

VALERIUS FLACCUS'
ARGONAUTICA
BOOK 1

*EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION,
TRANSLATION,
AND COMMENTARY*

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Sigla

ω	consensus of γ and δ (or γ and C when f is wanting; γ and f when C is wanting)
γ	consensus of $L\alpha$ (but at 393–442, where S is wanting, = consensus of LV)
L	Laurentianus plut. 39, 38 (1.1–8.467) 1429 aut paulo ante <i>Manuscripts derived from L:</i>
D	Laurentianus plut. 39, 35, 1429
U	Vaticanus Urbinas lat. 669, s. xv
M	Monacensis Latinus 802, s. xv
B	Laurentianus plut. 39. 37, 1458
A	Laurentianus plut. 39. 36, c.1470
Marc	Venetus Marcianus lat. XII. 72 (3979), s. xv
Co	Codex Coki, a lost manuscript belonging to Thomas Coke, later first Earl of Leicester, partially reconstructable from the testimony of Domenico Ferrari reported in Burman's edition; s. xv
Bon	Codex Bononiensis Bibl. Univers. 2809, s. xv
Vat	Vaticanus Ottobonianus lat. 1515, c.1463
Chis	Vaticanus Chisianus H. V. 172, s. xv
E	Neapolitanus Bibl. Nat. IV. E. 41, s. xvi
R	Vaticanus Reginensis lat. 1831, s. xv
Reg	Vaticanus Reginensis lat. 1869, s. xv
N	Vaticanus Latinus 1653, s. xv
α	consensus of VS
V	Vaticanus Latinus 3277, s. ix
S	Sangallensis, s. ix–x. A lost manuscript reconstructable from XPIIOQMal
X	Matritensis 8514, s. xv
P	Vaticanus Latinus 1613, s. xv
II	Vaticanus Latinus 1614, s. xv
O	Vaticanus Ottobonianus lat. 1258, s. xv
Q	Oxoniensis Reginensis lat. 314, s. xv
Mal	Malatestianus Caesenas S. XII. 3, s. xv
δ	consensus of Cf
C	Codex Carrionis, a lost manuscript partially reconstructable from the testimony of Carr. ¹ and Carr. ²
f	consensus of the florilegia (s. XII–XIII)
edd.	editores plerique

EARLY PRINTED EDITIONS CITED IN THE APPARATUS

Bon. ¹	Bologna, 1474
Bon. ²	Bologna, 1498
Ven. ¹	Venice, 1500
Ven. ²	Venice, 1501
Junt. ¹	Juntine edition (Florence, 1503)
Junt. ²	Juntine edition (Florence, 1517)
Ald.	Aldine edition (Venice, 1523)
Carr. ¹	Carrio's first edition (Antwerp, 1565)
Carr. ²	Carrio's second edition (Antwerp, 1566)
Carr.	Both of Carrio's editions

NOTATIONAL SUPERSCRIPTS

L ¹	corrections by the scribe himself
L ²	corrections by a second hand
L ^c	corrections by a more recent hand
L ^x	corrections by an unidentifiable hand
L ^{ac}	reading before correction

C. VALERI FLACCI ARGONAVTICON LIBER PRIMVS

PRIMA deum magnis canimus freta pervia natis 1
fatidicamque ratem, Scythici quae Phasidis oras
ausa sequi mediosque inter iuga concita cursus
rumpere flammifero tandem consedit Olympo.
Phoebe, mone, si Cumaeae mihi conscia vatis 5
stat casta cortina domo, si laurea digna
fronte viret, tuque o pelagi cui maior aperti
fama, Caledonius postquam tua carbasa vexit
Oceanus Phrygios prius indignatus Iulos,
eripe me populis et habenti nubila terrae, 10
namque potes, veterumque fave, venerande, canenti
facta virum. versam proles tua pandit Idumen,
sancte pater, Solymo nigrantem pulvere fratrem
spargentemque faces et in omni turre furentem.
ille tibi cultusque deum delubraque centum 15
instituet, cum iam, genitor, lucebis ab omni
parte poli. neque enim Tyriae Cynosura carinae
certior aut Graeis Helice servanda magistris
tu si signa dabis, sed te duce Graecia mittet
et Sidon Nilusque rates. nunc nostra serenus 20
orsa iuves, haec ut Latias vox impleat urbes.
Haemoniam primis Pelias frenabat ab annis,
iam gravis et longus populis metus. illius amnes

Inscr. : om. V, postea abscisa in L : GAI. (GAGI. S) VALERI. FLACCI. SETINI. BALBI. (BALBI. SETINI. S) ARGONAVTICON. LIBER. PRIMVS. INCIPIT. SUMA 1 natis N: nautis γ
5 Cumaeae X: cymaeae ω 10 habenti Bon.¹Carr.: habent γ 11 sancte pater, 13
namque potes γ, transposuit Samuelsson 11 venerande Baehrens: -a γ 12 pandit γ:
-et Gronovius: -at Parrhasius 13 <et> post Solymo pos. Schenkl, post nigrantem Getty
15 centum Haupt: genti γ: gentis Bon 16 iam L: tu S om. V omni γ: alti Haupt: alii
alia 17 enim P² Bon.¹: in γ: enim in Carr.: erit Heinsius Tyriae... carinae Heinsius:
-as...-as γ: -is...-is Friesemann 19 tu si... sed Bury: seu tu...seu γ: si tu...sed
Baehrens: si tu...seu van Lennep: sed tu...sed Caussin 22-3 Haemoniam...illius
exhib. f 23 amnes Sabellicus: omnes γ

GAIUS VALERIUS FLACCUS
ARGONAUTICA, BOOK ONE

[1] I sing of seas first traversed by mighty sons of gods, and of the fate-speaking ship that, having dared to seek the banks of Scythian Phasis and to burst a middle course through the Clashing Rocks, finally came to rest in fiery Olympus.

[5] Phoebus, guide me, if in my pure home there stands a tripod sharing in the knowledge of the Cumaean prophetess, and if the laurel thrives green upon a worthy forehead. And you too, who have yet greater fame for opening the sea, after the Caledonian Ocean, which had previously spurned the Phrygian Julii, bore your sails [10]—raise me up from the nations and the cloud-bearing earth (for you can do so), and look favourably upon me, venerable one, as I sing the deeds of old-time heroes. Your own son, holy father, sings of Idume overthrown, of his brother, black with the dust of Solyma, scattering torches and raging against every tower. [15] *He* will establish divine cult for you and a hundred temples at that time when, sire, you shine from every part of the heavens. Neither shall the Little Bear need observing by Tyrian ships, nor the Great Bear by Greek helmsmen, as surer beacons, if you give signs, but rather Greece, Sidon, and the Nile will send forth their ships under your guidance. Now may you graciously assist my undertaking, so that this my voice may fill Latin cities.

[22] From his earliest years Pelias, now heavy with age and long the dread of nations, had ruled Haemonia. His were the rivers

Ionium quicumque petunt, ille Othryn et Haemum
 atque imum felix versabat vomere Olympum. 25
 sed non ulla quies animo fratrisque paventi
 progeniem divumque minas. hunc nam fore regi
 exitio vatesque canunt pecudumque per aras
 terrifici monitus iterant: super ipsius ingens
 instat fama viri virtusque haud laeta tyranno. 30
 ergo anteire metus iuvenemque exstinguere pergit
 Aesonium letique vias ac tempora versat,
 sed neque bella videt Graias neque monstra per urbes
 ulla: Cleonaeo iam tempora clausus hiatu
 Alcides, olim Lernaee defensus ab angue 35
 Arcas et ambobus iam cornua fracta iuvenis.
 ira maris vastique placent discrimina ponti.
 tum iuvenem tranquilla tuens nec fronte timendus
 occupat et fictis dat vultum et pondera dictis.
 'Hanc mihi militiam, veterum quae pulchrior actis, 40
 adnue daque animum. nostri de sanguine Phrixus
 Cretheos ut patrias audis effugerit aras.
 hunc ferus Aeetes, Scythiam Phasinque rigentem
 qui colit—heu magni Solis pudor!—hospita vina
 inter et attonitae mactat sollemnia mensae 45
 nil nostri divumque memor. non nuntia tantum
 fama refert: ipsum iuvenem tam saeva gementem,
 ipsum ego, cum serus fessos sopor alligat artus,
 aspicio, lacera adsiduis namque illius umbra

34 clausus LC: clusus α 38 tum γ: cum Carr. tuens C: timens α: timendis L
 39 fictis...dictis exhib. f fictis dat vultum et pondera γ: fictis vultus dat et pondera f: ficti
 dat vultus pondera Baehrens 42 audis γ: audisti C effugerit γ: aufugerit C
 43 eta (sic vel similiter saepe pro Aeetes) γ, corr. Pius 45 habet L, om. α 48 fessos S:
 fessus LV 49 lacera adsiduis namque γ: meque assiduis lacera C

that flow into the Ionian sea; he ploughed Othrys and Haemus and the foothills of Olympus, a wealthy man indeed. [26] But his mind had no rest through fear of his brother's son and the threats of the gods. For the prophets sing that this man shall spell destruction for the king, and the terrifying warnings of cattle sacrificed at the altars repeat the threat. Moreover, the immense renown of the hero himself weighs upon him, and the valour—never pleasing for a tyrant. [31] Therefore he strives to forestall the danger and to kill the Aesonian youth; and he ponders the manner and time of death. But he sees neither wars nor monsters afflicting the cities of Greece. Alcides has long since covered his temples with the gaping jaws of Cleone; long ago was the Arcadian protected from Lerna's serpent; long ago were the horns of the two bulls broken. [37] So he resolves upon the anger of the sea, and the dangers of the immense ocean. Thereupon he accosts the young man, looking at him tranquilly with unthreatening brow, and lends expression and gravity to his false words.

[40] 'Undertake for me this expedition, more illustrious than the deeds of previous generations, and give yourself over to it. You have heard how Phrixus, of the blood of our kinsman Cretheus, once fled from his father's altars. [43] Savage Aeetes, who dwells in Scythia and the frozen Phasis—what a disgrace to mighty Sol!—slaughtered him amidst the servings of wine and the ceremonies of the startled banquet, mindful neither of me nor the gods. This is no mere report of rumour: I see the young man himself groaning so terribly, when late sleep binds my tired limbs: for his mangled shade calls me forth with ceaseless

questibus et magni numen maris excitat Helle. 50
 si mihi quae quondam vires, et pendere poenas
 Colchida iam et regis caput hic atque arma videres.
 olim annis ille ardor hebet, necdum mea proles
 imperio et belli rebus matura marique.
 tu, cui iam curaeque vigent animique viriles, 55
 i, decus, et pecoris Nephelaei vellera Graio
 redde tholo ac tantis temet dignare periclis!
 Talibus hortatus iuvenem propiorque iubenti
 conticuit, certus Scythico concurrere ponto
 Cyaneas, tantoque silet possessa dracone 60
 vellera, multifidas regis quem filia linguas
 vibrantem ex adytis cantu dapibusque vocabat
 et dabat externo liventia mella veneno.
 Mox taciti patuere doli, nec vellera curae
 esse viro, sed sese odiis immania cogi 65
 in freta. qua iussos sed tandem quaerere Colchos
 arte queat? nunc aerii plantaria vellet
 Perseos aut currus et quos frenasse dracones
 creditur, ignaras Cereris qui vomere terras
 imbuit et flava quercum damnavit arista. 70
 heu quid agat? populumne levem veterique tyranno
 infensum atque olim miserantes Aesona patres
 advocet, an socia Iunone et Pallade fretus
 armisona speret magis et freta iussa capessat,
 siqua operis tanti domito consurgere ponto 75

51 et Ehlers: vel γ : alii alia 56 suo loco L: post 64 a 58 hortatus Burman:
 hortatur γ propiorque π Carr.: propior γ iubenti S: iuveni LV 59 certus S:
 certis LV: cautes Löhrbach 63 seclisit Thilo ('ex 8. 96-7 effectus videtur') externo (ex
 terno disiunxit Stroh) ω : hesterno Bon.² Ald.: alterno Heinsius: alii alia liventia Bon.¹Carr.:
 libentia γ 66 sed tandem Caussin: sectantem γ : sic tandem Bon.¹ Ald.: alii
 alia 68 currus et quos Haupt: curru saevos γ : curru ut saevos Carr.:
 alii alia 69 creditur Burman: creditus γ qui Bon.²: quo γ 74 speret Gronovius:
 superet γ

complaints, as does Helle, divinity of the great sea. [51] If the strength that I once possessed were still mine, you would already see Colchis punished and here before you the head and weaponry of its king. [53] But that old ardour has long since dulled with the passing years; nor is my son yet ripe for command and the deeds of war and seafaring. [55] But you, in whom the concerns and the spirit of manhood already flourish—go, glorious one: return the fleece of Nephele's ram to a Greek temple, and deem yourself worthy of such a dangerous undertaking!'

[58] Having exhorted the young man with such words—indeed having been more like one giving orders—he fell silent, confident in the knowledge that the Cyanean Rocks collided on the Scythian sea; he said nothing of the fleece guarded by so fearsome a dragon, which, as it flicked its forked tongues, the king's daughter was accustomed to summon forth from its innermost sanctuary by incantation and by food, and to give it honey livid with a venom not its own.

[64] At length the silent deceptions stood exposed, and it was clear to Jason that the fleece was not a concern for Pelias, but that he himself was driven onto the terrible seas by hatred. By what method, pray, might he be able to seek the Colchians as ordered? Now he wished for the sandals of air-borne Perseus, or the chariot and those dragons said to have been bridled by him who first set the mark of Ceres' ploughshare on the lands that as yet knew her not, and supplanted the acorn with the golden ear of grain. [71] Ah, what is he to do? Should he call to his aid the fickle populace, hostile to the old tyrant, and the Fathers that long now have pitied Aeson; or should he rather have hope, relying on allied Juno and Pallas of the resounding armour, and take to the straits as ordered, if perchance, the sea subdued, some

fama queat? tu sola animos mentesque peruris,
 Gloria: te viridem videt immunemque senectae
 Phasidis in ripa stantem iuvenesque vocantem.

