P. VERGILI MARONIS AENEIDOS LIBER OCTAVUS

Thybris ea fluvium, quam longa est, nocte tumentem

On that night, for as long as it is, Tiber

leniit, et tacita refluens ita substitit unda,

smoothed his swelling stream and, flowing backwards with his silent water, stood still in such wise

mitis ut in morem stagni placidaeque paludis

that in the manner of gentle standing-water or a placid marsh

sterneret aequor aquis, remo ut luctamen abesset.

he levelled the surface on the waters, so that strain should be absent from the oar.

ergo iter inceptum celerant rumore secundo: 90

Therefore they speed along the undertaken journey with an encouraging cheer:

[or place colon after *celerant*; with a propitious swish the oiled fir …]

labitur uncta vadis abies; mirantur et undae,

the oiled fir glides through the shoals; the waters marvel,

miratur nemus insuetum fulgentia longe

the grove marvels, unaccustomed to the distant flashing

scuta virum fluvio pictasque innare carinas.

shields of men and to painted keels swimming in its stream.

olli remigio noctemque diemque fatigant

They tire night and day with their rowing

et longos superant flexus, variisque teguntur 95

and they master the lengthy bends, and they are roofed in by various

arboribus, viridesque secant placido aequore silvas.

trees, and they cut through the verdant woods on the placid surface.

sol medium caeli conscenderat igneus orbem

The fiery sun had mounted the mid circle of the sky

cum muros arcemque procul ac rara domorum

when they see walls and a citadel in the distance and the scattered

tecta vident, quae nunc Romana potentia caelo

roofs of houses, which nowadays Roman power has made equal with the sky,

aequavit, tum res inopes Evandrus habebat. 100

but which at that time Evander held as his poor possessions.

ocius advertunt proras urbique propinquant.

With quicker pace they turn their prows and approach the city.

Forte die sollemnem illo rex Arcas honorem

By chance on that day the Arcadian king was offering due honour

Amphitryoniadae magno divisque ferebat

to great Amphitryoniades and the gods

ante urbem in luco. Pallas huic filius una,

in front of the city in a grove. With him Pallas, his son,

una omnes iuvenum primi pauperque senatus 105

with him all the foremost of the young men and the meagre senate

tura dabant, tepidusque cruor fumabat ad aras.

were offering incense, and warm blood steamed at the altars.

ut celsas videre rates atque inter opacum

When they saw the tall vessels and that through the dark

adlabi nemus et tacitos incumbere remis,

grove they were sliding near and that silent men were leaning on their oars,

terrentur visu subito cunctique relictis

they are terrified at the sudden vision, and all

consurgunt mensis. audax quos rumpere Pallas 110

rise up, abandoning the tables. Bold Pallas forbids them

sacra vetat raptoque volat telo obvius ipse,

to break off their sacred rites and, seizing a weapon, rushes to meet them himself,

et procul e tumulo: Iuvenes, quae causa subegit

and from afar, from a mound: “ Young men, what cause has driven you

ignotas temptare vias? quo tenditis? inquit.

to try unknown paths? Whither tend ye?” says he.

Qui genus? unde domo? pacemne huc fertis an arma?

“Who are ye by race? Whence is the home ye hail from? Is it peace ye bring hither or war?”

tum pater Aeneas puppi sic fatur ab alta 115

Then Father Aeneas speaks thus from the high poop,

paciferaeque manu ramum praetendit olivae:

and holds forth a branch of the peace-bearing olive in his hand:

Troiugenas ac tela vides inimica Latinis,

“Thou seest Trojan-born men and weapons hostile to the Latins,

quos illi bello profugos egere superbo.

exiles whom those men have driven away in proud war.

Evandrum petimus. ferte haec et dicite lectos

We seek Evander. Bear ye these words to him and say that the chosen

Dardaniae venisse duces socia arma rogantes. 120

leaders of Dardania have come seeking allied arms.”

obstipuit tanto percussus nomine Pallas:

Pallas was dumbfounded, struck by such a great name:

Egredere O quicumque es, ait, Coramque parentem

“Disembark, whoever thou art,” says he, “and talk face to face with my father,

adloquere, ac nostris succede penatibus hospes.

and go up to our household gods as a guest.”

excepitque manu dextramque amplexus inhaesit.

