

Aeneid Reading Excerpts

March 24, 2020

1 LIBER PRIMVS

Book One: Safe Haven After Storm

1.1 Line 202

Revocate animos, maestumque timorem mittite: forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit. Per varios casus, per tot discrimina rerum tendimus in Latium; sedes ubi fata quietas ostendunt; illic fas regna resurgere Troiae. Durate, et vosmet rebus servate secundis.

maestus *a.* sad, sorrowful

forsan *adv.* perhaps

olim *adv.* at that time; once upon a time; one day

memini *-isse* I remember

iuvabit 3rd singular future active indicative of *iuvo*

casus *casus n.* fall; accident; misfortune; (grammar) case

tot so many

discrimen *-mimis n.* distinction; division; crisis

sedes *-dis f.* seat; place, settlement

quietus ppp of *quiesco*. at rest; peaceful; tranquil

ostendo *-dere, -di, -tum* I expose to view, exhibit

fas *n.* divine law; the will of God

Translation Call up your courage again. Dismiss your grief and fear. A joy it will be one day, perhaps, to remember even this. Through so many hard straits, so many twists and turns our course holds firm for Latium. There Fate holds out a homeland, calm, at peace. There the gods decree the kingdom of Troy will rise again. Bear up. Save your strength for better time to come.

1.2 Line 278

His ego nec metas rerum nec tempora pono; imperium sine fine dedi.

his plural masculine dative of *hic*. for them

meta -ae f. boundary limit

dedi 1st singular perfect indicative active of *do*

Translation On them I set no limits, space or time: I have granted them power, empire without end.

1.3 Line 286

Nascetur pulchra Troianus origine Caesar, imperium oceano, famam qui terminet astris.

nascetur 3rd singular future active indicative of *nascor*

termino -are, -avi, -atum I mark off; I define; I finish, end. *terminet* 3rd singular present active subjunctive

Translation From that noble blood will arise a Trojan Caesar, his empire bound by the Ocean, his glory by the stars.

1.4 Line 381

Bis denis Phrygium conscendi navibus aequor, matre dea monstrante viam, data fata secutus.

bis *adv.* twice

deni *a. pl.* ten each

aequor -ris f. even surface; the sea

matre dea monstrante viam (ablative absolute)

monstro -are, -avi, -atum I show, indicate; I advise. *monstrans* *pap*

secutus *ppp* of *sequor*

Translation I launched out on the Phrygian sea with twenty ships, my goddess mother marking the way, and followed hard on the course the Fates had charted.

1.5 Line 461

En Priamus! Sunt hic etiam sua praemia laudi.

praemium -i n. reward

laus laudis f. praise, glory. dative of reference *laudi*

Translation There's Priam, look! Even here, merit will have its true reward.

1.6 Line 627

Quare agite, O tectis, iuvenes, succedite nostris. Me quoque per multos similis fortuna labores iactatam hac demum voluit consistere terra. Non ignara mali, miseris succurrere disco.

tectum -i n. roof; ceiling; canopy

demum adv. finally

multos labores (object of *per*)

voluit 3rd singular perfect indicative active of *volo*

consisto -sistere, -stiti, -stitum I stop; I agree with; I continue

Translation So come, young soldiers, welcome to our house. My destiny, harrying me with trials hard as yours, led me as well, at last, to anchor in this land. Schooled in suffering, now I learn to comfort those who suffer too.

1.7 Line 753

‘Immo age, et a prima dic, hospes, origine nobis insidias,’ inquit, ‘Danaum, casusque tuorum, erroresque tuos; ...’

a prima origine from the very beginning

hospes hospitis m. host; guest; stranger

insidia -ae f. ambush

error erroris m. wandering; wavering

Translation “Wait, come, my guest,” she urges, “tell us your own story, start to finish - the ambush laid by the Greeks, the pain your people suffered, the wanderings you have faced.”

2 LIBER SECVNDVS

Book Two: The Final Hours of Troy

2.1 Line 2

Infandum, regina, iubes renovare dolorem, Troianas ut opes et lamentabile regnum eruerint Danai, quaeque ipse miserrima vidi et quorum pars magna fui.

infandus a. unspeakable

ops opis f. sg. strength, power; pl. wealth

eruo -ere, -i, -tum I cast or throw out

Translation Words can't express, my queen, what you bid me to relive, all the rueful pain: telling how the Danaans destroyed Troy's wealth and its power makes for a dirge of lament. Heartbreaking events. And I saw them, I was a major part of them all.