Tandem animi incertum confusaque pectora firmat
 religio tendensque pias ad sidera palmas 80

‘omnipotens regina,’ inquit, ‘quam, turbidus atro
 aethere caeruleum quateret cum Iuppiter imbrem,
 ipse ego praecipiti tumidum per Enipea nimbo
 in campos et tuta tuli nec credere quivi
 ante deam quam te tonitru nutuque reposci 85

coniugis et subita raptam formidine vidi,
 da Scythiam Phasinque mihi; tuque, innuba Pallas,
 eripe me! vestris egomet tunc vellera templis
 illa dabo, dabit auratis et cornibus igni
 colla pater niveique greges altaria tingent.’ 90

Accepere deae celerique per aethera lapsu
 diversas petiere vias. in moenia pernix
 Thespiaca ad carum Tritonia devolat Argum:
 moliri hunc puppem iubet et demittere ferro
 robora, Peliacas et iam comes exit in umbras. 95

at Iuno Argolicas pariter Macetumque per urbes
 spargit inexpertos temptare parentibus Austros
 Aesoniden, iam stare ratem remisque superbam
 poscere quos revehat rebusque in saecula tollat.

Omnis avet quae iam bellis spectataque fama
 turba ducum, primae seu quos in flore iuventae 100

76–7 tu...Gloria *exhib.* f 76 mentesque f: mentemque γ 79 incertum γ:
 incoeptum C 82 aethere γ: aethera C imbrem S: imbre LVC 87 Phasinque
 Courtney: Phasinque γ 88 tunc γ: tum π 90 colla L: colca α tingent
 G. J. Vossius: cingent γ 91 accipere S: accipere LV 93 ad C: et γ 95 umbras
abellicus: undas ω 96 Macetumque V: Macedumque LS 99 saecula γ: sidera
 Burman 100 avet C: habet γ fama C: forma γ

renown might arise from so great an undertaking? You, Glory, you alone inflame hearts and minds; you, vigorous and unaffected by old age, he sees standing on the shores of Phasis calling forth young men.

[79] At length religious reverence bolsters the uncertainty of his spirit and his confused breast. [81] 'Almighty queen,' he said, 'whom, when turbulent Jupiter was brandishing a black storm-cloud in the darkened sky, I myself carried across the Enipeus, swollen by precipitous downpour, to the fields and to safety; nor could I believe you a goddess before you were summoned again by the thunder and nod of your husband, and with sudden dread I saw you seized—[87] give me Scythia and Phasis! And you, unwed Pallas, save me! Then will I offer that fleece in your temples; and the father of the herd, his horns gilded, shall offer his neck to the flames, and snow-white flocks shall soak your altars.'

[91] The goddesses hearkened, and took different paths in swift descent through the air. Tritonia flies down quickly to the Thespian walls and to her dear Argus. [94] She orders him to build a ship and to hew down timber with an axe. And now accompanying him she goes forth into Pelion's shady forests. [96] At the same time, Juno broadcasts through the Argive cities and those of the Macedonians that the son of Aeson is making trial of the winds, which their forefathers left untested; that the ship already stands and, proud of her oarage, seeks men whom she may bring back home and exalt through the ages by their accomplishments.

[100] The whole crowd of leaders proven in battle and distinguished in reputation is eager for the mission, and all those in the first flower of youth

temptamenta tenent necdum data copia rerum.
 at quibus arborum studiumque insontis aratri,
 hos stimulant magnaue ratem per lustra viasque
 visi laude canunt manifesto in lumine Fauni 105
 silvarumque deae atque elatis cornibus amnes.

Protinus Inachiis ultro Tirynthius Argis
 advolat, Arcadio cuius flammata veneno
 tela puer facilesque umeris gaudentibus arcus
 gestat Hylas; velit ille quidem, sed dextera nondum 110
 par oneri clavaeque capax. quos talibus amens
 insequitur solitosque novat Saturnia questus:

‘O utinam Graiae rueret non omne iuventae
 in nova fata decus, nostrique Eurystheos haec nunc
 iussa forent! imbrem et tenebras saevumque tridentem 115
 iam iam ego et inviti torsissem coniugis ignem.
 nunc quoque nec socium nostrae columenve carinae
 esse velim, Herculeis nec me umquam fidere fas sit
 auxiliis comiti et tantum debere superbo.’

Dixit et Haemonias oculos detorquet ad undas. 120
 fervere cuncta virum coetu, simul undique cernit
 delatum nemus et docta resonare bipenni
 litora. iam pinus gracili dissolvere lamna
 Thespiaden iungique latus lentoque sequaces
 molliri videt igne trabes remisque paratis 125
 Pallada velifero quaerentem bracchia malo.
 constitit ut, longo moles non pervia ponto,

105 visi *Columbus:* iussi γ 107 Argis *Bon.*¹*Carr.:* agris γ 113 rueret *L:*
 grueret α 116 inviti γ : invicti *C* torsissem *L:* torissem α 117 nunc γ :
 hunc *C* columenve *LV:* -que *S* 124 iungique *Reg Bon.*¹*Carr.:* iungitque γ

whom trials enthrall and to whom the opportunity for glorious deeds has not yet been given. [103] But the Fauns, the goddesses of the forest, and the lofty-horned rivers appear in the clear daylight and, by singing the high praises of the vessel through the wild haunts and country byways, they enthrall those whose concern is for the fields and the harmless plough.

[107] At once the Tirynthian hastens forth unbidden from Inachian Argos; the boy Hylas carries his arrows, blazing with Arcadian poison, and his bow, an easy burden for glad shoulders. He would even wish it—but his hand is unequal to the burden, unable to grasp the club. Then frenzied Saturnia rebukes with such words as these, making anew her habitual complaints:

[113] 'Oh if only *all* the glory of Greek youth were not rushing towards new destinies, and these were now the commands of my Eurystheus. Then would I long since have hurled forth rain-storms and darkness, the fierce trident, and the firebrand of my husband—even against his will. [117] Even now I would not wish this man as the ally and pillar of our ship; nor let it ever be right for me to trust in Herculean assistance or to owe so much to so haughty a comrade.'

[120] She spoke, and then deflected her gaze to the Haemonian shore. [121] There she discerns all astir with the concourse of men and, at the same moment, the forest brought down on all sides, and the shores resounding to a skilled axe. And now she sees the Thespian splitting the pines with a thin saw, and the sides of the vessel being joined, and the yielding planks being softened over a slow flame; now the oars are ready and she sees Pallas seeking a yard arm for the sail-bearing mast. [127] When the ship stood complete, a massive bulk waterproofed for a long voyage,

puppis, et ut tenues subiere latentia cerae
 lumina, picturae varios superaddit honores.
 Hic insperatos Tyrrheni tergoe piscis 130
 Peleus in thalamos vehitur Thetis; aequora delphin
 corripit, <ipsa> sedet deiecta in lumina palla
 nec Iove maiorem nasci suspirat Achillem.
 hanc Panope Dotoque soror laetataque fluctu
 prosequitur nudis pariter Galatea lacertis 135
 antra petens; Siculo revocat de litore Cyclops.
 contra ignis viridique torus de fronde dapesque
 vinaque et aequoreos inter cum coniuge divos
 Aeacides pulsataque chelyn post pocula Chiron.
 parte alia Pholoe multoque insanus Iaccho 140
 Rhoecus et Atracia subitae de virgine pugnae.
 crateres mensaeque volant araeque deorum
 poculaque, insignis veterum labor. optimus hasta
 hic Peleus, hic ense furens agnoscitur Aeson.
 fert gravis invito victorem Nestora tergo 145
 Monychus, ardenti peragit Clanis Actora quercu.
 nigro Nessus equo fugit adclinisque tapetis
 in mediis vacuo condit caput Hippasus auro.
 Nec, quamquam miranda viris, stupet Aesone natus,
 et secum: 'heu miseros nostrum natosque patresque! 150
 hacine nos animae faciles rate nubila contra
 mittimur? in solum nunc saeviet Aesona pontus?
 non iuvenem in casus eademque pericula Acastum

129 superaddit γ : super addit *edd.* 130 insperatos *Gronovius*: insperato *C*: *lac. post sperata pos.* γ ubi multa possis, e.g. <diu> *Baehrens*: <deo> *Kramer* 132 corripit *LV*: corripuit *S* ipsa *Baehrens*: illa *Carr.*: *lac. post corripit pos.* γ 133 Achillem *S*: -e *LV*: -en *Thilo* 135 nudis γ : nitidis *Wytenbach*: niveis *Hemsterhuys* 141 Rhoecus *Parrhasius*: Rhoetus γ : Rhetus *C* Atracia *Bon.*¹: tracia *L*: trachia *S*: racia *V*: extracta *C* 144 hic...hic ense γ : hac...hac parte *C* 146 Actora *C*: auctora γ 148 Hippasus *L*: hispasus *a* 149 nec...viris *Pius*: haec...viris γ : haec...minus *Jacobs*: alii alia 150 et γ : at *Heinsius* heu γ *Carr.*¹: eu *Carr.*² 153 Acastum *X Bon.*¹*Carr.*: castum γ

and when supple wax had sunk into the hidden gaps, Argus added to the surface varied adornments of painting.

[130] On this side Thetis is borne on the back of a Tyrrhenian fish to the unwanted marriage-chamber of Peleus; the dolphin drives through the water. She herself sits upon it, a veil cast over her eyes, and sighs that Achilles will not be born greater than Jupiter. [134] Accompanying her are Panope, her sister Doto, and bare-armed Galatea, joyful in the waves, making for the cave; from the Sicilian shore Cyclops calls back his beloved. [137] Opposite is a fire, a bed of green leaves, a banquet, wine, and the son of Aeacus with his bride among the water deities; after the distribution of wine-cups, Chiron strums the lyre. [140] On the other side, Mount Pholoe and Rhoecus, mad with much wine, and the sudden fight over the Atracian maiden. Craters and tables fly about, as do altars of the gods, and goblets—the distinguished work of ancient craftsmen. Here Peleus, pre-eminent with the spear, and here is discerned Aeson, raging with a sword. [145] Monychus is weighed down by his vanquisher Nestor, whom he carries on his unwilling back; and Clanis harries Actor with a blazing oak. Nessus, a black centaur, flees, and in the midst of it all Hippasus, resting on the coverlets, buries his head in an empty golden goblet.

[149] But, though the scenes are wondrous for the heroes to behold, the son of Aeson marvels not; and thus he thinks to himself: 'Poor wretches, those among us who are sons and fathers! Is it in this, this vessel that we gullible souls are sent against the cloud-filled skies? Shall the sea now rage against Aeson alone? [153] Shall I not snatch away young Acastus into the same fortunes and perils?

abripiam? invisae Pelias freta tuta carinae
 optet et exoret nostris cum matribus undas.' 155
 Talia cunctanti laevum Iovis armiger aethra
 advenit et validis fixam erigit unguibus agnam.
 at procul e stabulis trepidi clamore sequuntur
 pastores fremitusque canum; citus occupat auras
 raptor et Aegaei super effugit alta profundum. 160
 accipit augurium Aesonides laetusque superbi
 tecta petit Peliae. prior huic tum regia proles
 advolat amplexus fraternaue pectora iungens.
 ductor ait: 'non degeneres, ut reris, Acaste,
 venimus ad questus: socium te iungere coeptis 165
 est animus; neque enim Telamon aut Canthus et Idas
 Tyndareusque puer mihi vellere dignior Helles.
 o quantum terrae, quantum cognoscere caeli
 permissum est! pelagus quantos aperimus in usus!
 nunc forsitan grave reris opus, sed laeta recurret 170
 cum ratis et caram cum iam mihi reddet Iolcon,
 quis pudor heu nostros tibi tunc audire labores,
 †quam† referam visas tua per suspiria gentes!
 Nec passus rex plura virum 'sat multa parato
 in quaecumque vocas. nec nos,' ait, 'optime, segnes 175
 credideris patriisve magis confidere regnis
 quam tibi, si primos duce te virtutis honores
 carpere, fraternae si des ad crescere famae.
 quin ego, nequa metu nimio me cura parentis

156 cunctanti *Ald.*: conanti γ : iactanti *Braun*: alii alia
 gerit *C* 162 tum *LV*: tunc *S* 166 Canthus *L*: candus α 173 quam ω :
 quas *P*: quae *Sandström* 174 sat *S*: stat *LV* 178 si des *C* (*vel Carrio*): sede γ
 ad crescere γ : accedere *C* (*vel Carrio*)

Then let Pelias hope for a safe sea for the hated ship, and let him strive with our mothers to supplicate the waves.'

[156] To him hesitating thus Jupiter's weapon-bearer appears on the left from the upper air, and holds aloft a lamb caught in its strong talons. [158] Nearby the distraught shepherds, roused from the folds, give chase, shouting, their growling dogs with them. The swift plunderer seizes the air and flees above the waters of the Aegean deep. [161] The son of Aeson joyfully accepts the omen and makes for the abode of haughty Pelias. There the king's son flies first to Jason, clasping in embrace fraternal breast to breast. The leader says: 'I have not come for ignoble lamentation as you suppose, Acastus. It is my wish to attach you as a comrade to these undertakings. For neither Telamon nor Canthus nor Idas nor the Tyndarean youth are to my reckoning more worthy of Helle's fleece than you. [168] O what vast expanse of earth, what vast expanse of sky is it granted us to know! To what great purposes do we open up the sea! [170] Now perhaps you think this a formidable undertaking, but when the ship returns rejoicing and restores my dear Iolcus to me—ah what shame will you feel then to hear of our labours, when through your sighs I recount the peoples we have seen!'