And he welcomed him with his hand, and grasping his right hand, he clung to it,

progressi subeunt luco fluviumque relinquunt. 125

Going forward, they come up to the grove and leave behind the river.

tum regem Aeneas dictis adfatur amicis:

Then Aeneas addresses the king with friendly words:

Optime Graiugenum, cui me Fortuna precari

O best of the Greek-born, to whom Fortune has wished me to pray

et vitta comptos voluit praetendere ramos,

and to hold out branches adorned with a ritual band,

non equidem extimui Danaum quod ductor et Arcas

indeed I feared not for that thou wast a leader of Danaans and an Arcadian

quodque a stirpe fores geminis coniunctus Atridis; 130

and for that thou wast joined by stock to the twin Atrides;

sed mea me virtus et sancta oracula divum

but ‘twas my valour and the holy oracles of the gods

cognatique patres, tua terris didita fama,

and our related fathers and thy fame spread throughout the lands

coniunxere tibi et fatis egere volentem.

that have joined me to thee and have driven me, willingly, by the fates.

Dardanus, Iliacae primus pater urbis et auctor,

Dardanus, the first father and founder of Ilus’ city,

Electra, ut Grai perhibent, Atlantide cretus, 135

sprung from Electra the daughter of Atlas, as the Greeks maintain,

advehitur Teucros; Electram maximus Atlas

travels to the Teucrians; the most mighty Atlas begot Electra,

edidit, aetherios umero qui sustinet orbes.

he who holds up the ethereal orbits on his shoulder.

vobis Mercurius pater est, quem candida Maia

Mercury is your father, whom bright Maia

Cyllenae gelido conceptum vertice fudit;

conceived and brought forth on the icy summit of Mount Cyllene;

at Maiam, auditis si quicquam credimus, Atlas, 140

but Atlas generates Maia, if in any way we believe what is heard,

idem Atlas generat caeli qui sidera tollit.

the selfsame Atlas who lifts up the stars of heaven.

sic genus amborum scindit se sanguine ab uno.

Thus the race of us both divides from the one blood.

his fretus non legatos neque prima per artem

Relying on these things, neither through envoys nor diplomacy

temptamenta tui pepigi; me, me ipse meumque

have I made first attempts at a pact with thee; me, myself, my own person

obieci caput et supplex ad limina veni. 145

have I thrown before thee, and in supplication have I come to thy threshold.

gens eadem quae te crudeli Daunia bello

The same nation which harries thee in cruel war, the Daunian,

insequitur nos; [semicolon moved] si pellant nihil afore credunt

harries [us]; should they drive us out, they believe that nothing will be lacking

quin omnem Hesperiam penitus sua sub iuga mittant,

for them to send all Hesperia deep beneath their yokes,

et mare quod supra teneant quodque adluit infra.

and to hold the sea that washes above and the one that washes below.

accipe daque fidem. sunt nobis fortia bello 150

Accept my loyalty and give me thine. We have breasts brave in war,

pectora, sunt animi et rebus spectata iuventus.

we have zest and youth seen in action.”

Dixerat Aeneas. ille os oculosque loquentis

Aeneas had spoken. He (Evander) had been scanning the face and eyes of the one speaking

iamdudum et totum lustrabat lumine corpus.

for some time now and with his eye his whole body.

tum sic pauca refert: Ut te, fortissime Teucrum,

Then he replies a few words thus: “How gladly, O bravest of the Teucrians,

accipio agnoscoque libens! ut verba parentis 155

do I receive and acknowledge thee! How I remember the words of thy father

et vocem Anchisae magni vultumque recordor!

and the voice and countenance of great Anchises!