2.2 Line 8

et iam nox umida caelo praecipitat suadentque cadentia sidera somnos.

umidus *a.* humid

praecipito *-are, -avi, -atum* I cast down; I throw headlong

suadeo *-dere, -si, -sum* I urge; I suade

cadentia plural present participle neuter nominative of *cado*

sidus *sidera, n.* star

somnus *-i, m.* sleep

Translation And, besides, night is shedding dew from sky, and stars as they fade persuade us to slumber.

2.3 Line 54

et, si fata deum, si mens non laeva fuisset, impulerat ferro Argolicas foedare latebras, Troiaque nunc staret, Priamique arx alta maneres.

mens *mentis, f.* mind

laevus *a.* left; awkward; unlucky

fuisse subjunctive pluperfect 3rd sg. of *sum*

impello *-ellere, -uli, -ulsum* I push; I impel.

foedō *-are, -avi, -atum* I make foul or filthy; I pollute; I disgrace

laetebra *-ae, f.* hiding place; lair

Translation Had not god-given fates, divine mind (and our own) been against us, that would have driven our swords to turn Argive lair into bloodbath, Troy would endure to this day; you'd still stand, fortress of Priam.

2.4 Line 92

adflictus vitam in tenebris luctuque trahebam

affligo *-igere, -ixi, -ictum* I strike; I afflict

luctus *luctus, m.* grief

Translation I was crushed too; and I trudged through life in the dark grip of anguish.

2.5 Line 195

Talibus insidiis periurique arte Sinonis credita res, captique dolis lacrimisque coactis quos neque Tydides nec Larisaeus Achilles, non anni domuere decem, non mille carinae.

talīs a. such

insidiae -arum f. pl. ambush, plot

dolus -i, m. trick

cogo cogere, coegi, coactum I collect; I force

domo -are, -ui, -itum I tame; I subdue.

Translation So spoke Sinon, an artist in perjury, setting his ambush. And we believed him. He fooled us with well-staged weeping and ruses, conquering men neither Tydeus' sons nor Larissa's Achilles, not even war's ten years and its thousand vessels could vanquish.

2.6 Line 294

hos cape fatorum comites, his moenia quaere magna pererrato statues quae denique ponto.

pererrato ponto the sea having been traversed

denique adv. finally

Translation Take them as fate's fellow travellers, find great walls to protect them, walls you will build when your sea-borne wanderings reach their conclusion.

2.7 Line 316

furor iraque mentem praecipitat, pulchrumque mori succurrit in armis.

praecipito -are, -avi, -atum I cast down

succurro -urrere, -urri, -ursum I come to mind

Translation Wrath and fury have jettisoned reason. Taking its place is a slogan: that death, under arms, has its beauty.

2.8 Line 351

excessere omnes adytis arisque relictis di quibus imperium hoc steterat; succurritis urbi incensae. moriamur et in media arma ruamus. una salus victis nullam sperare salutem.

excesserunt or excessere 3rd plural perfect indicative active of *excedo*

adytum -i, n. shrine

ara -ae, f. altar

relictus ppp. of *relinquo*

incendo *-endere, -endi, -ensum* I set on fire

ruo *ruere, rui, rutum* I rush

salus *salutis, f.* safety; well-being; salvation; greeting

Translation All those gods, on whose strength this empire stood, have forsaken altars and shrines. They're all gone. You are running to save an already burned city. So let's die, let's rush to the thick of the fighting. There's just one way to live with defeat: Don't hope to outlive it!

2.9 Line 656

nam quod consilium aut quae iam fortuna dabatur?

aut or

Translation What other course did fortune allow? What choice was I granted?

2.10 Line 668

arma, viri, ferte arma; vocat lux ultima victos. reddite me Danais; sinite instaurata revisam proelia. numquam omnes hodie moriemur inulti.

sino *sinere, sivi, situm* I allow

instauero *-are, -avi, -atum* I repeat; I renew; I restore

proelium *-i, n.* battle

Translation Arms, men, stand to your arms! Life's last day summons the vanquished! Throw me upon the Danaans again, let me go back and restart combat. Never shall all of us die this day without vengeance.