[174] The prince did not permit him to speak further: 'That's enough, ample for one prepared for whatever you might call me to,' he said. 'Do not think me laggardly, best of men, or that I trust more in my father's kingdoms than in you—if you will but grant me to win my first distinction for valour under your guidance, and to grow to the measure of a brother's fame. [179] But, lest the concerns of an over-fearful father

impediat, fallam ignarum subitusque paratis	180
tunc adero, primas linquet cum puppis harenas. ⁷	
dixerat. ille animos promissaque talia laetus	
accipit et gressus avidos ad litora vertit.	
At ducis imperiis Minyae monituque frequentes	
puppem umeris subeunt et tento poplite proni	185
decurrunt intransque fretum; non clamor anhelis	
nauticus aut blandus testudine defuit Orpheus.	
tum laeti statuunt aras. tibi, rector aquarum,	
summus honor, tibi caeruleis in litore vittis	
et Zephyris Glaucoque bovem Thetidique iuvenecam	190
deicit Ancaeus: non illo certior alter	
pinguia letifera perfringere colla bipenni.	
ipse ter aequoreo libans carchesia patri	
sic ait Aesonides: 'o qui spumantia nutu	
regna quatis terrasque salo complecteris omnes,	195
da veniam! scio me cunctis e gentibus unum	
inlicitas temptare vias hiememque mereri:	
sed non sponte feror nec nunc mihi iungere montes	
mens avet aut summo deponere fulmen Olympo.	
ne Peliae te vota trahant! ille aspera iussa	200
repperit et Colchos in me luctumque meorum.	
illum ego—tu tantum non indignantibus undis	
hoc caput accipias et pressam regibus alnum. ⁷	
sic fatus pingui cumulat libamine flammam.	
Protulit ut crinem densis luctatus in extis	205

180 paratis *Bon.*¹ *Carr.*: paratus γ 184–6 at ... fretum *exhib.* glossator ad *Ov. Met.* 7.1
 (*saec.* XIII). 189 vittis *L*: victis α 190 iuvenecam *C*: -um γ 197 mereri *S*:
 merere *V*: vereri *L* 199 avet *Ha*: tamen ω : tumet *Pius*: alii alia 202 illum ego tu *L*:
 illu (-o *S*) metu α 205 crinem *L*: crimen α

should stand in the way, I will escape unnoticed and suddenly join you, all at the ready, at the moment when the vessel quits the shore's edge.' [182] He had spoken. The other, delighting in such spirited words, accepts this pledge and turns his eager steps to the shores.

[184] Meanwhile the thronging Minyae, at their leader's commands and admonishment, apply their shoulders to the vessel: leaning forward, knees bent, they run down to and enter the sea. Neither the shout of breathless sailors nor the enticing lyre of Orpheus was lacking. [188] Then joyfully the men erect altars. The highest honour goes to you, lord of the seas: on the shore Ancaeus fells an ox decorated with cerulean fillets for you, for the Zephyrs and for Glaucus; for Thetis he fells a heifer. None surer than he at shattering thick necks with a death-dealing axe. [193] As for the son of Aeson, thrice pouring a libation from a Greek vase to the father of the sea, he speaks thus: 'O you who with your nod shake the foaming realms and surround all the lands with sea, be merciful! [196] I know that I alone among all peoples am trying these forbidden paths, and that I deserve a storm. But I do not sail of my own accord, nor is my mind eager to join together mountains or summon down a thunderbolt from the heights of Olympus. [200] Do not be swayed by the prayers of Pelias! He has devised harsh orders and Colchis against me, and to bring grief to my family. Him shall I—but may you just accept with unresentful waves this head and the alder-wood ship freighted with heroes.' Having spoken thus, he heaps a rich offering upon the flame.

[205] As soon as the fire, struggling amidst the thick entrails,

ignis et escendit salientia viscera tauri,
 ecce sacer totusque dei per litora Mopsus
 immanis visu vittamque comamque per auras
 surgentem laurusque rotat. vox reddita tandem,
 vox horrenda viris. tum facta silentia vati. 210
 'heu quaenam aspicio? nostris modo concitus ausis
 aequoreos vocat ecce deos Neptunus et ingens
 concilium. fremere et legem defendere cuncti
 hortantur. sic amplexu, sic, pectora fratris,
 Iuno, tene; tuque o puppem ne desere, Pallas: 215
 nunc patruī, nunc, flecte minas! cessere ratemque
 accepere mari. per quot discrimina rerum
 expedior! subita cur pulcher harundine crines
 velat Hylas? unde urna umeris niveosque per artus
 caeruleae vestes? unde haec tibi vulnera, Pollux? 220
 quantus io tumidis taurorum e naribus ignis!
 tollunt se galeae sulcisque ex omnibus hastae
 et iam iamque umeri. quem circum vellera Martem
 aspicio? quaenam aligeris secāt anguibus auras
 caede madens? quos ense ferit? miser, eripe parvos, 225
 Aesonide! cerno en thalamos ardere iugales!
 Iamdudum <...> Minyas ambage ducemque
 terrificat; sed enim contra Phoebeius Idmon
 non pallore viris, non ullo horrore comarum
 terribilis, plenus fatīs Phoeboque quieto, 230
 cui genitor tribuit monitu praenoscerē divum

206 escendit L: aescendit Vπ: ascendit S 208 vittamque Carr.: vitamque γ
 211 concitus Mal Carr.: concitos γ 213 legem γ: sedem Baehrens 214 amplexu
 Heinsius: amplexus γ 217 accepere S: accipere LV 219 (h)umeris L¹MD Carr.:
 numeris L^{2c}V: numeros S per artus X²P Carr.: paratus γ 223 circum γ: circa Meyncke:
 alii alia 226 en Ald.: et γ 227 lac. aut ante aut post Minyas pos. γ: <vates> ante
 Minyas pos. L^c: <hac vates> Heinsius: alii alia: longa Minias C ambage L:
 ambige α ducemque L^cCarr.: ducumque γ 228 Idmon S: idimon LV 229 co-
 marum L: cumarum α

sent forth a jet of flame and climbed the quivering innards of the bull, behold—holy Mopsus appeared along the shore, totally possessed of the god and immense to behold; he whirled his fillet and his bristling hair through the air, along with his laurel wreath. [209] At length his voice returned, a voice terrifying to mortals; and then silence fell for the prophet. [211] 'Ah what is this I see? Behold—provoked by our daring, Neptune summons a vast assembly of sea-deities. They roar and all urge him to defend the law. [214] Even so hold in embrace, even so hold your brother's breast, Juno. And do not desert this vessel, Pallas, but now, even now, turn aside the threats of your uncle! They have yielded, and accepted the vessel on the sea. Through how many perils am I delivered! Why does fair Hylas suddenly cover his hair with reeds? Whence the pitcher upon his shoulders, and the cerulean garment upon his snow-white limbs? Whence these wounds of yours, Pollux? [221] Ah, what a mighty flame comes from the swelling nostrils of the bulls! Helmets spring up and spears from every furrow, and now shoulders too. What is this fight I see about the fleece? What woman is this, drenched with slaughter, who passes through the air on winged serpents? Whom does she attack with the sword? Ah wretched son of Aeson, save your little ones! Lo—I see bridal chambers aflame!'

[227] Long now has he terrified the Minyae and their leader with his <...> obscure utterance. But then in reply spoke Phoebeian Idmon, neither pale to the men looking on, nor with hair standing on end, but full of the fates and a calm Phoebus [231] (through instruction his father granted him to know in advance the omens of the gods,

omina, seu flammās seu lubrica comminus exta
 seu plenum certis interroget aera pinnis,
 sic sociis Mopsoque canit: 'quantum augur Apollo
 flammaque prima docet, praeduri plena laboris 235
 cerno equidem, patiens sed quae ratis omnia vincet.
 ingentes durate animae dulcesque parentum
 tendite ad amplexus!' lacrimae cecidere canenti
 quod sibi iam clausos invenit in ignibus Argos.
 Vix ea fatus erat, iungit cum talia ductor 240
 Aesonius: 'superum quando consulta videtis,
 o socii, tantisque datur spes maxima coeptis,
 vos quoque nunc vires animosque adferre paternos.
 non mihi Thessalici pietas culpanda tyranni
 suspective doli: deus haec, deus, omine dextro 245
 imperat; ipse suo voluit commercia mundo
 Iuppiter et tantos hominum miscere labores.
 ite, viri, mecum dubiisque evincite rebus
 quae meminisse iuvet nostrisque nepotibus instent.
 hanc vero, socii, venientem litore laeti 250
 dulcibus adloquiis ludoque educite noctem!
 paretur. molli iuvenes funduntur in alga
 conspicuusque toris Tirynthius. exta ministri
 rapta simul veribus Cereremque dedere canistris.
 Iamque aderat summo decurrens vertice Chiron 255
 clamantemque patri procul ostendebat Achillem.
 ut puer ad notas erectum Pelea voces

232 lubrica S: lubri LV exta S: exit LV 234 Mopsoque SL¹: mossoque L¹V
 236 omnia S: omina LV 242 tantisque Heinsius: quantisque γ: quandoque C
 248-9 ite...iuvet exhib. f 249 instent L: istem α 252 funduntur Bon.¹Carr.:
 funguntur γ 256 ostendebat C: -derat L: -deret V: -tarat S Achillem LS: -en V

whether he interrogates flames, slick innards close at hand, or the air filled with the sure-signifying flight of birds). [234] To his comrades—and to Mopsus—he prophesied thus: ‘So much does Apollo, god of augury, and the first flame teach me: I see trials full of wearisome toil, but the much-enduring ship shall overcome them all. [237] Be strong, great souls, and strive onwards to the sweet embrace of your parents.’ His tears flowed as he sang the prophecy, for in the flames Idmon discovered that for him Argos was now closed.

[240] Scarcely had he finished speaking when the Aesonian leader added such words: ‘Since you see the decrees of the gods above, O comrades, and since the highest hope is given to so great an undertaking, now also apply the strength and courage of your fathers. [244] I must not find fault with the piety of the Thessalian tyrant, nor have I suspected deceits. A god, a god orders our mission with propitious omen: Jupiter himself has wished interchange to exist in his universe, and to combine the great labours of men. [248] Come with me, men, and, though circumstance be doubtful, accomplish such things as shall be a delight to recall, and shall spur on our grandsons. [250] But meanwhile, comrades, joyfully draw out this coming night on the shore with sweet conversation and festivity.’ [252] He is obeyed. The young men lay themselves down on the soft seaweed, as does the Tirynthian, conspicuous on his couch. At once servants distributed the innards, snatched from the spits, and placed bread in baskets.

[255] And now, hastening down from the mountain summit, came Chiron; even at a distance he held up to his father’s gaze the shouting Achilles. When the child saw Peleus arise at the sound of his familiar voice

vidit et ingenti tendentem brachia passu,
 adsiluit caraque diu cervice pependit.
 illum nec valido spumantia pocula Baccho 260
 sollicitant veteri nec conspicienda metallo
signa tenent: stupet in ducibus magnumque sonantes
 haurit et Herculeo fert comminus ora leoni.
 laetus at impliciti Peleus rapit oscula nati
 suspiciensque polum 'placido si currere fluctu 265
 Pelea vultis' ait 'ventosque optare ferentes,
 hoc, superi, servate caput! tu cetera, Chiron,
 da mihi! te parvus lituos et bella loquentem
 miretur; sub te puerilia tela magistro
 venator ferat et nostram festinet ad hastam.' 270
 omnibus inde idem calor additus: ire per altum
 magna mente volunt. Phrixi promittitur absens
 vellus et auratis Argo reditura corymbis.
 Sol ruit et totum Minyis laetantibus undae
 deduxere diem. sparguntur litore curvo 275
 lumina nondum ullis terras monstrantia nautis.
 Thracius hic noctem dulci testudine vates
 extrahit, ut steterit redimitus tempora vittis
 Phrixus et iniustas contectus nubibus aras
 fugerit Inoo linquens Athamanta Learcho; 280
 aureus ut iuvenem miserantibus intulit undis
 vector et adstrictis ut sedit cornibus Helle.
 septem Aurora vices totidemque peregerat umbras

265 placido γ : placito *Ald.* 266 vultis *S*: vultus *LV* 269 miretur *L^xM² Carr.:*
meretur γ 271 idem *Sandström: alii alia: me LV: viae S: magis C* 275 deduxere *S*:
 diduxere *LVC* 281 miserantibus γ : mirantibus *Bentley, fort. recte* 283 vices *Hein-*
sius: vias γ

and extend his arms in a great expanse, he sprang forward and hung long on that dear neck. [260] Neither did the goblets foaming with strong wine distract him nor did the wondrous figures engraved upon the ancient metal hold his attention: instead he looks with wonder upon the leaders, and drinks in their loud utterances, and even brings himself face to face with the Herculean lion. [264] But Peleus joyfully embraces his son and snatches kisses; and, looking up to the sky, says: 'If, O gods, you want Peleus to wish to speed over calm waters, and to wish for carrying winds, then protect this child! You, Chiron, grant all else I seek! As a young boy may he marvel at you recounting war trumpets and battles; under your guidance may he bear his childish weapons as he hunts, and may he hasten to wield my spear.' [271] Thereupon the same eagerness comes upon them all; in high spirits they wish to journey over the deep sea. They vow that they shall gain the distant fleece of Phrixus and that Argo shall return with gilded ornaments.