nam memini Hesionae visentem regna sororis

For I recall that while visiting the realms of his sister Hesione,

Laomedontiaden Priamum Salamina petentem

Priam the son of Laomedon, whilst on a journey to Salamis,

protinus Arcadiae gelidos invisere fines.

goes straight on to visit the chilly territory of Arcadia.

tum mihi prima genas vestibat flore iuventas, 160

At that time first youth was vesting my cheeks with bloom,

mirabarque duces Teucros, mirabar et ipsum

and I marvelled at the Teucrian leaders, and I marvelled at

Laomedontiaden; sed cunctis altior ibat

Laomedontiades himself; but taller than them all went

Anchises. mihi mens iuvenali ardebat amore

Anchises. My mind was burning with a youthful desire

compellare virum et dextrae coniungere dextram;

to address the man and to join right hand to right hand;

accessi et cupidus Phenei sub moenia duxi. 165

I approached and eagerly led him up to the walls of Pheneus.

ille mihi insignem pharetram Lyciasque sagittas

He gave me a distinguished quiver and Lycian arrows

discedens chlamydemque auro dedit intertextam,

as he was leaving, and a cloak interwoven with gold,

frenaque bina meus quae nunc habet aurea Pallas.

and twin golden bridles which my son Pallas now has.

ergo et quam petitis iuncta est mihi foedere dextra,

Therefore, for me, the right hand which ye seek is [already] joined in alliance,

et lux cum primum terris se crastina reddet, 170

and as soon as tomorrow’s light will restore itself to the lands,

auxilio laetos dimittam opibusque iuvabo.

I will send you off rejoicing with my support and I will aid you with my resources.

interea sacra haec, quando huc venistis amici,

Meanwhile, since ye have come hither as friends,

annua, quae differre nefas, celebrate faventes

celebrate favourably these sacred annual rites, which it would be wrong to defer,

nobiscum, et iam nunc sociorum adsuescite mensis.

with us, and even now grow used to the tables of allies.”

Haec ubi dicta, dapes iubet et sublata reponi 175

When this had been said, he orders that the banquet and the cleared-away goblets be put back,

pocula gramineoque viros locat ipse sedili,

and on a grassy seat he himself places the men.

praecipuumque toro et villosi pelle leonis

As the chief [guest] and with a cushion made from [lit. and] the skin of a hairy lion

accipit Aenean solioque invitat acerno.

he welcomes Aeneas and invites him to a maple-wood chair.

tum lecti iuvenes certatim araeque sacerdos

Then do chosen young men in rivalry and the priest of the altar

viscera tosta ferunt taurorum, onerantque canistris 180

bring the roasted entrails of bulls, and they load in baskets

dona laboratae Cereris, Bacchumque ministrant.

the gifts of well-worked bread, and they serve wine.

vescitur Aeneas simul et Troiana iuventus

Aeneas feasts together with the Trojan youth on

perpetui tergo bovis et lustralibus extis.

the chine of a full-length bull and the lustral innards.

postquam exempta fames et amor compressus edendi,

After their hunger had been removed and the desire to eat checked,

rex Evandrus ait: Non haec sollemnia nobis, 185

king Evander says: “Neither these solemnities,

has ex more dapes, hanc tanti numinis aram

nor these customary banquets, nor this altar of such divine majesty,

vana superstitio veterumque ignara deorum

hath any vain superstition ignorant of the ancient gods

imposuit. saevis, hospes Troiane, periclis

imposed on us. O Trojan guest, it is because we have been saved from savage dangers

servati facimus meritosque novamus honores.

that we do this and that we renew the deserved honours.

iam primum saxis suspensam hanc aspice rupem, 190

First of all now, look at this cliff hanging with its rocks,

disiectae procul ut moles, desertaque montis

how its boulders have been scattered afar, and the home of the mountain

stat domus, et scopuli ingentem traxere ruinam.

stands deserted, and the rocks have drawn down a huge collapse.

