecropian breast dowry is-soaked:
hanc sibi iure petat magni senis Atticus hortus,
her for-itself by-right may-claim of-the-great old-man Attic the-garden,
nec minus esse suam Stoica turba velit.
nor less to-be its-own the-Stoic crowd would-wish.
Vivet opus quodcumque per has emiseris aures:
Will-live a-work whatever through these you-send-out ears:
tam non femineum nec populare sapit.
so not womanly nor popular she-tastes.
Non tua Pantaenis nimium se praeferat illi,
Not your Pantaenis too-much herself let-prefer to-her,
quamvis Pierio sit bene nota choro.
although by-the-Pierian she-be well known choir.
Carmina fingentem Sappho laudabat amatrix:
Poems composing Sappho praised the-lover:
castior haec, et non doctior illa fuit.
more-chaste this-one, and not more-learned that-one was.

Ipsarum tribadum tribas, Philaeni, 70
Of-the-very tribades tribade, Philaenis,
recte, quam futuis, vocas amicam.
rightly, whom you-fuck, you-call your-girlfriend.

Ficosa est uxor, ficosus et ipse maritus, 71
Full-of-figs is the-wife, full-of-figs also himself the-husband,
filia ficosa est et gener atque nepos,
the-daughter full-of-figs is and the-son-in-law and grandson,
nec dispensator nec vilicus ulcere turpi
nor the-steward nor the-bailiff of-a-sore foul
nec rigidus fossor, sed nec arator eget.
nor the-rigid digger, but nor the-plowman lacks.
Cum sint ficosi pariter iuvenesque senesque,
Since are full-of-figs alike the-young and-the-old,
res mira est, ficos non habet unus ager.
a-thing marvelous it-is, figs not has one field.

Gratus sic tibi, Paule, sit December, 72
Welcome so to-you, Paulus, may-be December,
nec vani triplices brevesque mappae
nor empty triple-tablets and-short napkins
nec turis veniant leves selibrae,
nor of-incense let-come light half-pounds,
sed lances ferat et scyphos avorum
but dishes let-bring and cups of-forebears
aut grandis reus aut potens amicus,
either a-great defendant or a-powerful friend,

seu quod te potius iuvat capitque;
or what you rather pleases and-holds;
sic vincas Noviumque Publiumque
so may-you-beat both-Novius and-Publius
mandris et vitreo latrone clusos;
in-the-runs and by-the-glass robber enclosed;
sic palmam tibi de trigone nudo
so the-palm to-you at the-triangle-ball naked
unctae det favor arbiter coronae,
of-the-anointed may-give the-favor judge ring,
nec laudet Polybi magis sinistras:
nor may-he-praise Polybus' more left-hands:
si quisquam mea dixerit malignus
if anyone mine shall-have-said malicious
atro carmina quae madent veneno,
in-black poems which drip poison,
ut vocem mihi commodes patronam
that your-voice to-me you-lend as-advocate
et quantum poteris, sed usque, clames:
and as-much-as you-can, but continually, shout:
'Non scripsit meus ista Martialis.'
'Not wrote my those Martial.'

73 Esquiliis domus est, domus est tibi colle Dianae,
on-the-Esquiline a-house is, a-house is to-you on-the-hill of-Diana,
et tua patricius culmina vicus habet;
and your the-Patrician roofs street has;

hinc viduae Cybeles, illinc sacraria Vestae,
from-here of-widowed Cybele, from-there the-shrine of-Vesta,
inde novum, veterem prospicis inde Iovem.
thence the-new, the-old you-look-out-on thence Jove.
Dic, ubi conveniam, dic, qua te parte requiram:
Tell, where I-may-meet-you, tell, in-what you part I-may-seek:
quisquis ubique habitat, Maxime, nusquam habitat.
whoever everywhere lives, Maximus, nowhere lives.

Vis futui gratis, cum sis deformis anusque. 75
You-wish to-be-fucked free, though you-are ugly and-old.
Res perridicula est: vis dare, nec dare vis.
A-thing most-ridiculous it-is: you-want to-give, nor to-give do-you-want.

Quod te diripiunt potentiores 76
That you tear-to-pieces the-more-powerful
per convivia, porticus, theatra,
through dinners, colonnades, theaters,
et tecum, quotiens ita incidisti,
and with-you, as-often-as so you-have-fallen-in,
gestari iuvat et iuvat lavari:
to-be-carried it-pleases and it-pleases to-be-bathed:
nolito nimium tibi placere.
do-not too-much with-yourself be-pleased.
Delectas, Philomuse, non amaris.
You-amuse, Philomusus, not you-are-loved.