[274] The sun plummeted and the waves drew away all the daylight as the Minyae rejoiced. On the curved shore are scattered lights, not yet indicating the lands to any sailors. [277] The Thracian bard now whiles away the night with his sweet-sounding lyre, singing how Phrixus once stood, his head wreathed with fillets, and then, concealed in mist, fled the unjust altars, leaving Athamas to Ino's son Learchus. [281] And he tells how the golden carrier bore the young boy into the pitying waves and how Helle sat on it also, grasping its horns. [283] Aurora had completed seven alternations and Luna the same number of nights:

luna polo dirimique procul non aequore visa
 coeperat a gemina discedere Sestos Abydo. 285
 hic soror Aeoliden aevum mansura per omne
 deserit, heu saevae nequiquam erepta novercae!
 illa quidem fessis longe petit umida palmis
 vellera, sed bibulas urgenti pondere vestes
 unda trahit levique manus labuntur ab auro. 290
 quis tibi, Phrixe, dolor, rapido cum concitus aestu
 respiceres miserae clamantia virginis ora
 extremasque manus sparsosque per aequora crines!
 Iamque mero ludoque modus positique quietis
 conticuere toris; solus quibus ordine fuis 295
 impatiens somni ductor manet. hunc gravis Aeson
 et pariter vigil Alcimede spectantque tenentque
 pleni oculos. illis placidi sermonis Iason
 suggerit adfatus turbataque pectora mulcet.
 mox ubi victa gravi ceciderunt lumina somno 300
 visa coronatae fulgens tutela carinae
 vocibus his instare duci: 'Dodonida quercum
 Chaoniique vides famulam Iovis. aequora tecum 308
 ingredior, nec fatidicis avellere silvis 303
 me nisi promisso potuit Saturnia caelo.
 tempus adest: age rumpe moras, dumque aequore toto 305
 currimus incertus si nubila duxerit aether,
 iam nunc mitte metus fidens superisque mihique.'
 Dixerat. ille pavens, laeto quamquam omine divum,

284 visa *Bon.*²*Carr.*: iussa γ 285 discedere *Bon.*²: descendere γ : descendere *C*
 287 s(a)evae nequiquam *SC*: seu venae quiquam *LV* 300 lumina *SL*¹: lumine *L*^{ac}:
 luminae *V* 308 post 302 *C*: suo loco γ Chaoniique *Vat Bon.*¹*Carr.*: hiaionique γ
 304 me nisi *Reg Bon.*¹*Carr.*: mene si γ 307 metus *C*: manus γ

Sestus, which from a distance appears not to be separated by water from its neighbour, began to sunder from Abydus. [286] Here the sister—rescued in vain, alas, from her cruel stepmother—abandoned the descendant of Aeolus, to remain for all ages. [288] With her weary hands she grasped from a distance at the damp fleece, but the wave draws down her garments with their sodden mass, and her hands slid off the slippery gold. [291] What grief was yours then, Phrixus, when, borne along by the strong-flowing current, you looked back on the wretched girl's face as she cried out, and then saw her fingertips and finally her hair spread upon the water's surface!

[294] And now there is an end to wine and festivity; outstretched upon quiet couches, the men have grown still; alone amidst their recumbent ranks the leader remains averse to sleep. Him both Aeson, heavy with age, and sleepless Alcimede look upon and embrace, their eyes brimming. To them Jason proffers gentle discourse and soothes their troubled breasts. [300] Later, when his eyes, conquered by heavy sleep, had fallen shut, the gleaming guardian spirit of the garlanded ship seemed to exhort the leader with these words: [302] 'You see before you the oak of Dodona, servant of Chaonian Jupiter. I venture upon the waters with you; Saturnia could not have torn me from the fate-speaking woods were heaven not the promised reward. [305] The time is at hand: come, put an end to delay. Already now, trusting in the gods above and me, dismiss fears such as might arise if, as we speed over all the sea, the uncertain sky be darkened with clouds.'

[309] She had spoken; he sprang up from the bed in fear, despite the favourable omen

prosiluit stratis. Minyas simul obtulit omnes 310
 alma novo crispans pelagus Tithonia Phoebo.
 discurrunt transtris: hi celso cornua malo
 expediunt, alii tonsas in marmore summo
 praetemptant, prora funem legit Argus ab alta.
 increscunt matrum gemitus et fortia languent 315
 corda patrum, longis flentes amplexibus haerent.
 vox tamen Alcimedes planctus supereminet omnis,
 femineis tantum illa furens ululatibus obstat,
 obruat Idaeam quantum tuba Martia buxum,
 fatur et haec: 'nate indignos aditure labores, 320
 dividimur nec ad hos animum componere casus
 ante datum, sed bella tibi terrasque timebam.
 vota aliis facienda deis. si fata reducunt
 te mihi, si trepidis placabile matribus aequor,
 possum equidem lucemque pati longumque timorem. 325
 sin aliud fortuna parat, miserere parentum,
 Mors bona, dum metus est nec adhuc dolor. ei mihi, Colchos
 unde ego et avecti timuissem vellera Phrixi?
 quos iam mente dies, quam saeva insomnia curis
 prospicio! quotiens raucos ad litoris ictus 330
 deficiam Scythicum metuens pontumque polumque
 nec de te credam nostris ingrata serenis!
 da, precor, amplexus haesuraque verba relinque
 auribus et dulci iam nunc preme lumina dextra!
 Talibus Alcimede maeret, sed fortior Aeson 335

310 Minyas Bon.¹: Menyas L: mensas α obtulit γ, susp. edd. 312 hi Bon.¹Carr.: hic γ
 314 Argus Bon.¹Carr.: arcus γ alta Carr.: alto γ 317 omnis S: onus LV
 319 obruat L¹SC: obruad L^{ac}V: obruit Bon.¹ 320–34 nate... dextra exhib. f
 321 animum Sf: abimum LV 324 placabile Lf: placibile α 327 (h)ei mihi O² in
 marg. N Bon.¹Carr.: heu mihi f: amipli γ 330 raucos δ: paucos γ 331 deficiam
 Scythicum Lf: deficiamus cythicum α pontumque polumque δ: pontumque cretamque γ

of the gods. At once the nurturing bride of Tithonus, making the sea shimmer with the new sun, revealed all the Minyae to his gaze. [312] They scurry about amid the rowing benches: some make ready the yard on the lofty mast; others test their oars by dipping them in the surface of the water; and from the lofty prow Argus draws in the anchor rope. [315] The groans of mothers grow louder; the stern hearts of fathers become faint; weeping parents cling to their sons with long embraces. But the voice of Alcimede rises above all other lamentations; in her frenzy she by herself drowns out the howling of other women, just as the trumpet of Mars would overwhelm the boxwood flute of Mount Ida; [320] and she spoke these words: 'My son, who are about to face undeserved hardships, we are parted from one another; nor was it possible to prepare my spirit for these disasters before the fact—no rather, for your sake I feared only wars and lands. [323] Prayers must be made to different gods. If the fates bring you back to me, if the sea can be appeased by anxious mothers, I can indeed suffer the light and protracted fear. [326] But if fortune devises otherwise, then, good Death, take pity on us parents, while there is fear and not yet grief. Ah me! How could I have known to fear the Colchians and the fleece of borne-away Phrixus? [329] Now what difficult days, what cruel nights sleepless with worries do I foresee in my mind! How often shall I despair at the harsh beating of waves on the shore, fearing the Scythian sea and the sky; nor will I be thankful for our own spells of fair weather, for I shan't believe they touch you as well. [333] Embrace me, I pray, and leave words that will linger in my ears and close my eyes with your beloved right hand.'

[335] With such words Alcimede grieves, but Aeson speaks more bravely,

attollens dictis animos: 'o si mihi sanguis
 quantus erat cum signiferum cratera minantem
 non levio Pholum manus haec compescuit auro,
 primus in aeratis posuisses puppibus arma
 concussoque ratem gauderem tollere remo. 340
 sed patriae valuere preces auditaque magnis
 vota deis: video nostro tot in aequore reges
 teque ducem. tales, tales ego ducere suetus
 atque sequi. nunc ille dies (det Iuppiter oro),
 ille super quo te Scythici regisque marisque 345
 victorem atque umeros ardentem vellere raptō
 accipiam cedantque tuae mea facta iuventae.'
 sic ait. ille suo conlapsam pectore matrem
 sustinuit magnaue senem cervice recepit.
 Et iam finis erat. Zephyrumque ratemque morantes 350
 solverat amplexus tristi tuba tertia signo.
 dant remo sua quisque viri, dant nomina transtris.
 hinc laevum Telamon pelagus tenet, altior inde
 occupat Alcides aliud mare, cetera pubes
 dividitur. celer Asterion, quem matre cadentem 355
 Peresius gemino fovit pater amne Cometes,
 segnior Apidani vires ubi sentit Enipeus
 * * * * *
 nititur hinc Talaus fratrisque Leodocus urget
 remo terga sui, quos nobile contulit Argos.
 hinc quoque missus adest quamvis arcentibus Idmon 360

337 signiferum cratera minantem C: signiferam crateram sinautem γ 338 Pholum
 Sabellicus: tholum γ: tolum C 342 video ChisBon: utdeque LV: ut de S: ut
 dent C 347 cedantque X¹ Carr.: cedamque γ 355 cadentem Barth:
 carentem γ 356 Peresius (Pi- iam Parrhasius) Housman: crestus γ: cristatus C
 lac. post 357 pos. Langen 360 Idmon A^c Bon.²: ida γ: Idas Carr.

raising his spirits with his words: 'O, if I yet had as much blood as when this hand subdued Pholus with a golden goblet no lighter than the image-laden crater with which he was threatening me—then I would have been the first to place weapons on the ship's brazen stern, and I would rejoice to raise up the ship with stricken oar. [341] But paternal prayers have prevailed, and the mighty gods have heard my vows: I see so many heroes embarking on our sea, and you their leader. Such men, such was I accustomed to lead, and to follow. And now it remains to await that day—I pray that Jupiter grant it—that day on which I shall receive you as conqueror of both Scythian king and sea, your shoulders blazing with the captured fleece, and my own deeds shall yield to your youth.' [348] Thus he spoke. And Jason held up his fainting mother on his breast and received the old man on his mighty neck.

[350] And now there was an end; the third trumpet blast with its gloomy command had loosened the embraces holding back the Zephyrs and the ship. [352] Each man gives his name to oar and rowing-bench. [353] Telamon occupies the water to port, while loftier Alcides holds the other sea; the rest of the company distributes itself accordingly. First came swift Asterion, whom, when he had dropped from his mother's womb, his father, Peresian Cometes, bathed at the junction of twin rivers, [357] where the slower Enipeus feels the strength of Apidanus... On the same side labours Talaus; and Leodocus presses upon his brother's back with his oar—these noble Argos contributed. [360] Whence also Idmon, present despite warning omens;

alitibus; sed turpe viro timuisse futura.
 hic et Naubolides tortas consurgit in undas
 Iphitus, hic patrium frangit Neptunius aequor,
 qui tenet undisonam Psamathen semperque patentem
 Taenaron, Euphemus, mollique a litore Pellae 365
 Deucalion certus iaculis et comminus ense
 nobilis *Amphion*, pariter quos edidit Hypso
 nec potuit similes voluitve ediscere vultus.
 tum valida Clymenus percusso pectore tonsa
 frater et Iphiclus puppem trahit, et face saeva 370
 in tua mox Danaos acturus saxa, Caphereu,
 Nauplius, et tortum non a Iove fulmen Oileus
 qui gemet, Euboicas nato stridente per undas,
 quique Erymanthei sudantem pondere monstri
 Amphitryoniaden Tegeaeo limine Cepheus 375
 iuuit, et Amphidamas (at frater plenior annis
 maluit Ancaeo vellus contingere Phrixi)
 tectus et Eurytion servato colla capillo,
 quem pater Aonias reducem tondebit ad aras.
 te quoque Thessalicae, Nestor, rapit in freta puppis 380
 fama, Mycenaeis olim qui candida velis
 aequora nec stantes mirabere mille magistros.
 nec Peleus fretus soceris et coniuge diva 403
 defuit, ac prora splendet tua cuspis ab alta,
 Aeacide: tantum haec aliis excelsior hastis 405
 quantum Peliacas in vertice vicerat ornos.

362 Naubol- γ : Naubul- C 373 gemet B^c Bon.² Carr.: gemit γ 376 annis M^2 Reg
 N X^2 Bon.¹: actis γ C 403–10 post 382 transtulit Kennerknecht 404 ac M^2 : ad γ : at
 Carr. tua LS: tu V 405 aliis R^2 Ald.: altis γ hastis D Carr.: astis γ

but it is base for a man to fear the future. [362] Here too Iphitus, son of Naubolus, rises up to churn the waves. Here Neptune's son Euphemus, [364] who rules wave-resounding Psamathe and ever-gaping Taenarum, shatters his father's waters. And from the gentle shore of Pella came Deucalion, unerring with the javelin, and Amphion, renowned in close combat with the sword; these Hypso brought into the world at the same time: she was not able, nor desired to distinguish their similar faces. [369] Then Clymenus, striking his breast with a vigorous oar, and his brother Iphitus draw the vessel along; [370] and Nauplius, destined to drive the Greeks onto your rocks, Caphereus, with a savage beacon. Then Oileus, who will groan at the thunderbolt not thrown by Jupiter, as his son moves hissing through Euboean waves. [374] Next Cepheus who near the border of Tegea relieved the son of Amphitryon, sweating under the weight of the Erymanthean monster; and Amphidamas (but their brother, fuller in years, preferred that the fleece of Phrixus fall to the lot of his son Ancaeus); [378] and Eurytion, his neck covered by untanned hair: his father will crop him at the Aonian altars upon his return. [380] The fame of the Thessalian vessel draws you too into the straits, Nestor, who one day will marvel at the waters white with Mycenaean sails and a thousand helmsmen not standing at the ready. [403] Nor was Peleus absent, trusting in his parents-in-law and goddess wife: your spear shines from the lofty prow, son of Aeacus; as much higher than the other spears it stands as it had towered over the other mountain-ashes on Pelion's summit.

linquit et Actorides natum Chironis in antro,
 ut socius caro pariter meditetur Achilli
 fila lyrae pariterque leves puer incitet hastas,
 discat eques placidi conscendere terga magistri. 410
 hic vates Phoebique fides non vana parentis 383
 Mopsus, puniceo cui circumfusa cothurno
 palla imos ferit alba pedes vittataque fronte 385
 cassis et in summo laurus Peneia cono.
 Quin etiam Herculeo consurgit ab ordine Tydeus
 Nelidesque Periclymenus, quem parva Methone
 felixque Elis equis et fluctibus obuius Aulon
 caestibus adversos viderunt frangere vultus. 390
 tu quoque Phrixios remo, Poeantie, Colchos
 bis Lemnon visure petis, nunc cuspidis patris
 inclitus, Herculeas olim moture sagittas.
 proximus hinc Butes Actaeis dives ab oris;
 innumeras nam claudit apes longaue superbus 395
 fuscatur nube diem dum plenas nectare cellas
 pandit et in dulcem reges dimittit Hymetton.
 insequeris casusque tuos expressa, Phalere,
 arma geris; vacua nam lapsus ab arbore parvum
 ter quater ardenti tergo circumvenit anguis, 400
 stat procul intendens dubium pater anxius arcum.
 tum caelata metus alios gerit arma Eribotes 402
 et, quem fama genus non est decepta Lyaei, 411
 Phlias immissus patrios de vertice crines.