hic spelunca fuit vasto summota recessu,

Here there was a cave withdrawn in a vast recess,

semihominis Caci facies quam dira tenebat

which the dire form of half-human Cacus used to hold,

solis inaccessam radiis; semperque recenti 195

unapproached by the rays of the sun; always with fresh

caede tepebat humus, foribusque adfixa superbis

slaughter was the ground warm, and affixed to the proud doors

ora virum tristi pendebant pallida tabo.

the faces of men were hanging, pallid in their dismal decay.

huic monstro Volcanus erat pater: illius atros

Vulcan was the father of this monster: vomiting his father’s black

ore vomens ignes magna se mole ferebat.

fires from his mouth, he bore himself on his massive body.

attulit et nobis aliquando optantibus aetas 200

Even to us in our longing did time at last bring

auxilium adventumque dei. nam maximus ultor

the help and arrival of a god. For that most great avenger,

tergemini nece Geryonae spoliisque superbus

proud in the death and spoils of triple Geryon,

Alcides aderat taurosque hac victor agebat

was here, Alcides, and he was victoriously driving bulls this way,

ingentes, vallemque boves amnemque tenebant.

huge bulls, and the oxen occupied the valley and the river.

at furis Caci mens effera, ne quid inausum 205

But the savage mind of the thief Cacus, lest anything undared

aut intractatum scelerisve dolive fuisset,

or untried of crime or treachery should come to be,

quattuor a stabulis praestanti corpore tauros

turns aside four bulls of outstanding body from their steadings,

avertit, totidem forma superante iuvencas.

and as many heifers of surpassing beauty.

atque hos, ne qua forent pedibus vestigia rectis,

And, lest there be any tracks from their forward-facing feet,

cauda in speluncam tractos versisque viarum 210

dragged by the tail into the cave, and with the signs of their routes inverted,

indiciis raptor saxo occultabat opaco.

the snatcher sought to conceal them in the opaque rock.

quaerenti nulla ad speluncam signa ferebant.

To anyone searching no signs led to the cave.

interea, cum iam stabulis saturata moveret

Meanwhile, when Amphitryoniades was now moving his sated herds from their steadings

Amphitryoniades armenta abitumque pararet,

and was preparing for their departure,

discessu mugire boves atque omne querelis 215

the oxen lowed at their parting, and with their complaints the whole

impleri nemus et colles clamore relinqui.

wood was filled, and the hills were departed from with a clamour.

reddidit una boum vocem vastoque sub antro

One of the cows returned her voice and from down in the vast cavern

mugiit et Caci spem custodita fefellit.

lowed, and though guarded she cheated Cacus’ hope.

hic vero Alcidae furiis exarserat atro

Here indeed the resentment of Alcides had blazed up in fury with black

felle dolor: rapit arma manu nodisque gravatum 220

bile: with his hand he seizes his weapons and his knot-weighted

robur, et aërii cursu petit ardua montis.

oaken-club, and at a run he makes for the steep sides of the airy mountain.

tum primum nostri Cacum videre timentem

Then for the first time our men saw Cacus afraid

turbatumque oculis; fugit ilicet ocior Euro

and troubled in his eyes; straightway he flees faster than the East Wind

speluncamque petit, pedibus timor addidit alas.

and makes for his cave, and fear added wings to his feet.

ut sese inclusit ruptisque immane catenis 225

When he had shut himself in and, having broken the chains, thrown down a monstrous rock,

deiecit saxum, ferro quod et arte paterna

which by means of iron and his father’s skill

pendebat, fultosque emuniit obice postes,

was hanging there, and had fortified the doorposts now supported by this barricade,

ecce furens animis aderat Tirynthius omnemque

lo! the Tirythian was at hand, raging in spirit, and

accessum lustrans huc ora ferebat et illuc,

surveying the whole entrance, he was turning his face this way and that,

dentibus infrendens. ter totum fervidus ira 230

gnashing with his teeth. Thrice, seething with anger,

lustrat Aventini montem, ter saxea temptat

doth he scour the whole mount of the Aventine, thrice doth he probe the rocky

limina nequiquam, ter fessus valle resedit.