77 Exigis, ut nostros donem tibi, Tucca, libellos.
You-demand, that our I-give you, Tucca, little-books.
Non faciam: nam vis vendere, non legere.
Not I-will-do-it: for you-wish to-sell, not to-read.

78 Cum Saxetani ponatur coda lacerti
Though of-Saxetan is-served the-tail mackerel
et, bene si cenas, conchis inuncta tibi:
and, well if you-dine, bean-mash smeared to-you:
sumen, aprum, leporem, boletos, ostrea, mullos
sow's-udder, a-boar, a-hare, mushrooms, oysters, mullets
mittis: habes nec cor, Papyle, nec genium.
you-send: you-have nor heart, Papylus, nor taste.

79 Potavi modo consulare vinum.
I-have-drunk lately a-consular wine.
Quaeris, quam vetus atque liberale?
You-ask, how old and generous?
Prisco consule conditum: sed ipse,
in-Priscus' consulship stored: but himself,
qui ponebat, erat, Severe, consul.
who served-it, was, Severus, the-consul.

81 'Triginta toto mala sunt epigrammata libro.'
'Thirty in-whole bad are epigrams book.'
Si totidem bona sunt, Lause, bonus liber est.
If as-many good are, Lausus, good the-book is.

Menophili penem tam grandis fibula vestit, 82
of-Menophilus the-penis so large a-sheath clothes,
ut sit comoedis omnibus una satis.
that it-could-be for-comic-actors all one enough.
Hunc ego credideram — nam saepe lavamur in unum —
Him I had-believed —for often we-bathe in one-place—
sollicitum voci parcere, Flacce, suae:
anxious the-voice to-spare, Flaccus, his-own:
dum ludit media populo spectante palaestra,
while he-plays in-the-middle with-the-people watching of-the-wrestling-ground,
delapsa est misero fibula: verpus erat.
slipped-off has from-the-wretch the-sheath: circumcised he-was.

Eutrapelus tonsor dum circuit ora Luperci 83
Eutrapelus the-barber while he-goes-round the-face of-Lupercus
expingitque genas, altera barba subit.
and-paints-up his-cheeks, a-second beard springs-up.

Dum mea Caecilio formatur imago Secundo 84
While my for-Caecilius is-shaped likeness Secundus
spirat et arguta picta tabella manu,
breathes and with-skilled painted the-panel hand,
i, liber, ad Geticam Peucen Histrumque iacentem:
go, book, to Getic Peuce and-the-Hister lying:
haec loca perdomitis gentibus ille tenet.
these places with-thoroughly-tamed peoples he holds.
Parva dabis caro, sed dulcia dona, sodali:
Small you-will-give to-a-dear, but sweet gifts, comrade:

certior in nostro carmine vultus erit;
truer in our poem the-face will-be;
casibus hic nullis, nullis delebilis annis
by-chances this by-no, by-no erasable years
vivet, Apelleum cum morietur opus.
will-live, Apelles' when shall-die work.

85 Quod non insulse scribis tetrasticha quaedam,
That not insipidly you-write quatrains some,
disticha quod belle pauca, Sabelle, facis,
couplets that prettily a-few, Sabellus, you-make,
laudo, nec admiror. Facile est epigrammata belle
I-praise, and-not I-wonder. Easy it-is epigrams prettily
scribere, sed librum scribere difficile est.
to-write, but a-book to-write difficult is.

86 Ad natalicias dapes vocabar,
To birthday feasts I-used-to-be-invited,
essem cum tibi, Sexte, non amicus:
I-was when to-you, Sextus, not a-friend:
quid factum est, rogo, quid repente factum est,
what happened has, I-ask, what suddenly happened has,
post tot pignora nostra, post tot annos
after so-many pledges our, after so-many years
quod sum praeteritus vetus sodalis?
that I-am passed-over an-old comrade?

Sed causam scio: nulla venit a me
But the-cause I-know: no has-come from me
Hispani tibi libra pustulati
of-Spanish to-you pound refined-(silver)
nec levis toga nec rudes lacernae.
nor a-light toga nor rough cloaks.
Non est sportula, quae negotiatur;
Not is a-dole, one-which does-business;
pascis munera, Sexte, non amicos.
you-feed gifts, Sextus, not friends.
Iam dices mihi 'Vapulet vocator.'
Now you-will-say to-me 'Let-be-flogged the-inviter.'