2.11 Line 682

ecce levis summo de vertice visus Iuli fundere lumen apex.

levis *a.* light, swift

visus ppp. of *video* (with *apex*)

fundo *fundere, fudi, fusum* I pour.

Translation Look, a slim halo of light seems to shine from the crown of Iulus' head.

2.12 Line 725

ferimur per opaca locorum.

Translation On we go through the darkest of places.

2.13 Line 780

longa tibi exsilia et vastum maris aequor arandum, et terram Hesperiam venies, ubi Lydius arva inter opima virum leni fluit agmine Thybris.

vastus *a.* empty; vast

aequor *-is, n.* even surface; sea

aro *-are, -avi, -atum* I plow

arvum *-i, n.* field; farm land

opimus *a.* fertile

lenis *a.* soothe, gentle

agmen *agminis, n.* a train of something; line; stream, current

Translation Long years of exile await; you must plough vast stretches of salt sea. Then you will reach the Hesperian land, where the Lydian Tiber flows a straight course without waves amid farmlands fruitful and peopled.

2.14 Line 792

ter conatus ibi collo dare bracchia circum; ter frustra comprehensa manus effugit imago, par levibus ventis volucrique simillima somno.

conor *conari, conatus sum* I attempt

collum *-i, n.* neck

frustra *adv.* in vain

comprehensus ppp. of *comprehendo*

imago *imaginis, f.* image, ghost

ventus *venti, m.* wind

volucer *-cris, -cre* flying; winged

similis *a.* similar (comp. *similior*, superl. *simillimus*; + dat.)

Translation Three times I tried to encircle her neck with my arms as I stood there, three times, alas, all in vain. For the image eluded my grasping hands, like a slight puff of air, as a dream flutters off from a dreamer.

3 LIBER TERTIVS

Book Three: Landfalls, Ports of Call

3.1 Line 114

ergo agite et divum ducunt qua iussa sequamur: placemus ventos et Cnosia regna petamus.

divum archaic gen. pl.

Translation So: where gods' bidding leads, let us follow! Come, let's charm the good winds, let's sail for the kingdom of Knossos!

3.2 Line 190

hanc quoque deserimus sedem paucisque relictis vela damus vastumque cava trabe currimus aequor.

velum -i, n. the sail of a ship

trabs -bis, f. timber; tree trunk

Translation So, we deserted this settlement too - leaving only a small group - sails set, speeding across the vast seas in our hollows of timber.

3.3 Line 203

tris adeo incertos caeca caligine soles erramus pelago, totidem sine sidere noctes.

adeo adv. so much; (with *ut*) to such an extent that

incertus a. uncertain; obscure

caecus a. blind

caligo -ginis, f. fog; gloom

pelagus -i, m. sea

Translation Three full cycles of unseen sun we wander in sultry darkness over the deep, the same number of nights without starlight.

3.4 Line 284

interea magnum sol circumvolvitur annum et glacialis hiems Aquilonibus asperat undas.

hiems -mis, f. winter

aspero -are, -avi, -atum I make rough (*asper*)

unda *-ae, f.* wave

Translation Meanwhile, the sun has completed one more long year in its orbit; icy winter churns seas wild with the blasts of the north wind.

3.5 Line 394

nec tu mensarum morsus horresce futuros: fata viam invenient ademitque vocatus Apollo.

mensa *-ae, f.* table; altar

morsus ppp. of *modeo* (I bite). pained

horresco *-escere, -ui* I become terrified; I start to dread

Translation Don't live in terror about this impending gnawing of tables. Fates will discover a way; when you call him, Apollo will be there.

3.6 Line 564

tollimur in caelum curvato gurgite, et idem subducta ad Manis imos desedimus unda. ter scopuli clamorem inter cava saxa dedere, ter spumam elisam et rorantia vidimus astra.

girges *-gitis, f.* whirlpool; eddy; gulf

subductus ppp. of *subduco*

manes *manium, m. pl.* the spirits of dead ancestors; deified shades

inus *a.* (or *infimus*) superl. of *inferus*

scopulus *-i, m.* crag, rock

saxum *-i, n.* stone

dedere *dederunt*

spuma *-ae, f.* foam

elusus ppp. of *elido*. knocked out; shattered

roro *-are, -avi, -atum* I drip

Translation Up to the heavens we're raised on the spiralling waves, the next moment down we sink to the depth of the dead as the waters are sucked back. Three times cliffs amid hollows of rock roar thunderous echoes; three times we see foam wash clear, see stars dripping water.

