

Baucis & Philemon

Section 3

Lines 26-35: Arrangements for the Unexpected Guests

Ovid, Metamorphoses VIII

Grammar Key

 Subject

 Object


 Verb

 Genitive

 Dative

 Ablative

 Preposition

 Conjunction

 Adverb

 Gerundive

The Bath (Lines 26-30)

26 **intereā**¹ **mediās**³ **fallunt**² **sermōnibus**⁵ **hōrās**⁴

27 **sentīrī**⁹ **-que**⁶ **moram**⁸ **prohibent**⁷ **erat**¹ **alveus**³ **illic**²

28 **fāgineus**⁴ **dūrā**⁸ **clāvō**⁶ **suspēnsus**⁵ **ab**⁷ **ānsā**⁹

29 **is**¹ **tepidīs**³ **implētur**² **aquīs**⁴ **artūs**⁷ **-que**⁵ **fovendōs**⁸

30 **accipit**⁶ **in**¹ **mediō**² **torus**⁴ **est**³ **dē**⁵ **mollibus**⁶ **ulvīs**⁷

- 26 **intereā** meanwhile
medius, -a, -um middle, intervening
fallō, -ere to deceive, while away
sermō, -ōnis (m) conversation
hōra, -ae (f) hour
27 **sentīō, -īre** to perceive, realise
mora, -ae (f) delay
prohibeō, -ēre to prevent
alveus, -ī (m) bathtub, basin
illic there
28 **fāgineus, -a, -um** made of beech
dūrus, -a, -um hard, sturdy

- clāvus, -ī (m)** nail
suspendō, -ere to hang, suspend
ānsa, -ae (f) handle
29 **is, ea, id** this, that
tepidus, -a, -um warm, lukewarm
impleō, -ēre to fill
artus, -ūs (m) limb
foveō, -ēre to warm, cherish
30 **accipīō, -ere** to receive
torus, -ī (m) mattress, couch
mollis, -e soft
ulva, -ae (f) sedge (marsh grass)

Style Notes: Lines 26-30

1. Transition — *intereā*

Line 26

intereā mediās fallunt sermōnibus hōrās

2. Personification — *fallunt hōrās*

Line 26

mediās fallunt sermōnibus hōrās

3. Passive Infinitive — *sentīrī*

Line 27

sentīrī-que moram prohibent

4. Material Adjective — *fāgineus*

Line 28

erat alveus illic fāgineus

5. Hyperbaton — *dūrā... ānsā*

Line 28

dūrā clāvō suspēnsus ab ānsā

6. Gerundive — *artūs fovendōs*

Lines 29-30

artūs-que fovendōs accipit

7. Sensory Detail — *mollibus ulvīs*

Line 30

torus est dē mollibus ulvīs

The Bed (Lines 31-35)

31 **impositus**⁸ **lectō**⁹ **spondā**¹⁰ **pedibus**¹² **-que**¹¹ **salignis**;¹³

32 **vestibus**³ **hunc**² **vēlant**¹ **quās**⁴ **nōn**⁵ **nisi**⁸ **tempore**¹⁰ **fēstō**⁹

33 **sternere**⁷ **cōnsuērant**,⁶ **sed**¹¹ **et**¹² **haec**¹³ **vīlis**¹⁷ **-que**¹⁶ **vetus**¹⁹ **-que**¹⁸

34 **vestis**¹⁴ **erat**,¹⁵ **lectō**²³ **nōn**²⁰ **indignanda**²¹ **salignō**.²²

35 **accubuēre**² **dei**.¹

- 31 **impōnō, -ere** to place on
lectus, -ī (m) bed, couch
sponda, -ae (f) bed-frame
pēs, pedis (m) foot
salignus, -a, -um made of willow
32 **vestis, -is (f)** coverlet, cloth
vēlō, -āre to cover
nisi except, unless

- fēstus, -a, -um** festive, holiday
33 **sternō, -ere** to spread
cōnsuēscō, -ere to be accustomed
vīlis, -e cheap, worthless
vetus, veteris old, ancient
34 **indignor, -ārī** to deem unworthy
35 **accumbō, -ere** to recline (at table)
deus, -ī (m) god

Style Notes: Lines 31-35

8. Repetition — lectō... salignō

Lines 31 & 34

lectō spondā pedibus-que salignīs... lectō nōn indignanda salignō

9. Temporal Marker — tempore fēstō

Lines 32-33

quās nōn nisi tempore fēstō sternere cōsuērānt

10. Polysyndeton — vīlis-que vetus-que

Lines 33-34

haec vīlis-que vetus-que vestis erat

11. Litotes — nōn indignanda

Line 34

lectō nōn indignanda salignō

12. Syncopated Perfect — accubuēre

Line 35

accubuēre deī

13. Revelation — deī

Line 35

accubuēre deī