

INTRODUCTION

The Story of Ovid's Life

Ovid's life may well be described as a story, embodying as it does one of the basic patterns of fiction - and of life. It is the dramatic story of the small-town boy who comes to the big city and makes good; then, at the height of his fame and success, like Oscar Wilde, he meets a stunning reversal of fortune and plunges into the depths.

Publius Ovidius Naso, born on March 20, 43 B.C., came into the world during a period of great doubt and turmoil. Scarcely a year before, the great Julius Caesar had been assassinated. A long period of tension and strife ensued. When Ovid was eleven, Octavian Caesar finally achieved his victory over Mark Antony and Cleopatra; the Mediterranean world began to settle down into a long period of stability, and Roman society into a gay whirl of dissolute pleasure.

Ovid's father, a well-to-do gentleman of Sulmo, ninety miles east of Rome, wanted his son to have a good education in preparation for a life of public service. So it was that Ovid, just entering his teens, came to Rome, and the threads of life began to be woven into that pattern which was to bring him the brightest happiness and the blackest tragedy.

The legal and political career Ovid's father had planned for him did not work out too well. Despite a few minor offices, Ovid's facile mind and light-hearted disposition led him into the pleasant life of the literary and social circles of the Roman capital. He was a born poet - he tells us that whatever he tried to write automatically turned into verse - and his poetry helped him enter the ranks of the highest society, which included the Emperor's daughter Julia. His love poems, the Amōrēs, mainly celebrating the charms and whimsicalities of a lovely wench

named Corinna, quickly became the rage of Rome. Everyone was inquiring, 'Who is Corinna?' - a secret Ovid gaily refused to divulge, possibly because she was not one girl but an amalgam of several.

Ovid followed up this success with a series of letters written (in verse, of course) supposedly by various anguished heroines of mythology to their absent sweethearts, lovers, or husbands. These letters, the *Heroides*, showed a tremendous understanding of female psychology which was to be manifested in Ovid's next major work, the *Ars Amatoria*. This poem, published at the turn of the century, must dispute with the later *Metamorphoses* the title of Ovid's greatest work. It is bright, witty, satiric, carried forward with great verve. The *Remedia Amoris* followed, ostensibly to reduce the suicide rate among disappointed lovers, but undoubtedly to capitalize on the success of the *Ars Amatoria*. Like most sequels, it is not quite up to the standard of the earlier work.

In passing, it is interesting to note that Ovid must have made good use of the knowledge contained in both these poems. He had three marriages, two separations.

With his next publication, the *Metamorphoses*, Ovid regained the literary heights. The stories of mythology, which had been popping out here and there in his earlier poems, were now woven into one continuous whole, running from the creation of the world down through the death of Julius Caesar and his metamorphosis into a star. In the course of this engaging work, Jupiter and the other majestic gods of Olympus lose much of their dignity under Ovid's irreverent handling, from which, to this day, they have never fully recovered.

Ovid was halfway through the *Fasti*, a poem on the Roman calendar and festivals, when a thunderbolt from a more potent (or at least a more vindictive) Jupiter struck. In 8 A.D. the Emperor Augustus ordered him into exile at Tomi, a desolate town on the Black Sea near the mouth of the Danube.

The cause of Ovid's banishment is one of the great mysteries in literary history - a mystery which apparently

will never be solved for certain. Two reasons are cited by Ovid - *carmen et error* - a poem and an error. The poem is the *Ars Amatoria*, but that had been published some eight years earlier. Granted that it was a poem the tone of which ran counter to the moral reforms Augustus was trying to institute; yet eight years is a long time for even governmental bureaucracy to react. The 'error' must have been the true cause for the banishment, but at its nature Ovid barely hints, saying that he had seen more than he should have seen.

Mysteries and the solution of mysteries have always fascinated the human mind. Scholars have offered many suggestions as to the nature of Ovid's error: he had seen the Empress Livia in her bath (!) or the Emperor Augustus in some embarrassing situation; he was involved in some political intrigue against the ruling dynasty, or was caught up in a plot of Livia against the two Julias, daughter and granddaughter of Augustus; or (most probably) he was suspected of conniving at the adultery of the younger Julia with a Roman named Silanus. Julia and Silanus were exiled. Ovid's banishment at almost the same time is a suspicious coincidence.

At Tomi, far removed from the friends, Romans, countrymen, from the city and social life he loved so well, Ovid passed the last years of his life in alternating hope and despair. His hope and despair were translated into poetic epistles which were sent to his friends, to his faithful wife, or to the Emperor as Ovid strove for an end to his sentence of exile. These letters compose his last major works, the *Tristia* and the *Epistulae ex Ponto*. Except as a release for his troubled thoughts, they did him no good. Augustus died in 14 A.D., unrelenting. His successor, Tiberius, was an even more implacable soul. In 17 A.D. Ovid obtained the only liberation open to him - death. 74 yrs old

On Reading the *Ars Amatoria*

A person who translates this *Art of Love* needs more than a moderate knowledge of Latin. A sense of humor is quite

important, for instance. One of Ovid's patron goddesses whom he invokes is Thalia, the Muse of comedy. Let no one be deceived by the serious pose Ovid adopts at the beginning of his poem. He is Professor Ovid, M.A. - Magister Amoris, Master of the Art of Love. His is a didactic or teaching poem, like Lucretius' *De Rerum Natura* or Vergil's *Georgics*, but a burlesque one. He dons the horn-rimmed spectacles of the classroom, sets them well down on the end of his nose, and gazes in mock solemnity upon his pupils. The reader must join in the fun in the same spirit.