EPIGRAMS 88–99

Martial's books are read at Vienne by old and young, which pleases him more than wealth. A rose is sent to crown Apollinaris. Matho calls the book uneven, and so praises it. Juvenal is sent the Saturnalia nuts. Baccara always offers help and, hearing what is needed, never knows it. Narnia keeps Quintus from his Nomentan neighbor. Papylus turns perfume to fish sauce. Linus kisses all Rome in midwinter. The infant Urbicus' epitaph asks the reader's tears. The book is sent to Caesius Sabinus in Umbria. Castor buys everything, and Crispinus is asked to tell Caesar that Martial is not far below Marsus and Catullus.

88

Fertur habere meos, si vera est fama, libellos
Is-said to-have my, if true is the-report, little-books
inter delicias pulchra Vienna suas:
among delights beautiful Vienne its-own:

me legit omnis ibi senior iuvenisque puerque,
me reads every-one there old-man and-young-man and-boy,
et coram tetrico casta puella viro.
and in-the-presence-of a-grim chaste girl husband.
Hoc ego maluerim, quam si mea carmina cantent
This I would-prefer, than if my poems should-sing
qui Nilum ex ipso protinus ore bibunt;
those-who the-Nile from its-very at-once mouth drink;
quam meus Hispano si me Tagus impleat auro,
than my Spanish if me Tagus should-fill gold,
pascat et Hybla meas, pascat Hymettos apes.
should-feed and Hybla my, should-feed Hymettus bees.
Non nihil ergo sumus, nec blandae munere linguae
Not nothing therefore are-we, nor by-a-coaxing gift tongue
decipimur: credam iam, puto, Lause, tibi.
are-we-deceived: I-will-believe now, I-think, Lausus, you.

89 I, felix rosa, mollibusque sertis
Go, happy rose, and-with-soft garlands
nostri cinge comas Apollinaris.
of-our bind the-hair Apollinaris.
Quas tu nectere candidas, sed olim —
Which you to-twine white, but one-day—
sic te semper amet Venus — memento.
so you always may-love Venus —remember.

Iactat inaequalem Matho me fecisse libellum: 90
Boasts uneven Matho me to-have-made little-book:
si verum est, laudat carmina nostra Matho.
if true it-is, he-praises poems our Matho.
Aequales scribit libros Calvinus et Umber:
Even writes books Calvinus and Umber:
aequalis liber est, Cretice, qui malus est.
even the-book is, Creticus, which bad is.

De nostro, facunde, tibi, Iuvenalis, agello 91
From our, eloquent, to-you, Juvenal, little-field
Saturnalicias mittimus, ecce, nuces.
Saturnalian we-send, behold, nuts.
Cetera lascivis donavit poma puellis
The-other to-wanton has-given fruits girls
mentula custodis luxuriosa dei.
the-prick of-the-guardian lustful god.

'Si quid opus fuerit, scis me non esse rogandum' 92
'If anything need shall-be, you-know me not to-be to-be-asked'
uno bis dicis, Baccara, terque die.
in-one twice you-say, Baccara, and-thrice day.
Appellat rigida tristis me voce Secundus:
Duns with-rigid grim me voice Secundus:
audis, et nescis, Baccara, quid sit opus.
you-hear, and know-not, Baccara, what is need.
Pensio te coram petitur clareque palamque:
The-rent you in-the-presence-of is-demanded clearly and-openly:

audis, et nescis, Baccara, quid sit opus.
you-hear, and know-not, Baccara, what is need.
Esse queror gelidasque mihi tritasque lacernas:
To-be I-complain both-chilly to-me and-worn cloaks:
audis, et nescis, Baccara, quid sit opus.
you-hear, and know-not, Baccara, what is need.
Hoc opus est, subito fias ut sidere mutus,
This need is, suddenly you-become that by-a-star dumb,
dicere ne possis, Baccara: 'Si quid opus'.
to-say lest you-could, Baccara: 'If anything need'.

93 Narnia, sulphureo quam gurgite candidus amnis
Narnia, with-sulfurous which eddy white the-river
circuit, ancipiti vix adeunda iugo,
encircles, on-double hardly to-be-approached ridge,
quid tam saepe meum nobis abducere Quintum
why so often my from-us to-take-away Quintus
te iuvat et lenta detinuisse mora?
you pleases and with-slow to-have-detained delay?
Quid Nomentani causam mihi perdis agelli,
Why of-the-Nomentan the-cause for-me do-you-ruin little-field,
propter vicinum qui pretiosus erat?
on-account-of the-neighbor which precious was?
Sed iam parce mihi nec abutere, Narnia, Quinto:
But now spare me nor abuse, Narnia, Quintus:
perpetuo liceat sic tibi ponte frui.
everlasting may-it-be-allowed so to-you bridge to-enjoy.