threshold in vain, thrice did he sit back down in the valley exhausted.

stabat acuta silex praecisis undique saxis

Standing there was a sharp flint with its rocks shorn off on every side,

speluncae dorso insurgens, altissima visu,

rising over the back of the cave, exceedingly high to look at,

dirarum nidis domus opportuna volucrum. 235

a convenient home for the nests of dread birds.

hanc, ut prona iugo laevum incumbebat ad amnem,

This [flint], since, leaning from the ridge, it inclined towards the river on the left,

dexter in adversum nitens concussit et imis

he, straining against from the right, shook, and, from its deepest

avulsam solvit radicibus, inde repente

roots once plucked, he loosened, and then all of a sudden

impulit; impulsu quo maximus intonat aether,

he thrust it inwards; at which impulse the most mighty aether thunders,

dissultant ripae refluitque exterritus amnis. 240

the riverbanks leap apart, and the terrified river flows backwards.

at specus et Caci detecta apparuit ingens

But once uncovered, there appeared the cave and Cacus’ huge

regia, et umbrosae penitus patuere cavernae,

palace, and the shadowy caverns lay exposed deep within,

non secus ac si qua penitus vi terra dehiscens

not otherwise than if the land, gaping open deep within from some violence,

infernas reseret sedes et regna recludat

should unbar the infernal abodes and disclose the pallid kingdoms,

pallida, dis invisa, superque immane barathrum 245

hateful to the gods,and from above a monstrous pit

cernatur, trepident immisso lumine Manes.

should be discerned, and the Shades are agitated at the light let in.

ergo insperata deprensum luce repente

Therefore, him caught out suddenly by the unexpected light,

inclusumque cavo saxo atque insueta rudentem

and enclosed by the hollow rock, and roaring unaccustomed sounds,

desuper Alcides telis premit, omniaque arma

doth Alcides ply from above with missiles, and all sorts of weapons

advocat et ramis vastisque molaribus instat. 250

doth he call to his aid, and with branches and vast millstones presses him hard.

ille autem, neque enim fuga iam super ulla pericli,

But he, for no longer now was there any escape from danger,

faucibus ingentem fumum (mirabile dictu)

vomits forth thick smoke from his jaws (marvellous to tell)

evomit involvitque domum caligine caeca

and engulfs his home with blind darkness,

prospectum eripiens oculis, glomeratque sub antro

snatching the view away from sight, and down in the cave he masses

fumiferam noctem commixtis igne tenebris. 255

fumiferous night, the darkness being mixed with fire.

non tulit Alcides animis, seque ipse per ignem

Alcides in his anger tolerated this not, and through the fire he threw himself

praecipiti iecit saltu, qua plurimus undam

in a headlong leap, heading for where the thickest

fumus agit nebulaque ingens specus aestuat atra.

smoke drives a billow and the huge cave seethes with black cloud.

hic Cacum in tenebris incendia vana vomentem

Here, as Cacus vomits vain fires in the darkness,

corripit in nodum complexus, et angit inhaerens 260

he seizes him, enfolding him in a knot, and sticking to him he throttles

elisos oculos et siccum sanguine guttur.

his dashed-out eyes and his throat dry of blood.

panditur extemplo foribus domus atra revulsis

Forthwith the black house is flung wide open, once its doors are torn off,

abstractaeque boves abiurataeque rapinae

and the dragged-off cattle and disavowed robbery

caelo ostenduntur, pedibusque informe cadaver

are shown unto heaven, and by its feet the shapeless cadaver

protrahitur. nequeunt expleri corda tuendo 265

is dragged forth. Men’s hearts cannot be satisfied with looking

terribiles oculos, vultum villosaque saetis

at the terrible eyes, the face, and the chest hairy with bristles

pectora semiferi atque exstinctos faucibus ignes.

of the half-wild creature, and at the fires extinguished from his jaws.