407 natum Reg Bon.¹Carr.: natium γ post 409 versum intercidisse susp. Holford-
 Strevens 383 hic γ: hinc C vates Reg Bon.¹: vatis γC 385 alba γ:
 ima C fronte Barth: frontem γ 389 felixque Baehrens: alii alia: et levis L:
 felevis a 393-442 desunt in S 393 moture L: morture V: torture
 Heinsius 399 vacua γ: vidua Hirschwälder: alii alia 400 ter Marc. Ald.: te ω
 402 tum Reg Carr.: tunc γ post 402 lac. (aut aliqua additurum fuisse poetam) susp.
 edd. 412 Phlias Bon.¹: Pelias ω

[407] The son of Actor also left his child in the cave of Chiron, so that, as the companion of his dear Achilles, he might study the strings of the lyre and side by side fling the light spears that befit a boy, [410] and that he might, as a horseman in training, learn to mount the back of his gentle teacher. [383] Here proceeds Mopsus the seer, sure proof in himself of Phoebus' paternity. He wears a white robe that enfolds his crimson buskins and flaps against his feet; covering his brow a wreathed helmet which bears at its apex a Penean laurel.

[387] But Tydeus strains upward from the Herculean bank of oars, as does Periclymenus son of Neleus—small Methone, horse-rich Elis, and Aulon, exposed to the waves, saw him shatter opponents' faces with his gauntlets. [391] You also, son of Poeas, seek Phrixean Colchis with your oar, you who will see Lemnos twice, now celebrated for the spear of your father, though later you will set in motion the arrows of Hercules. [394] Next on the same side is Butes, a wealthy man from the Actaeon shores; for he encloses countless bees and is proud of the long cloud that darkens the day when he opens the nectar-laden cells and sends the kings to sweet Hymettus. [398] You, Phalerus, come next, carrying weapons engraved with your past fortune; for sliding down from a hollow tree a snake enfolded your small body in its gleaming coils thrice and four times; and from a distance your anxious father stands drawing his wavering bow. [402] Eribotes bears arms engraved with other fearful images [411] as does Phlias, whom report does not mistakenly make the offspring of Lyaeus: his hair streams from his head in the manner of his father.

nec timet Ancaeum genetrix committere ponto,
 plena tulit quem rege maris. securus in aequor
 haud minus Erginus, proles Neptunia, fertur, 415
 qui maris insidias, clarae qui sidera noctis
 norit et e clausis quem destinet Aeolus antris,
 non metuat cui regna ratis, cui tradere caelum
 adsidua Tiphys vultum lassatus ab Arcto.
 taurea vulnifico portat celer aspera plumbo 420
 terga Lacon, saltem in vacuos ut brachia ventos
 spargat et Oebalium Pagaseia puppis alumnum
 spectet securo celebrantem litora ludo,
 oraque Thessalico melior contundere freno
 vectorem pavidae Castor dum quaereret Helles 425
 passus Amyclaea pinguescere Cyllaron herba.
 illis Taenario pariter tremit ignea fuco
 purpura, quod gemina mater spectabile tela
 duxit opus: bis Taygeton silvasque comantes
 struxerat, Eurotan molli bis fuderat auro. 430
 quemque suus sonipes niveo de stamine portat,
 et volat amborum patrius de pectore cycnus.
 at tibi collectas solvit iam fibula vestes
 ostenditque umeros fortes spatiumque superbi
 pectoris Herculeis aequum, Meleagre, lacertis. 435
 hic numerosa phalanx, proles Cyllenia: certus
 Aethalides subitas nervo redeunte sagittas
 cogere; tu medios gladio bonus ire per hostes,

414 maris Bon.¹Carr.: mari γ
 424 Thessalico Bon.²Carr.: -io γ

420 celer aspera Withof: alii alia: celera γ: caelataque C
 427 Taenario B Carr.: -eo γ

[413] Nor does his mother fear to entrust Ancaeus to the sea, whom she bore when pregnant by the king of the sea. No less confidently does Erginus, the progeny of Neptune, embark upon the water, [416] for he knows the hazards of the sea and the stars of the clear night and which wind Aeolus is minded to release from the imprisoning caves; to him Tiphys need not fear to hand over command of the vessel, and the sky, when his eyes grow weary from ceaseless gazing upon the Bear. [420] The quick Laconian wears bull-hide gloves toughened with wound-dealing lead, so that he might at least cast varied blows into the empty air, and so that the Pagaseian vessel might see Oebalia's native son filling the shores with his carefree sport. [424] With him is Castor, more accomplished at breaking in the mouths of horses with a Thessalian bridle; while seeking the bearer of trembling Helle, he lets Cyllaros fatten on the grasses of Amyclae. [427] On both alike shimmers purple, fiery with Taenarian dye, splendid work that their mother had woven on twin looms; twice she had built up Taygetus and its leafy woods, twice she had poured out Eurotas in soft golden thread. [431] Each is borne by his own horse, woven in white thread; and from the breast of both flies a paternal swan. [433] But, Meleager, the clasp already loosens the gathered folds of your robe and reveals your strong shoulders and the expanse of your proud breast, vying with the musculature of Hercules. [436] Next comes the offspring of Cyllenius, a band of varied talents: Aethalides, sure in firing swift arrows from the recoiling bowstring, and you, Eurytus, good at advancing through the middle of the enemy

Euryte; nec patrio Minyis ignobilis usu,
 nuntia verba ducis populis qui reddit, Echion. 440
 sed non, Iphi, tuis Argo reditura lacertis
 heu cinerem Scythica te maesta relinquet harena,
 cessantemque tuo lugebit in ordine remum.
 te quoque dant campi tanto pastore Pheraei
 felices, Admete: tuis nam pendit in arvis 445
 Delius, ingrato Steropen quod fuderat arcu.
 a quotiens famulo notis soror obvia silvis
 flevit, ubi Ossaeae captaret frigora quercus
 perderet et pingui miseros Boebeide crines!
 insurgit transtris et remo Nerea versat 450
 Canthus, in Aeaëo volvet quem barbara cuspis
 pulvere; at interea clari decus adiacet orbis
 quem genitor gestabat Abas: secat aurea fluctu
 tegmina Chalcidicas fugiens Euripus harenas,
 celsaque semiferum contorquens frena luporum 455
 surgis ab ostrifero medius, Neptune, Geraesto.
 at tibi Palladia pinu, Polypheme, revector
 ante urbem ardentis restat deprendere patris
 reliquias, multum famulis pia iusta moratis,
 si venias. brevior petiti iam caerula remo 460
 occupat et longe sua transtra novissimus Idas.
 At frater magnos Lynceus servatur in usus,
 quem tulit Arene, possit qui rumpere terras
 et Styga transmisso tacitam deprendere visu.

442 cinerem *Thilo:* celerem γ 449 perderet *LV:* penderet *V^{ac}S* 457 at
Burman: et γ 460 petiti γ : ferit *Burman* 462 servatur *Ald. Carr.:* servatus γ

with a drawn sword; and, not without glory among the Minyae for his father's skill, Echion, who delivers to the peoples the leader's messages. [441] But sorrowing Argo shall not return by the power of your arms, Iphis: she will, alas, leave your ashes on the Scythian shore and will mourn the oar sitting idle in your row. [444] You too, Admetus, the plains of Pherae contribute, blessed in so great a shepherd; for in your fields the Delian god pays the penalty for having laid low Steropes with his thankless bow. [447] Ah how often did his sister weep, coming upon him, a mere servant, in those familiar woods whenever he sought the coolness of Ossan oak and befouled his wretched hair in the muddy waters of Boebeis! [450] Next Canthus rises up from the rowing benches, and churns Nereus with his oar: him a foreign spear shall fell in the Aean dust; but meanwhile at his side is the splendour of the famous round shield that his father Abas once had wielded. Euripus with its waves divides the golden covering, as it flees the sands of Chalcis; in the middle you, Neptune, rise up from oyster-bearing Geraestus, shaking the lofty reins of the half-bestial wolves. [457] But it awaits you, Polyphemus, brought back on the Palladian pine, to come upon your father's remains burning before the city, the servants having long delayed the pious rites in case you might come. Far away, last in the row, Idas takes his bench and reaches for the blue water with a shorter oar.

[462] But his brother, Lynceus, whom Arene bore, is reserved for more crucial work: for he can break through the earth and snatch glimpses of hidden Styx with his penetrating gaze.

fluctibus e mediis terras dabit ille magistro 465
 et dabit astra rati, cumque aethera Iuppiter umbra
 perdidit, solus transibit nubila Lynceus.
 quin et Cecropiae proles vacat Orithyiae
 temperet ut tremulos Zetes fraterque ceruchos.
 nec vero Odrysius transtris impenditur Orpheus 470
 aut pontum remo subigit, sed carmine tonsas
 ire docet summo passim ne gurgite pugnent.
 donat et Iphiclo pelagus iuvenumque labores
 Aesonides, fessum Phylace quem miserat aevo
 non iam operum in partem, monitus sed tradat ut acres 475
 magnorumque viros qui laudibus urat avorum.
 Arge, tuae tibi cura ratis, te moenia doctum
 Thespia Palladio dant munere; sors tibi nequa
 parte trahat tacitum puppis mare fissaque fluctu
 vel pice vel molli conducere vulnera cera. 480
 pervigil Arcadio Tiphys pendebat ab astro
 Hagniades, felix stellis qui segnibus usum
 et dedit aequoreos caelo duce tendere cursus.
 Ecce per obliqui rapidum compendia montis
 ductor ovans laetusque dolis agnoscit Acastum 485
 horrentem iaculis et parmae luce coruscum.
 ille ubi se mediae per scuta virosque carinae
 intulit, ardenti Aesonides retinacula ferro
 abscidit. haud aliter saltus vastataque pernix
 venator quam lustra fugit dominoque timentem 490

467 transibit V: transivit LS 470 impenditur Co Bon.¹Carr.:
 impeditur γ 474 miserat aevo Reg Bon.¹Carr.: misera laevo γ 479 fissaque fluctu N
 Bon.¹: fessaque luctu γ: fessaque lucta C 482 segnibus L: signibus a usum M² Bon.¹Carr.:
 osum γ 485 ovans Heinsius: avens γ 490 quam Columbus: cum γ

[465] From mid-sea he will point out coasts to the helmsman and stars to the ship; and when Jupiter has veiled the heavens with shadows only Lynceus will penetrate the clouds. [468] Likewise the offspring of Cecropian Orithyia, Zetes and his brother, are exempted from rowing, that they may manage the fluttering ropes of the sail-yards. [470] Nor indeed does Odrysian Orpheus spend himself on the benches or plough the sea with an oar; but with his song he teaches the oars so to move that they not clash in disorder about the surface of the water. [473] The son of Aeson also exempts Iphiclus from the sea and the labours of young men: him, wearied with age, Phylace had sent—no longer to share in the toil, but that he might give shrewd counsel and inflame the heroes with praise of their mighty ancestors. [477] To you, Argus, falls the care of your own vessel; the walled city of Thespieae contributes you, learned by the grace of Pallas; it is your allotted duty to ensure that the vessel nowhere draws undetected sea-water, and to seal with pitch or soft wax the wounds cleft by the waves. [481] Tiphys, the ever watchful son of Hagnias, riveted his gaze upon the Arcadian constellation, a blessed man, who devised a use for the sluggish stars and made it possible to steer courses upon the water with the sky as guide.

[484] Behold—the leader, exulting and delighted in his deceit, recognizes Acastus, bristling with spears and resplendent with the glimmering light of his shield, hastening along the shortcuts across the mountain slope. When he had brought himself through the shields and men and into the middle of the ship, the son of Aeson cut away the mooring cables with his gleaming sword. [489] Just so a nimble hunter flees the forest and the plundered lair, and urges on his horse, fearing for its master;

urget equum teneras compressus pectore tigres
 quas astu rapuit pavido, dum saeva relictis
 mater in averso catulis venatur Amano.
 it pariter propulsa ratis. stant litore matres
 claraque vela oculis percussaque sole sequuntur 495
 scuta virum, donec iam celsior arbore pontus
 immens<usque> ratem spectantibus abstulit aer.
 Siderea tunc arce pater pulcherrima Graium
 coepta tuens tantamque operis consurgere molem
 laetatur (patrii neque enim probat otia regni). 500
 una omnes gaudent superi venturaque mundo
 tempora quaeque vias cernunt sibi crescere Parcae.
 sed non et Scythici genitor discrimine nati
 intrepidus tales fundit Sol pectore voces:
 'Summe sator, cui nostra dies volentibus annis 505
 tot peragit reficitque vices, tuane ista voluntas
 Graiaque nunc undis duce te nutuque secundo
 it ratis? an meritos fas est mihi rumpere questus?
 hoc metuens et nequa foret manus invida nato
 non mediae telluris opes, non improba legi 510
 divitis arva plagae (teneant uberrima Teucer
 et Libys et vestri Pelopis domus): horrida saevo
 quae premis arva gelu strictosque insedimus amnes.
 cederet his etiam et sese sine honore referret
 ulterius, sed nube rigens ac nescia frugum 515
 stat super et nostros iam zona reverberat ignes.

491 teneras *R Junt.*¹ *Carr.*: teneros γ 493 averso *Ald.*: adverso γ 494 it *Eyssen-*
hardt: ut γ 496 iam *Bon.*¹ *Carr.*: tam γ 497 immensusque *Carr.*: immens *LV*:
 immensamque *S* 498 Graium *Vat Carr.*: gratum γ 507 Graiaque *Co Carr.*:
 grataque γ 513 premis *L*: primis *a* insedimus *Zinzerling*: in sedibus γ 515 frugum
Sandström: alii alia: regum γ

pressed to his breast are the tender cubs, which he has snatched with fearful cunning while their fierce mother hunts on the opposite side of Amanus, her young left behind. [494] The ship moves forward, smoothly propelled; the mothers stand on the shore and follow with their eyes the bright sails and the sun-struck shields of the heroes, until at length the sea is higher than the mast and the immense air removes the ship from their gaze.

