

De overtocht over de Styx (Verg. Aen. VI, 384-425)

Ergo iter inceptum peragunt fluviōque propinquant.
Nāvita quōs iam inde ut Stygiā prōspexit ab undā 385
per tacitum nemus īre pedemque advertere rīpae,
sic prior adgreditur dictīs atque increpat ultrō:
'Quisquis es, armātus quī nostra ad flūmina tendis,
fāre age, quid veniās, iam istinc et comprime gressum.
Umbrārum hic locus est, somnī noctisque sopōrae: 390
corpora vīva nefās Stygiā vectāre carīnā.
Nec vero Alcīdēn mē sum laetātus euntem
accēpisse lacū, nec Thēsea Pīrithoumque,
dīs quamquam geniti atque invictī vīribus essent.
Tartareum ille manū cūstōdem in vincla petīvit 395
ipsius ā soliō rēgis traxitque trementem;
hī dominam Dītis thalamō dēducere adortī.'
Quae contrā breviter fāta est Amphrȳsia vātēs:
'Nullae hīc īnsidiae tālēs (absiste movērī),
nec vim tēla ferunt; licet ingēns iānitor antrō 400
aeternum lātrāns exsanguīs terreat umbrās,
casta licet patruī servet Prōserpina līmen.
Trōius Aenēās, pietāte īnsīgnis et armīs,
ad genitōrem īmās Erebi dēscendit ad umbrās.
Sī tē nulla movet tantae pietātis imāgō, 405
at rārum hunc' (aperit rārum quī veste latēbat)
'agnōscās.' Tumida ex irā tum corda resīdunt;
nec plūra hīs. Ille admīrāns venerābile dōnum
fātālis virgae longō post tempore vīsum
caeruleam advertit puppim rīpaeque propinquat. 410
Inde aliās animās, quae per iuga longa sedēbant,
dēturbat laxatque forōs; simul accipit alvêō
ingentem Aenēān. Gemuit sub pondere cumba
sūtilis et multam accēpit rīmōsa palūdem.
Tandem trāns fluvium incolumīs vātemque virumque 415
īnfōrmī līmō glaucāque expōnit in ulvā.
Cerberus haec ingēns lātrātū rēgna trifaucī
personat adversō recubāns immānis in antrō.
Cū vātēs horrēre vidēns iam colla colubrīs
melle sopōrātam et medicātīs frūgibus offam 420
obicit. Ille famē rabidā tria guttura pandēns
corripit obiectam, atque immānia terga resolvit
fūsus humī tōtōque ingēns extenditur antrō.
Occupat Aenēās aditum cūstōde sepultō
ēvāditque celer rīpam inremeābilis undae. 425