ex illo celebratus honos laetique minores

From that time this honour has been celebrated and happy young generations

servavere diem, primusque Potitius auctor

have observed the day, and Potitius, the first founder,

et domus Herculei custos Pinaria sacri 270

and the Pinarian house, the guardian of the Herculean shrine,

hanc aram luco statuit, quae maxima semper

set up this altar in the grove, an altar which will always be called ‘The Greatest’

dicetur nobis et erit quae maxima semper.

by us, and which will always be the Greatest.

quare agite, o iuvenes, tantarum in munere laudum

Wherefore come, O young men, in service of such great praiseworthy deeds

cingite fronde comas et pocula porgite dextris,

wreathe with foliage your hair and stretch out cups in your right hands,

communemque vocate deum et date vina volentes. 275

call on the god we share and willingly give him wine.”

dixerat, Herculea bicolor cum populus umbra

He had spoken, and the bicoloured poplar veiled his hair with Herculean shadow,

velavitque comas foliisque innexa pependit,

and it hung down entwined with leaves,

et sacer implevit dextram scyphus. ocius omnes

and the holy goblet filled his right hand. More swiftly do they all

in mensam laeti libant divosque precantur.

pour libations onto the table in their joy and pray to the gods.

tum pater Evandrus dextram complexus euntis

Then father Evander embracing the right hand of the one leaving

haeret inexpletus lacrimans ac talia fatur:

clings to it weeping inconsolably and speaks such words:

O mihi praeteritos referat si Iuppiter annos, 560

O if only Jupiter would bring back to me the years past,

qualis eram cum primam aciem Praeneste sub ipsa

as I was when I laid low the frontline under Praeneste itself

stravi scutorumque incendi victor acervos

and victoriously burned heaps of shields

et regem hac Erulum dextra sub Tartara misi,

and sent King Erulus down to Tartarus with this right hand,

nascenti cui tres animas Feronia mater

to whom, as he was born, his mother Feronia had given three lives

(horrendum dictu) dederat, terna arma movenda – 565

(horrendous to speak of), three sets of armour to be wielded –

ter leto sternendus erat; cui tunc tamen omnes

three times he had to be laid low in death; however at that time

abstulit haec animas dextra et totidem exuit armis:

this right hand took all his lives from him and stripped him of as many sets of armour.

non ego nunc dulci amplexu divellerer usquam,

[Had Jupiter restored my youth] I would not now be torn away from thy sweet embrace in any way,

nate, tuo, neque finitimo Mezentius umquam

my son, nor ever would Mezentius,

huic capiti insultans tot ferro saeva dedisset 570

trampling on this my neighbouring head, have caused so many cruel

funera, tam multis viduasset civibus urbem.

deaths with his sword, have deprived the city of so many citizens.

at vos, o superi, et divum tu maxime rector

But ye, O ones above, and thou, O greatest ruler of the gods,

Iuppiter, Arcadii, quaeso, miserescite regis

Jupiter, have pity on the Arcadian king, I beg,

et patrias audite preces. si numina vestra

and hear the prayers of a father. If your divine powers,

incolumem Pallanta mihi, si fata, reservant, 575

if the fates, keep Pallas safe for me,

si visurus eum vivo et venturus in unum,

if I live to see him and to come together [again],

vitam oro, patior quemvis durare laborem.

then I pray for life, I submit to endure any labour that thou likest.

sin aliquem infandum casum, Fortuna, minaris,

But if, O Fortune, thou threatenest some unspeakable fate,

nunc, nunc o liceat crudelem abrumpere vitam,

then now, oh now, may I be permitted to break off this cruel life,

dum curae ambiguae, dum spes incerta futuri, 580

while my cares lie in the balance, while hope of the future is uncertain,

dum te, care puer, mea sola et sera voluptas,

while I hold you, dear boy, my only and late-born delight,

complexu teneo, gravior neu nuntius aures

in my embrace, and let no news too grievous wound my ears.”

vulneret. haec genitor digressu dicta supremo

These words his father at their last parting

fundebat; famuli conlapsum in tecta ferebant.

was pouring forth; having collapsed, his servants made to carry him into the house.