

# Baucis & Philemon

## Section 5

Lines 50-63: The Climb & The Transformation

*Ovid, Metamorphoses VIII*

### Grammar Key

 Subject

 Object


 Verb

 Genitive

 Dative

 Ablative

 Preposition

 Conjunction

 Adverb

## The Climb (Lines 50-54)

50 parent<sup>2</sup> ambō<sup>1</sup> baculīs<sup>5</sup> -que<sup>3</sup> levātī<sup>4</sup>

51 nītuntur<sup>6</sup> longō<sup>9</sup> vestīgia<sup>8</sup> pōnere<sup>7</sup> clīvō.<sup>10</sup>

52 tantum<sup>2</sup> aberant<sup>1</sup> summō,<sup>3</sup> quantum<sup>4</sup> semel<sup>6</sup> īre<sup>9</sup> sagitta<sup>5</sup>

53 missa<sup>7</sup> potest;<sup>8</sup> flexēre<sup>1</sup> oculōs<sup>2</sup> et<sup>3</sup> mersā<sup>6</sup> palūde<sup>7</sup>

54 cētera<sup>5</sup> prōspiciunt,<sup>4</sup> tantum<sup>8</sup> sua<sup>9</sup> tēcta<sup>10</sup> manēre.<sup>11</sup>

### Vocabulary

- 50 *pāreō, -ēre* to obey  
*ambō, ambae, ambō* both  
*baculum, -ī (n)* staff, walking stick  
*levō, -āre* to lift, support  
51 *nītor, nītī* to strive (dep.)  
*vestigium, -ī (n)* footstep  
*pōnō, -ere* to place  
*longus, -a, -um* long  
*clīvus, -ī (m)* slope, hill  
52 *tantum... quantum* as much... as  
*absum, abesse* to be away from  
*summus, -a, -um* the top (of)  
*semel* once

- eō, īre* to go  
*sagitta, -ae (f)* arrow  
53 *mittō, -ere* to send  
*possum, posse* to be able  
*flectō, -ere* to turn, bend  
*oculus, -ī (m)* eye  
*mergō, -ere* to sink, drown  
*palūs, -ūdis (f)* swamp, marsh  
54 *cētera* the rest, other things  
*prōspiciō, -ere* to look out upon  
*tantum* only (adv.)  
*tēctum, -ī (n)* home, roof  
*maneō, -ēre* to remain

## Style Notes: Lines 50-54

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### 1. Unity of the Couple — ambō

Line 50

*parent ambō*

### 2. Historic Present

Line 51

*nītuntur*

### 3. Arrow Simile

Lines 52-53

*tantum aberant summō, quantum semel ire sagitta missa potest*

### 4. Enjambment

Lines 52-53

*sagitta / missa*

### 5. Divine Favour — sua tēcta

Line 54

*tantum sua tēcta manēre*

## The Transformation (Lines 55-59)

55 dum<sup>2</sup> -que<sup>1</sup> ea<sup>4</sup> mīrantur,<sup>3</sup> dum<sup>5</sup> dēflent<sup>6</sup> fāta<sup>7</sup> suōrum,<sup>8</sup>

56 illa<sup>9</sup> vetus<sup>10</sup> dominīs<sup>15</sup> etiam<sup>13</sup> casa<sup>11</sup> parva<sup>12</sup> duōbus<sup>14</sup>

57 vertitur<sup>16</sup> in<sup>17</sup> templum;<sup>18</sup> furcās<sup>3</sup> subiēre<sup>2</sup> columnae,<sup>1</sup>

58 strāmina<sup>4</sup> flāvēscunt<sup>5</sup> aurāta<sup>7</sup> -que<sup>6</sup> tēcta<sup>8</sup> videntur<sup>9</sup>

59 caelātae<sup>12</sup> -que<sup>10</sup> forēs<sup>11</sup> adoperta<sup>15</sup> -que<sup>13</sup> marmore<sup>16</sup> tellus.<sup>14</sup>

### Vocabulary

- 55 *dum* while  
*mīror, mīrārī* to marvel at (dep.)  
*dēfleō, -ēre* to weep for  
*fātum, -ī (n)* fate, death  
*suī, suōrum* their own (people)
- 56 *ille, illa, illud* that  
*vetus, veteris* old  
*dominus, -ī (m)* master  
*etiam* even  
*casa, -ae (f)* cottage  
*parvus, -a, -um* small
- 57 *vertō, -ere* to turn  
*templum, -ī (n)* temple

- furca, -ae (f)* forked stick, prop  
*subeō, -īre* to go under, replace  
*columna, -ae (f)* column
- 58 *strāmen, -inis (n)* straw, thatch  
*flāvēscō, -ere* to turn yellow/golden  
*aurātus, -a, -um* gilded, golden  
*videor, vidērī* to seem (pass.)
- 59 *caelō, -āre* to carve, engrave  
*foris, -is (f)* door  
*adoperiō, -īre* to cover  
*marmor, -oris (n)* marble  
*tellus, -ūris (f)* ground, earth

## Style Notes: Lines 55-59

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### 6. Anaphora — Contrasting Emotions

Line 55

*dum mīrantur... dum dēflent*

### 7. Hyperbaton / Delayed Verb

Lines 56-57

*illa vetus... casa parva... vertitur*

### 8. Historic Present — Transformation

Lines 57-59

*vertitur... subiēre... flāvēscunt... videntur*

### 9. Polysyndeton

Lines 58-59

*aurāta-que... caelātae-que... adoperta-que*

## Jupiter's Speech (Lines 60-63)

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60 tālia<sup>4</sup> tum<sup>1</sup> placidō<sup>5</sup> Sāturnius<sup>2</sup> ēdidit<sup>3</sup> ōre:<sup>6</sup>

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61 'dīcite,<sup>8</sup> iūste<sup>1</sup> senex<sup>2</sup> et<sup>3</sup> fēmina<sup>4</sup> coniuge<sup>7</sup> iūstō<sup>6</sup>

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62 digna,<sup>5</sup> quid<sup>9</sup> optētis.<sup>10</sup> cum<sup>3</sup> Baucide<sup>4</sup> pauca<sup>2</sup> locūtus<sup>1</sup>

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63 iūdicium<sup>8</sup> superīs<sup>9</sup> aperit<sup>6</sup> commūne<sup>7</sup> Philēmōn:<sup>5</sup>

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### Vocabulary

60 tālis, -e such

tum then

placidus, -a, -um calm, peaceful

Sāturnius, -ī (m) son of Saturn (Jupiter)

ēdō, -ere to utter, speak

ōs, ōris (n) mouth, expression

61 dīcō, -ere to speak, say

iūstus, -a, -um just, righteous

senex, senis (m) old man

fēmina, -ae (f) woman

coniūnx, -iugis (m/f) spouse

62 dignus, -a, -um worthy (+ abl.)

optō, -āre to wish for

cum + abl. with

paucus, -a, -um few, a little

loquor, loquī to speak (dep.)

63 iūdicium, -ī (n) judgement, decision

superī, -ōrum (m.pl) the gods above

aperiō, -īre to reveal, open

commūnis, -e shared, joint

## Style Notes: Lines 60-63

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### 10. Emotive Adjective — placidō ōre

Line 60

*placidō... ōre*

### 11. Polyptoton — iūste... iūstō

Lines 61-62

*iūste senex... coniuge iūstō digna*

### 12. Shared Decision — commūne

Line 63

*iūdicium... commūne*