4 LIBER QVARTVS

Book Four: The Tragic Queen of Carthage

4.1 Line 4

haerent infixi pectore vultus verbaque nec placidam membris dat cura quietem.

haereo *-rere, -si, -sum* I stick, cling; I remain fixed

infigo *-gere, -xi, -xum* I fasten, fix

pectus *-oris, f.* chest

placidus *a.* placid, gentle, quiet

membrum *-i, n.* limb of the body; member

quies *quietis, f.* rest, repose; dream

Translation Each word he's spoken is fixed in her heart, each facial expression. Anguish grants no peaceful repose, no respite for tired limbs.

4.2 Line 98

sed quis erit modus, aut quo nunc certamine tanto? quin potius pacem aeternam pactosque hymenaeos exercemus?

certamen *-minis, n.* contest, struggle; battle

quin *adv.* why not? without; even

potius *adv.* rather (*potior* comp. of *potis*)

hymenaeus *-i, m.* marriage

Translation Where will you stop, how far will you go in your wild competition? Why not, instead, work together, for endless peace and a marriage sealing it?

4.3 Line 174

Fama, malum qua non aliud velocius ullum.

ullus *a.* any

Translation Rumor, swiftest of all the evils in the world.

4.4 Line 314

mene fugis? per ego has lacrimas dextramque tuam te (quando aliud mihi iam miserae nihil ipsa reliqui), per conubia nostra, per inceptos hymenaeos, si bene quid de te merui, fuit aut tibi quicquam dulce meum, miserere domus labentis et istam, oro, si quis adhuc precibus locus, exue mentem.

quando *adv.* when; because

miserae (dative)

conubium *-i, n.* marriage

mereo *-ere, -ui, -itum* I earn

quicquam anything

labor *labi, lapsus sum* I slip; I fall; I vanish (pap *labens*)

prex *-cis, f.* prayer

exuo *-ere, -i, -tum* I extract, take out

Translation Could you be running from me? Let me urge you, with tears, by your right hand (thanks to my pitiful conduct that's all I have left now to swear by), urge you by love we shared, by the steps we have taken to marriage: if I have ever earned your thanks for services rendered, or given you any pleasure, I beg you, if prayer still has meaning, pity this falling house, shrug off your present intention.

4.5 Line 380

neque te teneo neque dicta refello: i, sequere Italiam ventis, pete regna per undas. spero equidem mediis, si quid pia numina possunt, supplicia hausurum scopulis et nomine Dido saepe vocaturum. sequar atris ignibus absens et, cum frigida mors anima seduxerit artus, omnibus umbra locis adero.

refello *-ere, -i* I refute

equidem *adv.* truly, indeed, certainly; for my part

supplicium *-i, n.* suffering, torture

hausurus (*hausturus*) fap of *haurio* (I drain; I devour) (its direct object *supplicia*)

scopulus *-i, m.* crag; rock

ater *a.* black; gloomy; obscure

anima abl. of separation

artus *-us, m.* limbs

Translation I won't try to keep you, or craft a rebuttal. Go with the winds! Pursue Italy! Chase across seas for your kingdoms! My hope, if righteous forces prevail, is that, out on some mid-sea reefs, you'll drink retribution in deep draughts, often invoking Dido's name. When I'm absent, I'll chase you with dark fire! When cold death snaps away body from soul, evil man, my dank ghost will haunt you.

4.6 Line 412

improbe Amor, quid non mortalia pectora cogis!

improbis *a.* excessive; greedy

cogo *-gere, -egi, -actum* I collect; I force

pectus *-oris, f.* chest; heart; soul; person

Translation Ruthless Love! Hearts break, humans die. How far must you force us?

4.7 Line 618

nec, cum se sub leges pacis iniquae tradiderit, regno aut optata luce fruatur, sed cadat ante diem mediaque inhumatus harena.

iniquus *a.* unjust

optatus ppp of *opto*. wished; chosen

fruor *frui, fructus sum* I enjoy

humo *-are, -avi, -atum* I bury

Translation When he surrenders himself to an unjust peace and its strict terms, grant him no joy in his realm or the light he so loves. Let him lie dead, well before his due day, halfway up a beach and unburied.