[498] Then the Father in his starry citadel, observing the glorious undertakings of the Greeks and so great an enterprise beginning, is glad. For he does not approve of the leisure of his father's reign. [501] Together with him all the gods above rejoice at the coming ages of the world, as do the Parcae, who see the routes to themselves increasing. But Sol, not like them undaunted at the danger to his Scythian son, pours forth from his heart such words:

[505] 'Supreme begetter, for whom as the years go round our daylight completes and renews so many alternations, is *this* your will? Does the Greek vessel move through the waves under your guidance and with your favouring nod? Or may I give vent to just complaints? [509] Fearing just this and lest an envious hand be moved against my son, I chose not the wealth of a middle land and the vast fields of a rich region (let Teucer and the Libyan and the house of your own Pelops possess the most fruitful places): we settled upon bristling fields that you oppress with bitter frost, and upon frozen rivers. [514] And he would cede even these lands and withdraw yet further without honour—but beyond there lies only a region dense with clouds, and inhospitable to crops, which repels our rays.

quid regio immanis, quid barbarus amnibus ullis
 Phasis et aversis proles mea gentibus obstat?
 quid Minyae meruere queri? num vellere Graio
 vi potitur? profugo quin agmina iungere Phrixo 520
 abnuat, Inoas ultor nec venit ad aras,
 imperii sed parte virum nataeque moratus
 coniugio videt e Graia nunc stirpe nepotes
 et generos vocat et iunctas sibi sanguine terras.
 flecte ratem motusque, pater, nec vulnere nostro 525
 aequora pande viris; veteris sat conscia luctus
 silva Padi et viso flentes genitore sorores!
 adfremit his quassatque caput qui vellera dono
 Bellipotens sibi fixa videt †temptataque†; contra
 Pallas et amborum gemuit Saturnia questus. 530
 Tum genitor: 'vetera haec nobis et condita pergunt
 ordine cuncta suo rerumque a principe cursu
 fixa manent (neque enim terris tum sanguis in ullis
 noster erat cum fata darem, iustique facultas
 hinc mihi cum varios struerem per saecula reges) 535
 atque ego curarum repetam decreta mearum.
 iam pridem regio quae virginis aequor ad Helles
 et Tanai tenus immenso descendit ab Euro
 undat equis floretque viris, nec tollere contra
 ulla pares animos nomenque capessere bellis 540
 ausa manus: sic fata locos, sic ipse fovebam.
 accelerat sed summa dies Asiamque labantem

518 aversis *Pius*: adversis γ 519 quid *L*: quod α 521 abnuat *Parrhasius*: adnuat γ :
 annuit *C* ultor *Ald.*: ultro γ 523 videt e *VC*: videt te *L*: videre *S* 527 Padi *S L*¹
Carr.: pandi *L*^{ac}*V* 535 hinc *Balbus*: hic γ : hac *C* cum *QMal*: cur γ : ut
 hinc *C* 538 Tanai *Bon.*²: -in ω 542 labantem *Vat Bon.*¹*Carr.*: -entem γ

[517] How can this terrible region, how can barbarous Phasis be an offence to any rivers or my offspring to peoples so remote? [519] What cause can the Minyae have to complain? Did he acquire the Greek fleece by force? He declined to join forces with the exiled Phrixus, nor came as an avenger to Ino's altars. [522] Instead he detained him with a share of his kingdom and marriage to his daughter, and now he sees before him grandsons of Greek stock and calls the Greeks sons-in-law and considers their lands joined to him by blood. [525] Deflect the ship and its course, Father, and do not open the sea for these men to my harm; it is enough that the woods of the Padus know of my old grief, and the sisters who weep when they look upon their sire.' [528] To these words the war-god roars his assent and shakes his head vigorously; for he sees the fleece dedicated as an offering to him <...>; on the other side Pallas and Saturnia groaned at the complaints of them both.

[531] Then the father replied: 'All these things were established by me long ago; they are unfolding in their predestined order and remain unalterable from the world's original course. No stock of mine existed in any lands when I ordained the course of Fate: whence my ability to be just when I arrayed the various kings through the ages. [536] Now shall I unfold the decrees of my solicitude. [537] For a long time now the region that stretches down from the boundless East to the sea of the maiden Helle as far as the Tanais has teemed with horses and flourished with men; nor has any band dared to raise matched courage against it, and to seize renown through war. Thus did the Fates, thus did I myself cherish that land. [542] But the final day hastens, and we abandon tottering Asia;

linquimus et poscunt iam me sua tempora Grai.
 inde meae quercus tripodesque animaeque parentum
 hanc pelago misere manum. via facta per undas 545
 perque hiemes, Bellona, tibi. nec vellera tantum
 indignanda manent propiorque ex virgine rapta
 ille dolor, sed—nulla magis sententia menti
 fixa meae—veniet Phrygia iam pastor ab Ida,
 qui gemitus irasque pares et mutua Grai 550
 dona ferat. quae classe dehinc effusa procorum
 bella, quot ad Troiam flentes hiberna Mycenae,
 quot proceres natosque deum, quae robora cernes
 oppetere et magnis Asiam concedere fati!
 hinc Danaum de fine sedet gentesque fovebo 555
 mox alias. pateant montes silvaeque lacusque
 cunctaque claustra maris: spes et metus omnibus esto.
 arbiter ipse locos terrenaque summa movendo
 experiar, quaenam populis longissima cunctis
 regna velim linquamque datas ubi certus habenas.' 560
 Tunc oculos Aegaea refert ad caerula, robur
 Herculeum Ledaque tuens genus, atque ita fatur:
 'tendite in astra, viri: me primum regia mundo
 Iapeti post bella trucis Phlegraeque labores
 imposuit; durum vobis iter et grave caeli 565
 institui. sic ecce meus, sic, orbe peracto
 Liber et expertus terras remeavit Apollo.'
 dixit et ingenti flammantem nubila sulco

547 propior *Bon.*¹: propior γ 549 iam *U Bon.*²: nam γ 551 quae *Junt.*¹:
 qua ω 552 quot *Co Bon.*¹*Carr.*: quod γ 554 concedere γ : concidere *C*
 558 movendo γ : movebo *C* 564 trucis *Co Reg Bon.*¹: truces ω

now the Greeks demand from me their time. [544] Therefore my oak trees, tripods and the spirits of their forefathers have sent this band to the sea. A path through waves and storms has been made for you, Bellona. Nor does the fleece alone await to provoke indignation and the still closer grief arising from the maiden's abduction. For—no other purpose is more fixed in my mind—soon there shall come a herdsman from Phrygian Ida [550] who will bring the Greeks lamentation and like anger and reciprocal gifts. Thereupon what wars shall you witness issue forth from the flotilla of suitors, how many winters encamped at Troy shall you see Mycenae bewail, how many princes and sons of gods, what manhood meet with death, and you shall behold Asia yield to mighty fate. [555] Thereafter, the demise of the Danai is decided upon, and in due course I will favour other races. Let mountains, forests, lakes, and all the barriers of ocean be open; let there be hope and fear for all. [558] I myself as arbiter shall, by moving the seat of greatest earthly power, put to the test which kingdom I wish to rule longest over all peoples, in whose hands I may with certainty leave the reins I have bestowed.'

[561] Then he returns his gaze to the blue waters of the Aegean, and, looking upon the might of Hercules and the offspring of Leda, he speaks thus: [563] 'Strive for the stars, heroes. It was only after the battles with fierce Iapetus and the labours of Phlegra that royal power set me supreme over the universe. For you I have made the skyward path hard and toilsome. Only so did my Liber, having traversed the globe, only so did Apollo, having experienced life on earth, return to heaven.' [568] He spoke, and through the void he directed

derexit per inane facem, quae puppe propinqua
 in bifidum discessit iter fratresque petivit 570
 Tyndareos, placida et mediis in frontibus haesit
 protinus amborum lumenque innoxia fundit
 purpureum, miseris olim implorabile nautis.
 Interea medio saevus permissa profundo
 carbasa Pangaea Boreas speculatus ab arce 575
 continuo Aeoliam Tyrrhenaque tendit ad antra
 concitus. omne dei rapidis nemus ingemit alis,
 strata Ceres motuque niger sub praepete pontus.
 aequore Trinacrio refugique a parte Pelori
 stat rupes horrenda fretis: quot in aethera surgit 580
 molibus, infernas totidem demissa sub undas.
 nec scopulos aut antra minor iuxta altera tellus
 cernitur. illam Acamas habitat nudusque Pyracmon,
 has nimbi ventique domos et naufraga servat
 tempestas. hinc in terras latumque profundum 585
 est iter, hinc olim soliti miscere polumque
 infelixque fretum (neque enim tunc Aeolus illis
 rector erat, Libya cum rumperet advena Calpen
 Oceanus, cum flens Siculos Oenotria fines
 perderet et mediis intrarent montibus undae), 590
 intonuit donec pavidis ex aethere ventis
 Omnipotens regemque dedit, quem iussa vereri
 saeva cohors; vix monte chalybs iterataque muris
 saxa domant Euros. cum iam cohibere frementum

569 derexit *Baehrens*: dir- γ 578 motuque *Reg*: motoque ω praepete *L*:
 praete α 579–81 *exhib.* f 580 quot f : quod γ 581 totidem *Junt.*¹:
 totiens ω 583 illam γ : ille *C* Pyracmon *Bon.*¹: Pyragmon *C*: pyragmo γ 584–
 96 *exhib.* f 586 hinc γ : hic f 587 Aeolus f : aeblus γ 588 rumperet γ :
 abrumperet f 593 cohors vix *Sudhaus*: cohors γ : cohors in *C*: cohors
 tum f 594 cohibere *Heinsius*: prohibere ω

a fiery shaft that burned a great furrow in the clouds. As it neared the ship it split asunder and sought the Tyndarean brothers, settling peacefully on their heads and harmlessly shedding a purple light that would afterwards be called upon by sailors in distress.

[574] Meanwhile from the Pangaeon heights fierce Boreas, having observed Argo's sails set to the winds in mid sea, at once makes for Aeolia and the Tyrrhenian caverns in hot haste. Every forest groans at the whirring wings of the god, crops are laid low, and the sea darkens beneath his swift flight. [579] In the Sicilian Sea, on the side of the retreating promontory of Pelorum, a rocky crag stands dreadful in the waters. As far as its bulky mass towers skyward, so far does it extend downward beneath the Tuscan waves. [582] Nearby can be seen another island, with cliffs and caverns no less vast. In the former dwell Acamas and naked Pyracmon; [584] the latter is the abode of the rain-clouds, the winds, and the ship-wrecking storms. From here is their course to the lands and to the broad deep, from here were they once accustomed to commingle the sky and the wretched sea (for Aeolus was not then their king, at that time when intruding Ocean severed Calpe from Libya, when grieving Oenotria lost her Sicilian lands, and waters flowed amidst the mountains), [591] until at last from heaven the Almighty thundered upon the trembling winds and appointed a king, whom the raging band was ordered to revere; scarcely do the steel and the twofold walls of rock contain the winds within the mountain. When the king can no longer restrain their roaring

ora nequit, rex tunc aditus et claustra refringit 595
 ipse volens placatque data fera murmura porta.
 Nuntius hunc solio Boreas proturbat ab alto.
 'Pangaea quod ab arce nefas,' ait, 'Aeole, vidi!
 Graia novam ferro molem commenta iuventus
 pergit et ingenti gaudens domat aequora velo. 600
 nec mihi libertas imis freta tollere harenis,
 qualis eram, nondum vinclis et carcere clausus.
 hinc animi structaeque viris fiducia puppis,
 quod Borean sub rege vident. da mergere Graios
 insanamque ratem! nil me mea pignora tangunt. 605
 tantum hominum compesce minas dum litora iuxta
 Thessala necdum aliae viderunt carbasa terrae.'
 Dixerat; at cuncti fremere intus et aequora venti
 poscere. tum validam contorto turbine portam
 impulit Hippotades. fundunt se carcere laeti 610
 Thraces equi Zephyrusque et nocti concolor alas
 nimborum cum prole Notus crinemque procellis
 hispidus et multa flavus caput Euris harena.
 induxere hiemem raucoque ad litora tractu
 unanimi freta curva ferunt. nec sola tridentis 615
 regna movent: vasto pariter ruit igneus aether
 cum tonitru piceoque premit nox omnia caelo.
 excussi manibus remi conversaque frontem
 puppis in obliquum resonos latus accipit ictus,
 vela super tremulum subitus volitantia malum 620

602 *distinxit* Burman 603 -que viris S: -quiris LV 605 pignora *Sabellicus*:
 pectora γ 608 at S om. L 609 contorto *Burman*: -tam γ 619 resonos γ:
 resonat C ictus L: actus a

mouths, then of his own will he breaks open the bars and the entrance-way, and appeases their savage murmuring by granting egress.

[597] Him news-bearing Boreas causes to start from his lofty throne: [598] 'What an abomination I have seen from the Pangaeon summit, Aeolus!' he said. 'Greek warriors, having fashioned a strange hulking mass with the axe, strive onward, joyfully conquering the sea with a great sail. [601] Nor have I the freedom to raise the waters from their deepest sands as when I had not yet been constrained by chains and prison. [603] Whence the courage of these men and faith in the vessel they have built—that they see Boreas under a king. Let me immerse the Greeks and their insane vessel! The thought of my children moves me not. [606] Only curb this threat from mankind while still the nearby Thessalian coasts, and as yet no other lands, have seen its sails.'