Unguentum fuerat, quod onyx modo parva gerebat: 94
Perfume it-had-been, which onyx just-now small held:
olfecit postquam Papylus, ecce, garum est.
has-sniffed after Papylus, behold, fish-sauce it-is.

Bruma est et riget horridus December, 95
Winter it-is and stiffens shaggy December,
audes tu tamen osculo nivali
you-dare you yet with-a-kiss snowy
omnes obvius hinc et hinc tenere
all meeting on-this-side and on-that to-hold
et totam, Line, basiare Romam.
and whole, Linus, to-kiss Rome.
Quid posses graviusque saeviusque
What could-you heavier and-more-savage
percussus facere atque verberatus?
struck do and flogged?
Hoc me frigore basiet nec uxor,
In-this me cold may-kiss not-even my-wife,
blandis filia nec rudis labellis.
coaxing my-daughter nor untried with-little-lips.
Sed tu dulcior elegantiorque,
But you sweeter and-more-elegant,
cuius livida naribus caninis
from-whose livid nostrils dog's
dependet glacies rigetque barba,
hangs ice and-stiffens your-beard,

qualem forficibus metit supinis
such-as with-shears cuts upturned
tonsor Cinyphio Cilix marito.
the-barber Cinyphian Cilician husband.
Centum occurrere malo cunnilingis,
A-hundred to-meet I-prefer cunt-lickers,
et Gallum timeo minus recentem.
and a-Gallus I-fear less fresh.
Quare si tibi sensus est pudorque,
Therefore if to-you sense is and-shame,
hibernas, Line, basiationes,
wintry, Linus, kissings,
in mensem rogo differas Aprilem.
into the-month I-ask you-would-put-off of-April.

96 Conditus hic ego sum, Bassi dolor, Urbicus infans,
Laid here I am, of-Bassus the-grief, Urbicus an-infant,
cui genus et nomen maxima Roma dedit.
to-whom race and name greatest Rome gave.
Sex mihi de prima deerant trieteride menses,
Six to-me of the-first were-lacking three-years months,
ruperunt tetricae cum mala pensa deae.
broke grim when evil the-tasks goddesses.
Quid species, quid lingua mihi, quid profuit aetas?
What my-looks, what my-tongue to-me, what profited my-age?
Da lacrimas tumulo, qui legis ista, meo:
Give tears to-the-tomb, you-who read those, my:

sic ad Lethaeas, nisi Nestore serior, undas
thus to Lethe's, except than-Nestor later, waters
non eat, optabis quem superesse tibi.
not may-go, you-will-wish whom to-survive to-you.

97

Nosti si bene Caesium, libelle,
You-know if well Caesius, little-book,
montanae decus Umbriae Sabinum,
of-mountain the-glory Umbria Sabinus,
Auli municipem mei Pudentis,
Aulus' fellow-townsman of-my Pudens,
illi tu dabis haec vel occupato:
to-him you will-give these even busy:
instent mille licet premantque curae,
press a-thousand though and-weigh-upon cares,
nostris carminibus tamen vacabit:
our poems yet he-will-have-time:
nam me diligit ille proximumque
for me loves he and-next-to
Turni nobilibus legit libellis.
Turnus' noble reads little-books.
O quantum tibi nominis paratur!
O how-much for-you of-name is-prepared!
O quae gloria! quam frequens amator!
O what glory! how frequent a-lover!
Te convivia, te forum sonabit,
You dinners, you the-forum will-sound,

aedes, compita, porticus, tabernae.
houses, crossroads, colonnades, shops.
Uni mitteris, omnibus legeris.
To-one you-are-sent, by-all you-will-be-read.

98 Omnia, Castor, emis: sic fiet, ut omnia vendas.
All-things, Castor, you-buy: so it-will-happen, that all-things you-sell.

99 Sic placidum videas semper, Crispine, Tonantem,
So calm may-you-see always, Crispinus, the-Thunderer,
nec te Roma minus, quam tua Memphis amet:
nor you Rome less, than your Memphis may-love:
carmina Parrhasia si nostra legentur in aula
poems the-Parrhasian if our will-be-read in hall
— namque solent sacra Caesaris aure frui—,
—for they-are-wont the-sacred of-Caesar ear to-enjoy—,
dicere de nobis, ut lector candidus, aude:
to-say of us, as a-reader candid, dare:
'Temporibus praestat non nihil iste tuis,
'To-the-times provides not nothing this-man your,
nec Marso nimium minor est doctoque Catullo.'
nor than-Marsus too-much lesser he-is and-than-learned Catullus.'
Hoc satis est: ipsi cetera mando deo.
This enough is: to-the-very the-rest I-entrust god.