

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 intereā¹ mediās³ fallunt² sermōnibus⁵ hōrās⁴

27 sentīrī⁹ -que⁶ moram⁸ prohibit.⁷ erat¹ alveus³ illic²

28 fāgineus⁴ dūrā⁸ clāvō⁶ suspēnsus⁵ ab⁷ ānsā;⁹

29 is¹ tepidīs³ implētur² aquīs⁴ artūs⁷ -que⁵ fovendōs⁸

30 accipit.⁶ in¹ mediō² torus⁴ est³ dē⁵ mollibus⁶ ulvīs⁷

26 **intereā** meanwhile

medius, -a, -um middle, intervening

fallō, -ere to deceive, while away

sermō, -ōnis (m) conversation

hōra, -ae (f) hour

27 **sentiō, -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 **accipiō, -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 impositus⁸ lectō⁹ spondā¹⁰ pedibus¹² -que¹¹ salignīs;¹³

32 vestibus³ hunc² vēlant¹ quās⁴ nōn⁵ nisi⁸ tempore¹⁰ fēstō⁹

33 sternere⁷ cōsuērant,⁶ sed¹¹ et¹² haec¹³ vīlis¹⁷ -que¹⁶ vetus¹⁹ -que¹⁸

34 vestis¹⁴ erat,¹⁵ lectō²³ nōn²⁰ indignanda²¹ salignō.²²

35 accubuēre² deī.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
cōsuēscō, -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 cōsuērant

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