[608] He had spoken; and inside all the winds roared and demanded the open sea. Then the son of Hippotas struck open the sturdy door with a whirling blast. Joyfully the Thracian horses rush forth from the prison, and Zephyrus and Notus, his wings black as night, with his progeny of rain-clouds, and Eurus, his hair tousled by gales and tawny with much sand. [614] With one accord they brought on the storm and by their raucous force drive the curving waters to the shore. Nor do they stir the trident's realm alone: with a mighty thunder-clap the fiery aether plummets, and night covers all beneath a pitch-black sky. [618] The oars are blasted from the rowers' hands; the ship's prow is turned aslant, and she receives resounding blows on her flank; a sudden gale snatches away the sails fluttering above the

turbo rapit. qui tum Minyis trepidantibus horror
 cum picei fulsere poli pavidamque coruscae
 ante ratem cecidere faces antemnaque laevo
 prona dehiscentem cornu cum sustulit undam!
 non hiemem missosque putant consurgere ventos 625
 ignari, sed tale fretum. tum murmure maesto:
 ‘Hoc erat inlicitas temerare rudentibus undas
 quod nostri timuere patres. vix litore puppem
 solvimus et quanto fremitu se sustulit Aegon!
 hocine Cyanaeae concurrunt aequore cautes 630
 tristius an miseris superest mare? linquite, terrae,
 spem pelagi sacrosque iterum seponite fluctus!’
 haec iterant segni flentes occumbere leto.
 Magnanimus spectat pharetras et inutile robur
 Amphitryoniades. miscent suprema paventes 635
 verba alii iunguntque manus atque ora fatigant,
 aspectu in misero toti, cum protinus alnus
 solvitur et vasto puppis mare sorbet hiatu.
 illam huc atque illuc nunc torquens verberat Euris,
 nunc stridens Zephyris aufert Notus. undique fervent 640
 aequora, cum subitus trifida Neptunus in hasta
 caeruleum fundo caput extulit. ‘hanc mihi Pallas
 et soror hanc’, inquit, ‘mulcens mea pectora fletu
 abstulerint; veniant Phariae Tyriaeque carinae
 permissumque putent. quotiens mox rapta videbo 645
 vela Notis plenasque aliis clamoribus undas!’

622 picei *Reg Bon.*¹*Carr.*: picea γ 632 pelagi *S*: pelagis *LV* 637 in misero toti
Köstlin: in misero tota γ: tota in misero *C* 646 aliis *Heinsius*: malis γ

trembling mast. [621] What terror then came over the trembling Minyae, when the pitch-black sky flashed and shimmering lightning fell before the fearful ship, and when the yard-arm, dipping to port, flung up the yawning waves with its outermost point! [625] In their ignorance they think not that this is a storm, and that the winds rise up at a god's behest, but that such is the sea. Then in a mournful murmur—

[627] 'So this is why our ancestors feared to defile the sea with shipping tackle. We have barely left the shore and already the Aegean rises up in a great tumult. [630] Is it in these waters that the Cyanean Rocks clash together, or does a yet more forbidding sea await us poor wretches? Abandon hope of the sea, land-dwellers, and once again set apart the sacred waves!' [633] They repeat these words, weeping to perish by so unmanly a death.

[634] The great-hearted son of Amphytrion looks upon his quiver and his useless oak-wood club; the others exchange final words, and join hands and weary their lips, utterly absorbed in the miserable scene, when suddenly the vessel's timbers are loosened and she drinks in the sea through a gaping breach. [639] And now Eurys lashes the ship, hurling her this way and that; now hissing Notus snatches her away from the Zephyrs. All around the waters seethe, when suddenly Neptune, armed with his three-pronged spear, raised his dark-blue head from the depths: 'This vessel,' he said, 'let Pallas and my sister, softening my breast with their tears, take from me. [644] Let ships come from Pharos and Tyre, and think what they do is permitted; how often thereupon shall I see sails suddenly snatched by the south winds, and the waves filled with other cries!

non meus Orion aut saevus Pliade Taurus
 mortis causa novae; miseris tu gentibus, Argo,
 fata paras nec iam merito tibi, Tiphys, quietum
 ulla parens volet Elysium manesque piorum.' 650

Haec ait et pontum pater ac turbata reponit
 litora depellitque Notos, quos caerulus horror
 et madido gravis unda sinu longeque secutus
 imber ad Aeoliae tendunt simul aequora portae.
 emicuit reserata dies caelumque resolvit 655
 arcus et in summos redierunt nubila montes.

Iam placidis ratis exstat aquis, quam gurgite ab imo
 et Thetis et magnis Nereus socer erigit ulnis.
 ergo umeros ductor sacro velatur amictu
 Aesoniamque capit pateram, quam munere gaudens 660
 liquerat hospitio pharetrasque rependerat auro
 Salmoneus, nondum ille furens, qui fingeret alti
 quadrifida trabe tela Iovis contraque ruenti
 aut Atho aut Rhodopen maestae nemora ardua Pisae
 aemulus et miseros ipse ureret Elidis agros. 665
 hac pelago libat latices et talibus inquit:

'Di, quibus undarum tempestatisque sonora
 imperium et magno penitus par regia caelo,
 tuque, fretum divosque pater sortite biformes,
 seu casus nox ista fuit, seu, volvitur axis 670
 ut superum, sic stare et opus tollique vicissim
 pontus habet, seu te subitae nova puppis imago

648 Argo *Reg Bon.*¹*Carr.*: ergo γ 649 iam *Reg Bon.*¹*Carr.*: tam γ 654 ad ... ae-
 ora γ: ab ... aequore C 662 qui *de Clercq van Jever*: cum γ 663 ruenti *Heinsius*:
 ruente γ: ruentem *Carr.* 664 Atho *Ald.*: Athon γ Pisae *add. L in margine* 665 ureret
 Elidis S: urere (urire V) caelidis LV 671 stare et opus *Bosscha*: alii alia: staret opus γ

[647] Neither my Orion nor the Bull, savage with the Pleiad, shall be the cause of this new form of death: you, Argo, are devising doom for wretched peoples; and deservedly shall no mother hereafter wish you, Tiphys, the peace of Elysium and the company of the shades of the pious.'

[651] Thus spoke the Father, and he calmed the sea and the shaken shoreline, and drove away the south winds, in whose wake dark shuddering water, the billow, heavy with watery fold, and, following at a distance, the rain-storm all proceed together to the waters of the Aeolian gate. [655] The daylight, newly released, shone forth, a rainbow disclosed the sky, and the clouds returned to the mountain peaks.

[657] Now out of gentle waters the ship stands high, which from the bottom of the sea Thetis and her father-in-law Nereus with his mighty elbows support. [659] Therefore the leader covers his shoulders with a sacred robe, and takes up a dish of Aeson's, which Salmoneus, delighting in his gift, had left in guest-friendship, repaying the quiver with its gold. For he was not yet the madman who would attempt to fashion the weapons of high Jupiter from a four-forked beam of wood, and, seeking to rival the god when he casts forth against Athos or Rhodope, would himself burn the steep groves of unhappy Pisa and the fields of wretched Elis. [666] From this dish he pours a libation into the sea and with such words begins to speak:

[667] 'O Gods, to whom belongs command over waves and resounding storm, and whose kingdom is equal in measure to the vast sky, and you, Father, who drew as your lot the straits and the gods of double-form. [670] Whether this darkness came by chance, or whether, just as the axis of the upper gods revolves, so in alternation all must stand calm, then the sea be upheaved, or whether the sudden, strange sight of a ship

armorumque hominumque truces consurgere in iras
 impulit, haec luerim satis et tua numina, rector,
 iam fuerint meliora mihi. da reddere terris 675
 has animas patriaeque amplecti limina portae!
 tum quocumque loco meritas tibi plurimus aras
 pascit honos, ubicumque rotis horrendus equisque
 stas, pater, atque ingens utrimque fluentia Triton
 frena tenet, tantus nostras condere per urbes.' 680
 Dixerat haec. oritur clamor dextraeque sequentum
 verba ducis. sic cum stabulis et messibus ingens
 ira deum et Calabri populator Sirius arvi
 incubuit, coit agrestum manus anxia priscum
 in nemus et miseris dictat pia vota sacerdos. 685
 ecce autem molli Zephyros descendere lapsu
 aspiciunt: volat immissis cava pinus habenis
 infunditque salum et spumas vomit aere tridenti;
 Tiphys agit tacitique sedent ad iussa ministri,
 qualiter ad summi solium Iovis omnia circum 690
 prona parata deo, ventique imbresque nivesque
 fulguraque et tonitrus et adhuc in fontibus amnes.
 At subitus curaque ducem metus acrior omni
 mensque mali praesaga quatit, quod regis adortus
 progeniem raptoque dolis crudelis Acasto 695
 cetera nuda neci medioque in crimine patrem
 liquerit ac nullis inopem vallaverit armis,
 ipse procul nunc tuta tenens; ruat omnis in illos

678 pascit γ : pascet C ubicumque γ , susp. edd. horrendus equisque Bon.¹Junt.¹:
 horrendus et equis S: horrent et equis L: horren et equis V 679 stas S: stat LVC
 680 condere Heinsius: alii alia: concede γ 681 dextraeque Junt.¹: dextraque ω
 684 anxia γ : inscia C 695 raptoque S: rapto LV 698 illos L: illis α : illum Kramer

and arms and men drove you to harsh anger—may I have now atoned sufficiently, and may your godhead, lord, already have become more favourable to me. Grant me to bring these lives back to land, and to embrace the threshold of my father's door. [677] Then, wherever the most plentiful sacrifice feeds your deserving altars, and wherever you stand awful to behold with chariot and horses, while on either side a huge Triton holds the flowing reins, just so shall you be erected throughout our cities.'

[681] He had spoken these words; a shout arises, and with it the right hands of men in accord with the leader's words. In the same way when the great anger of the gods and Sirius, destroyer of Calabria's fields, lies heavily on animal stalls and harvest crops, an anxious band of rustics gathers in an ancient grove, and a priest leads the wretches in pious vows. [686] Behold—they perceive settling Zephyrs in gentle descent; and the hollow pine flies forward with loosened brailing cables, cleaving the salt water and churning up foam with its three-forked brazen prow. [689] Tiphys guides the ship, and crewmen sit silently at his command; as around the throne of highest Jupiter, all things stand ready and eager to serve the god—winds, rain, snow, lightning and thunder, and rivers still in their springs.

[693] But a sudden fear, sharper than all other concerns, and a mind foreboding ill now assail the leader in that, having swayed the king's son, having cruelly snatched away Acastus through trickery, he has left the rest of his kin exposed to death and his father helpless in the midst of accusation, without safeguarding him with arms. [698] Jason himself is far away and proceeds in safety; all the king's fury

quippe furor. nec vana pavet trepidatque futuris.
 Saevit atrox Pelias inimicaque vertice ab alto 700
 vela videt nec qua se ardens effundere possit.
 nil animi, nil regna iuvant; fremit obice ponti
 clausa cohors, telisque salum facibusque coruscat.
 haud secus, aerisona volucer cum Daedalus ora
 prosiluit iuxtaque comes brevioribus alis, 705
 nube nova linquente domos Minoia frustra
 infremuit manus et visu lassatur inani
 omnis eques plenisque redit Gortyna pharetris.
 quin etiam in thalamis primoque in limine Acasti
 fusus humo iuvenis gressus et inania signa 710
 ore premit sparsisque legens vestigia canis
 'te quoque iam maesti forsan genitoris imago,
 nate,' ait 'et luctus subeunt suspiria nostri,
 iamque dolos circumque trucid discrimina leti
 mille vides. qua te, infelix, quibus insequar oris? 715
 non Scythicas ferus ille domos nec ad ostia Ponti
 tendit iter, falsae sed captum laudis amore
 te, puer, in nostrae durus tormenta senectae
 nunc lacerat. celsis an si freta puppibus essent
 pervia, non ultro iuvenes classemque dedissem? 720
 o domus, o freti nequiquam prole penates!
 dixit et extemplo furiis iraque minaci
 terribilis: 'sunt hic etiam tua vulnera, praedo,
 sunt lacrimae carusque parens!' simul aedibus altis

704 ora C: ira γ: Ida Junt.¹ 708 eques nonnulli apud Pium Ald.: equis γ
 710 humo C: homo γ 721 penates Balbus: nepotes γ

will fall upon them. Nor does he fear empty dangers, but quails at things that shall come to pass.

[700] Savage Pelias rages as from a lofty summit he sees the hateful sails—but not how he might give vent to his anger. Neither ardour nor royal power avail: the band of soldiers, held back by the barrier of ocean, growls: the salt water gleams with the reflection of weapons and firebrands. [704] Not otherwise, when winged Daedalus sprang forth from the bronze-resounding shores, his companion with shorter wings beside him—not otherwise did the troops of Minos roar in anger as the strange cloud left the habitations, and every horseman wearied himself with fruitless gazing and returned to Gortyn with full quivers. [709] And now Pelias, sprawled upon the ground at the threshold of Acastus' bedchamber, presses with his lips the places the youth had trodden and the empty signs of him; he looks upon these traces, his grey hair dishevelled, and says: [712] 'Perhaps the image of your grief-stricken parent now steals over you too, my son, and the sighs of my sorrow; and you see the deceit and a thousand dangers of grim death all around you. Where, to what shores, shall I follow you, unfortunate one? [716] That brute journeys not to Scythian realms or the mouth of Pontus; instead, it is you, my child, ensnared by the love of false glory, that he cruelly assails in order to bring anguish upon my old age. If the seas were navigable by lofty vessels, would I not have provided you with men and fleet of my own accord? [721] O my household, o *penates* who trusted in your offspring to no avail!' He spoke, and continued hard upon, now terrible with madness and threatening anger: 'Plunderer, the means to wound you are still here: here there are tears and your beloved father.' Therewith he paces back and forth in the

itque reditque fremens rerumque asperrima versat. 725
 Bistonas ad meritos cum cornua saeva Thyoneus
 torsit et infelix iam mille furoribus Haemus,
 iam Rhodopes nemora alta gemunt, talem incita longis
 porticibus coniunxque fugit natiq̃ue Lycurgum.
 Tartareo tum sacra Iovi Stygiisque ferebat 730
 manibus Alcimedea tanto super anxia nato,
 siquid ab excitis melius praenosceret umbris.
 ipsum etiam curisque parem talesque prementem
 corde metus ducit, facilem tamen, Aesona coniunx.
 in scrobibus cruor et largus Phlegethontis operi 735
 stagnat honos saevoque vocat grandaeva tumultu
 Thessalis exanimis atavos magnaēque nepotem
 Pleiones. et iam tenues ad carmina vultus
 extulerat maestosque tuens natumque nurumque
 talia libato pandebat sanguine Cretheus: 740
 'Mitte metus, volat ille mari, quantumque propinquat
 iam magis atque magis variis stupet Aea deorum
 prodigiis quatiuntque truces oracula Colchos.
 heu quibus ingreditur fatis, qui gentibus horror
 pergit! mox Scythiae spoliis nuribusque superbus 745
 adveniet; cuperem ipse graves tum rumpere terras.
 sed tibi triste nefas fraternaēque turbidus arma
 rex parat et saevos irarum concipit ignes.
 quin rapis hinc animam et tremulos citus effugis artus?
 i, meus es, iam te in lucos pia turba silentum 750

725 rerumque *Junt.*¹*Carr.*: regumque γ 726 Thyoneus *Bon.*²*Carr.*: thyone γ
 729 coniunxque α: coniunx L 734 ducit *Bon.*¹*Carr.*: dicit γ 735 in γ: it *Dureau*
de Lamalle operi C: aperti γ 737 Thessalis L: Thessales α nepotem L: nepote α
 742 stupet L: stupe α Aea *Gronovius*: acta γ 749 hinc α: hanc L tremulos *Thilo*:
 famulos γ effugis S: effugit LV 750 in L om. α

lofty palace, muttering to himself as he ponders the harshest of deeds. [726] Such was Lycurgus, when Thyoneus turned his fierce horns against the guilty Thracians, and wretched Haemus and the tall forests of Rhodope groan with madness a thousand-fold—such was Lycurgus, from whom his wife and children flee in haste down the long colonnades.