4.8 Line 628

litora litoribus contraria, fluctibus undas imprecor, arma armis: pugnent ipsique nepotesque.

nipos *-tis, m./f.* grandson; granddaughter; nephew; niece; descendant

Translation Menace of coast against coast and of waters hurled against waters, arms against arms I invoke. Let them fight, they themselves and their grandsons!

4.9 Line 666

concussam bacchatur Fama per urbem.

concutio *-tere, -ssi, -ssum* I shake violently

Translation Rumour now raged wild through a city now left bludgeoned.

5 LIBER QVINTVS

Book Five: Funeral Games for Anchises

5.1 Line 394

non laudis amor nec gloria cessit pulsa metu.

cedo *cedere, cessi, cessum* (intr.) I go; I result; I withdraw; I disappear, vanish; (tr.) I concede

pello *pellere, pepuli, pulsum* I push; I expel; I set in motion

metus *-us, m.* fear

Translation Fear hasn't pummelled my love of the glory, or my pride, into quitting.

5.2 Line 414

his ego suetus, dum melior viris sanguis dabat, aemula necdum temporibus geminis canebat sparsa senectus.

suetus ppp. of *suesco*, accustomed

viris acc. pl. of *vis*

sanguis *sanguinis, m.* blood

aemula *a.* rivaling, envious

necdum *adv.* before

geminus *a.* paired

caneo *-ere, -ui* I am white

spargo *-gere, -si, -sus* I scatter

Translation These were my usual gear when more vigorous blood gave me strength, before my greatest rival, old age, with time on his side, spattered both my temples with whiteness.

5.3 Line 465

infelix, quae tanta animum dementia cepit? non viris alias conversaue numina sentis? cede deo.

Translation What utter madness has taken your mind, now you find your ambitions unfulfilled? Don't you sense your opponent's strength or the changing favour of heaven? Give way to the god!

5.4 Line 609

illa viam celerans per mille coloribus arcum nulli visa cito decurrit tramite virgo.

celero 1st I hasten

arcus -us arc, arch

nulli dat. of agent depending on *visa*

cito adv. quickly; soon

trames *tramitis*, *m.* footpath

Translation Iris speeds on her way, down a path in the skies through a rainbow's thousand hues, not perceived as a girl.

5.5 Line 680

Sed non idcirco flamma atque incendia viris indomitas posuere.

idcirco adv. on that account; for this reason

indomitus a. untamed

posuere 3rd pl. pf. of *pono*

Translation Fire, however, and flame were not thereby inspired to diminish their invincible force.

5.6 Line 709

nate dea, quo fata trahunt retrahuntque sequamur; quidquid erit, superanda omnis fortuna ferendo est.

ferendo by endurance (gerund)

Translation Child of a goddess, let's follow where fate drags us, onwards or backwards. Each turn of fortune we meet, we survive, and defeat, by endurance.

5.7 Line 820

subsidunt undae tumidumque sub axe tonanti sternitur aequor aquis, fugiunt vasto aethere nimbi.

tumidus a. swollen

tono -are, -ui, -itum I thunder

sterno *sternere*, *stravi*, *stratum* I spread

nimbus -i, m. rain cloud

Translation Waves subside and the heaving sea-swell settles to stillness under his axle's roar; clouds vanish in vastness of sunlight.

6 LIBER SEXTVS

Book Six: The Kingdom of the Dead

6.1 Line 74

foliis tantum ne carmina manda, ne turbata volent rapidis ludibria ventis; ipsa canas oro.

folium -i, n. leave

mando 1st I order; I commit

turbo 1st I disturb

ludibrium -i, n. mockery; wantonness

Translation One thing I ask: don't encode your predictions in leaves, blessed lady, sing them yourself, I entreat. For I fear they'll fly off and be scattered, mocked by the plundering winds.

6.2 Line 86

bella, horrida bella, et Thybrim multo spumantem sanguine cerno.

spumo 1st I foam, I froth.

Translation I see warfare, hideous warfare, the Tiber frothing with torrents of bloodshed.

6.3 Line 133

quod si tantus amor menti, si tanta cupido est bis Stygios innare lacus, bis nigra videre Tartara, et insano iuvat indulgere labori, accipe quae peragenda prius.

lacus -us lake

perago -agere, -egi, -actum I pierce; I traverse

Translation Yet, if there's love so strong in your mind, so mighty a passion twice to float over the Stygian lakes, twice gaze upon deep black Tartarus, if it's your pleasure to wanton in labours of madness, grasp what you must do first.