[730] Just then Alcimede, anxious for her mighty son, was bringing sacred offerings to Tartarean Jupiter and the Stygian shades, in the hope that she might gain more certain foreknowledge by summoning the shades. [733] Even Aeson himself, similarly beset with worries, though concealing such fears within his heart, is easily led by his wife. [735] Blood, a plentiful offering to hidden Phlegethon, pools in a ditch; with savage tumult the aged Thessalian witch invokes deceased ancestors and the grandson of mighty Pleione. Already in response to the spells Cretheus raised his insubstantial head, gazed upon his downcast son and daughter-in-law, and, having drunk the blood, disclosed the following:

[741] 'Cast away your fears. He flies over the sea; already, as he draws nearer, Aea marvels more and more at the various prodigies of the gods, and oracles disturb the savage Colchians. [744] Ah, upon what destinies does he embark, what a terror for nations goes forth! In due course shall he return, superb with spoils and maidens of Scythia. At that moment would I myself wish to burst through the ponderous earth. [747] But now the riled king prepares a grim crime, fraternal arms, against you, and ignites the fierce flames of his anger. [749] But why not snatch away your life, and quickly flee your trembling limbs? Come, you are mine, and already the sacred crowd of the silent

secretisque ciet volitans pater Aeolus arvis.⁷

Horruit interea famulum clamore supremo
maesta domus, regemque fragor per moenia differt
mille ciere manus et iam dare iussa vocatis.
flagrantes aras vestemque nemusque sacerdos 755
praecipitat subitisque pavens circumspicit Aeson
quid moveat. quam multa leo cunctatur in arta
mole virum rictuque genas et lumina pressit,
sic curae subiere ducem, ferrumne capessat
imbelle atque aevi senior gestamina primi 760
an patres regnique acuat mutabile vulgus.
contra effusa manus haerensque in pectore coniunx
'me quoque' ait 'casus comitem quicumque propinquat
accipies, nec fata traham natumque videbo
te sine, sat caeli patiens, cum prima per altum 765
vela dedit, potui quae tantum ferre dolorem.'

Talia per lacrimas. et iam circumspicit Aeson,
praeveniat quo fine minas, quae fata capessat
digna satis; magnos obitus natumque domumque
et genus Aeolium pugnataque poscere bella. 770
est etiam ante oculos aevi rudis altera proles,
ingentes animos et fortia discere facta
quem velit atque olim leti meminisse paterni.
ergo sacra novat. veteris sub nocte cupressi
sordidus et multa pallens ferrugine taurus 775
stabat adhuc, cui caeruleae per cornua vittae

751 arvis γ: antris C 757 cunctatur Thilo: cunctatus γ 759 sic... subiere S:
si...subiecere LV 761 acuat γ corr. Bon.¹ 767 per lacrimas γ: perlacrimans C
768 quae Pius: quo γ 769 obitus Co Bon.¹Carr.: obitum γ 771 aevi C: aevum γ
774 novat Bon.¹Carr.: nova γ

and father Aeolus, flitting about the secluded fields, summon you to their groves.'

[752] Meanwhile, the gloomy home shuddered with the servants' cries of lamentation; and through the walls of the city a shattering report spreads that the king is mustering a thousand troops, and that he is already giving orders to those summoned. [755] The priestess overturns the flaming altars and casts down robe and foliage; and Aeson, in fear at these sudden developments, considers what to do. As a lion amidst a tight throng of men long hesitates, and presses together cheeks and eyes with its gaping jaw, [759] so do anxious thoughts come upon the leader: should he seize the feeble sword and the weaponry of early youth, though an old man, or should he rouse the Fathers and the kingdom's fickle populace? [762] But his wife, stretching forth her hands, clings to his breast, and says: [763] 'You shall take me as a companion in whatever misfortune draws near, nor will I drag out my life or see my son without you, having endured long enough the sky above—I who was able to bear that great sorrow when first he set sail though the deep.'

[767] Such words she spoke through her tears. And now Aeson ponders by what end he might forestall the threats, what sufficiently worthy death to undertake: his son, his household, the Aeolian race, and his own achievements in war all demand a great demise. [771] And before his mind's eye is his second son, as yet of callow age, whom he would wish to learn prodigious courage and great deeds, and to recall in days to come his father's death. [774] Therefore he renews the sacred rites. Beneath the night of an ancient cypress-tree a bull still stood, squalid and pale with darkish hue, cerulean fillets on its horns,

et taxi frons hirta comis; ipse aeger anhelans
 impatiensque loci visaque exterritus umbra.
 hunc sibi praecipuum gentis de more nefandae
 Thessalis in seros Ditis servaverat usus, 780
 tergeminam cum placat eram Stygiasque supremo
 obsecrat igne domos, iam iam exorabile retro
 carmen agens; neque enim ante leves niger avehit umbras
 portitor et cunctae primis stant faucibus Orci.
 illum ubi terrificis superesse in tempore sacris 785
 conspexit, statuit leto supremaque fatur
 ipse manu tangens damnati cornua tauri:
 'Vos quibus imperium Iovis et non segne peractum
 lucis iter, mihi conciliis, mihi cognita bellis
 nomina magnorum fama sacrata nepotum 790
 tuque, excite parens umbris ut nostra videres
 funera et oblitos superum paterere dolores,
 da placidae mihi sedis iter meque hostia vestris
 conciliet praemissa locis. tu, nuntia sontum
 virgo Iovi, terras oculis quae prospicis aequis, 795
 ultricesque deae Fasque et grandaeva Furorum
 Poena parens, meritis regis succedite tectis
 et saevas inferte faces! sacer effera raptet
 corda pavor nec sola mei gravia adfore nati
 arma ratemque putet: classes et Pontica signa 800
 atque indignatos temerato litore reges
 mente agitet semperque metu decurrat ad undas

778 impatiensque S: impatiens LV
 tum Bon.¹Carr. 785 terrificis

781–4 post 811 transtulit Thilo
 γ: terrifici Bon.¹Carr.

781 cum γ:
 Chis: sacri γ

795 oculis S: oculos LV

its brow shaggy with a wreath of yew-leaves; the creature was panting feebly, unable to endure the place and terrified at the sight of the shade. [779] This bull the Thessalian witch, after the fashion of that wicked breed, had kept specially for the later benefit of Dis, [781] at the time when she placates the goddess of triple-form and supplicates the Stygian abodes with the final burnt offering, uttering the powerful spell backwards; for not before this does the black ferryman convey the weightless shades, and they all stand at the mouth of Orcus. [785] When Aeson saw that the bull was still available for the dreadful rites at this apt moment, he resolved upon its death; then, touching with his own hand the horns of the doomed bull, he speaks his last:

[788] 'You who have carried out the command of Jupiter and vigorously accomplished the journey of light, names well known to me through councils and wars, names sanctified by the good repute of your mighty descendants; [791] and you, my father, summoned from the shades to view our death and endure the forgotten sorrows of those above—grant me a path to the tranquil realm, and may the victim that precedes win approval for me in your abode. And you, virgin, reporter of guilty deeds to Jupiter, who look upon the earth with impartial eyes; [796] and you, avenging goddesses, and Right, and you, Retribution, ancient mother of the Furies: enter the guilty abode of the king and apply your harsh torches. Let accursed fear seize his savage heart, nor let him think that it is the formidable arms and vessel of my son alone that are at hand. Rather may he be vexed in mind over the fleets and standards of Pontus and the kings angered by the violation of their coasts, and may he constantly rush down to the shore,

arma ciens. mors sera viam temptataque claudat
 effugia et nostras nequeat praecurrere diras,
 sed reduces iam iamque viros auroque coruscum 805
 cernat iter. stabo insultans et ovantia contra
 ora manusque feram. tum, vobis siquod inausum
 arcanumque nefas et adhuc incognita leti
 sors superest, date fallaci pudibunda senectae
 exitia indecoresque obitus! non Marte nec annis 810
 aut nati precor ille mei dignatus ut umquam
 ense cadat; quae fida manus, quae cara suorum
 diripiat laceretque senem nec membra sepulchro
 contegat. haec noster de rege piacula sanguis
 sumat et, heu, cunctae, quas misit in aequora, gentes! 822
 adstitit et nigro fumantia pocula tabo 815
 contigit ipsa gravi Furiarum maxima dextra;
 illi avide exceptum pateris hausere cruorem.
 Fit fragor: inrumpunt sonitu, qui saeva ferebant
 imperia et strictos iussis regalibus enses.
 in media iam morte senes suffectaque leto 820
 lumina et undanti revomentes veste cruorem
 conspiciunt primoque rudem sub limine rerum 823
 te, puer, et visa pallentem morte parentum
 diripiunt adduntque tuis. procul horruit Aeson 825
 excedens memoremque tulit sub nubibus umbram.
 Cardine sub nostro rebusque abscissa supernis
 Tartarei sedet aula patris, non illa ruenti

808 incognita Junt.¹: incondita ω 810 annis Baehrens: armis γ 811 nati hoc loco
 L, post mei S, om. V 812 quae... quae γ: quin... quin C 822 post 814 transtulit
 Junt.¹ 818 sonitu S: sonitus LV: foribus Heinsius: alii alia ferebant S:
 -at LV 819 imperia S: imperio LV 821 revomentes Reg Pius: -e LV:
 -em S 825 diripiunt Bon.¹Carr.: deripiunt γ 826 nubibus γ: manibus Weichert
 827 abscissa C: adscisa γ

calling his troops to arms. May a late death close off the path of attempted escape, and let him not manage to anticipate our curses; [805] but rather let him see soon the heroes returning and their path gleaming with gold. I shall stand gloating, and raise against him an exulting hand and countenance. Then, if you have at your disposal some secret crime not yet dared, some manner of death still unknown—provide a shameful end for his treacherous old age, an unseemly death. [810] And I pray that he never be deemed worthy to fall by Mars, by the passage of years, or by the sword of my son. Rather let that trusted band, his own loved ones, rip apart and mangle the old man, and not bury his limbs in a tomb. Let this be the atonement exacted from the king by my offspring and by all those peoples—alas—that he has set upon the sea.' [815] The eldest of the Furies stood nearby; with her terrible right hand she touched the goblets foaming with black gore; eagerly they drank the blood drawn from the bowls.

[818] A shattering noise arises; men burst in with a clamour, bearing savage orders and swords drawn by royal command. [820] They see the old ones already in the midst of perishing, their eyes suffused with death, vomiting forth blood over soaking garments. But you, boy, still of tender years and not yet at the first threshold of deeds—you, blanching at the sight of your parents' death, they tear apart, and add to your kin. Nearby Aeson shuddered, passing away, and bore his mindful shade under the clouds.

[827] Beneath our pole, and cut off from the upper realms, lies the palace of the Tartarean father; it would not share in the fate of the plummeting

accessura polo, victam si volvere molem
 * * * * *
 ingenti iacet ore Chaos, quod pondere fessam 830
 materiem lapsumque queat consumere mundum.
 hic geminae aeternum portae, quarum altera dura
 semper lege patens populos regesque receptat;
 ast aliam temptare nefas et tendere contra:
 rara et sponte patet, siquando pectore ductor 835
 vulnera nota gerens, galeis praefixa rotisque
 cui domus, aut studium mortales pellere curas,
 culta fides, longe metus atque ignota cupido,
 seu venit in vittis castaque in veste sacerdos.
 quos omnes levibus plantis et lampada quassans 840
 progenies Atlantis agit. lucet via late
 igne dei, donec silvas et amoena piorum
 deveniant camposque, ubi sol totumque per annum
 durat aprica dies thiasique chorique virorum
 carminaque, et quorum populis iam nulla cupido. 845
 has pater in sedes aeternaque moenia natum
 inducitque nurum. tum porta quanta sinistra
 poena docet maneat Pelian, quot limine monstra.
 mirantur tantos strepitus turbamque ruentem
 et loca et infernos almae virtutis honores. 850

829 volvere γ : solvere Heinsius post 829 lac. pos. γ C: cuius supplendae gratia in marg.
 C hic versus adscriptus est Iuppiter et primae velit omnia reddere massae: Pius se in vetusto codice
 invenisse ait senserit atque gravi totam subsidere motu Fata velint, si summa dies subverterit
 orbem 830 iacet γ : iuvet Sudhaus: alii alia 840 levibus E: lenis γ 841 lucet S:
 luget LV 844 chorique S: chori LV 848 quot... monstra Postgate: quo...
 monstrat ω