6.4 Line 329

centum errant annos volitantque haec litora circum; tum demum admissi stagna exoptata revisunt.

volito 1st I fly about; I hover

demum adv. at last

stagnum *-i, n.* waters

Translation Lost, they must pass a full century wandering, haunting this shoreline, then, at long last, they may pass, and revisit the waters they've yearned for.

6.5 Line 376

desine fata deum flecti sperare precando, sed cape dicta memor, duri solacia casus.

desino *desinere, desii, desitum* I leave off; I stop

flecto *-ctere, -xi, -xum* I bend

precor *-ari, -atus sum* I beseech

durus *a.* hard

solacium *-i, n.* comfort, relief, solace

duri casus objective gen.

Translation Cease to hope fate, once spoken by gods, can be altered by prayer! Grasp and remember these words to console you in bitter misfortune.

6.6 Line 724

Principio caelum ac terras camposque liquentis lucentemque globum lunae Titaniaque astra spiritus intus alit, totamque infusa per artus mens agitat molem et magno se corpore miscet.

lucens pap. of *luceo*

intus *adv.* within

alo *alere, alui, altum/alitum* I foster

artus *-us, m.* limb

agito 1st I put in motion

moles *molis, f.* mass

misceo *miscere, miscui, mixtum* I mix

Translation First, you must grasp that the heaven and earth and the sea's liquid flatness, also the gleaming sphere of the moon, constellations, the huge sun feed on internal energy. Mind, which suffuses these cosmic limbs, pervades the vast body and keeps the mass vital.

6.7 Line 788

huc geminas nunc flecte acies, hanc aspice gentem Romanosque tuos. hic Caesar et omnis Iuli progenies magnum caeli ventura sub axem. hic vir, hic est, tibi quem promitti saepius audis, Augustus Caesar, divi genus, aurea condet saecula qui rursus Latio regnata per arva Saturno quondam, super et Garamantas et Indos proferet imperium; iacet extra sidera tellus, extra anni solisque vias, ubi caelifer Atlas axem umero torquet stellis ardentibus aptum.

geminus *a.* paired

acies *-ei, f.* sharp edge

progenies *-ei, f.* race, family, progeny

venturus fap. of *venio*

saepius comp. of *saepe*

aureus *a.* golden

rursus *adv.* backward; on the contrary; in return

tellus *-telluris, f.* earth; land

caelifer *-ra, -rum* supporting the sky or heavens

umerus *-i, m.* shoulder

torqueo *torquere, torsi, tortum* I twist

ardeo *ardere, arsi, arsum* I burn; I blow

Translation Marshal your eyes' twin gaze this way now! Look at this people, look at your Romans! For Caesar is here, all Iulus' descendants, marching towards their places beneath sky's arching expanses. Here's the man you've heard promised to you so often, he's here now: Caesar Augustus, born of a god, who will one day establish all through the farmlands of Latium once, long ago, ruled by Saturn, Ages of Gold. He'll extend Roman power beyond far Garamantes, east beyond India too, to a land that lies under no mapped stars, outside the paths of the year and the sun, where sky-bearing Atlas spins on his shoulders the blaze of the star-studded orb of the heavens.

6.8 Line 847

excudent alii spirantia mollius aera (credo equidem), vivos ducent de marmore vultus, orabunt causas melius, caelique meatus describent radio et surgentia sidera dicent: tu regere imperio populos, Romane, memento (hae tibi erunt artes), pacique imponere morem, parcere subiectis et debellare superbos.

spirans pap. of *spiro*

mollis *-e, a.* swift

meatus *-us, m.* movement

radio abl. of means depending on *describent*

mos *moris*, *m.* manner, way (of behaving); behavior, conduct. custom, habit, practice, usage, wont. (predominantly plural) character; disposition, inclination, temperament. will, self-will, humor, caprice.

subiectus ppp. of *subicio*

debello 1st I conquer, subdue

Translation Others will hammer out bronzes that breathe in more lifelike and gentler ways, I suspect, create truer expressions of life out of marble, make better speeches, or plot, with the sweep of their compass, the heaven's movements, predict the ascent of the sky's constellations. Well, let them! You, who are Romans, recall how to govern mankind with your power. These will be your special 'Arts': the enforcement of peace as a habit, mercy for those cast down and relentless war upon proud men.