* It helps to have a feeling for satire, too. Love is Ovid's subject, but what is love? The most serious and far-reaching of emotions, or a fleeting, fickle phenomenon? For Ovid, both. Love is king, and Ovid is his prophet; yet in the final analysis, his glorification of Love only reveals its many absurdities. So it is with girls. The feminine sex has no more ardent admirer than the kind and gentlemanly Ovid, yet when one has done with the poem, there may well be the feeling that this has been a scintillating satire on the ways, wiles, and whims of womankind, plus a few accurate shots at the males.

An alert mind is needed to read the *Ars Amatoria*. One must keep his eyes open and his wits keen, for Ovid is a clever writer. He is seldom obvious. After the Latin has been translated, the subtleties of his ideas must sometimes be searched out. That is part of the pleasure of reading Ovid.

The *Ars Amatoria* and the *Remedia Amoris* are especially easy to translate because of their verse form, the elegiac couplet. It will be observed that long lines (dactylic hexameter) and short lines (dactylic pentameter) alternate in these poems, and that every two such lines almost invariably contain a complete thought and often a complete sentence. It is not necessary to hunt over half a page to round up stray and roving parts of a sentence, as in some Latin writers. Ovid's thoughts come generally in neat and logical packets, yet seldom slip into monotony.

Ovid is a modern writer. He thinks like a modern. It is necessary, then, that he be translated in modern idiom. A

student should not feel restricted to the definitions of words and the translations of phrases suggested in the vocabulary and footnotes. Once the meaning is clear, his own sense of English idiom may suggest a better or more natural rendition. Thus he may in a measure partake anew of the creative act that once was Ovid's, two thousand years ago.

- 35 Principio, quod amare velis, reperire labora,
 qui nova nunc primum miles in arma venis!
 Proximus huic labor est placitam exorare puellam;
 tertius, ut longo tempore duret amor.
 Hic modus; haec nostro signabitur area curru,
 40 haec erit admissa meta premenda rota.

Ovid now takes up his first topic, how to find the girl. It is important, he says, to know just what places will offer you an opportunity for meeting girls. It is not necessary to go abroad. There are all kinds right in Rome.

Dum licet, et loris passim potes ire solutis,
 ✕ eligest cui dicas 'Tu mihi sola places.'
 ✕ Haec tibi non tenuēs veniet delapsa per auras:
 quaerenda est oculis apta puella tuis.

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- 35 † pr̄ncipiō, first, in the first place. velis: pres. subj. of volo. quod amare velis: either regard this whole clause as the object of reperire, or supply id as the antecedent of quod and the object of reperire. reperio, -ire, repperi, reperitus, find, meet with. laboro, -are, -avi, -atus, labor, take pains, exert oneself, strive.
- 36 qui with a verb in the 2nd person is to be translated 'you who.' primum, first, for the first time. miles, -itis, m., soldier. --Ovid regards love as a kind of warfare, as indeed it is. Cf. James Thurber's cartoon series dealing with the war between the sexes; also, 'All's fair in love and war.'
- 37 proximus, -a, -um, next, second. labor, -oris, m., labor, task. placitus, -a, -um, pleasing, agreeable, acceptable. ✕ exorō, -are, -avi, -atus, prevail upon, win (by entreaty).
- 38 tertius, -a, -um, third. duro, -are, -avi, -atus, endure, continue, last, remain.
- 39 hic modus: supply erit. modus: 'the ground I intend to cover.' signo, -are, -avi, -atus, mark. area, -ae, f., space, ground, field. currus, -us, m., chariot.
- 40 admissa . . . rota (abl.): 'wheel driven at full speed.' meta, -ae, f., goal, turning post. premo, -ere, pressi, pressus, press, touch, graze. --Ovid is figuratively comparing the writing of his book to the driving of a chariot in a race. In each case a prescribed course is laid out and there is a goal or turning post to aim at.
- 41 ✕ loris . . . solutis: 'with loosened reins'; i.e., 'fancy-free.' ✕ passim, hither and thither, everywhere.
- 42 eligo, -ere, elegi, electus, pick out, choose. cui: supply puellam as antecedent.
- 43 delabor, -i, delapsus, fall, slip down, glide down, descend.

Scit bene venator, cerviſ ubi retia tendat, 45
 scit bene, qua frendens valle moretur aper;
 aucupibus noti frutiçes; qui sustinet hamos,
 novit, quae multo pisce natentur aquae:
 tu quoque, materiam longo qui quaeris amori,
 ante frequens quo sit disce puella loco. 50
 Non ego quaerentem vento dare vela iubebo,
 nec tibi, ut invenias, longa terenda via est.
 Andromedan Perſeus nigris portarit ab Indis,
 raptaque sit Phrygio Graia puella viro:

- 45 scio, -ire, -ivi, -itus, *know*. venator, -oris, m., *hunter*. cervus, -i, m., *stag, deer*. rete, -is, n., *net*. tendo, ere, tetendi, tentus, *stretch, extend*.
- 46 scit: see 45. qua . . . valle: as often in poetry, in is omitted. †frendo, -ere, -ui, fres(s)us, *gnash the teeth*. valles, -is, f., *valley*. moror, -ari, -atus, *delay, tarry, stay, wait*. aper, -pri, m., *wild boar*.
- 47 †auceps, -cupis, m., f., *birdcatcher, fowler*. notus, -a, -um, (well) known. †frutex, -icis, m., *bush*. sustineo, -ere, -tinui, -tentus, *hold up, support*. †hāmus, -i, m., *fishhook*.
- 48 nosco, -ere, novi, notus, *become acquainted with; (perf.) know*. piscis, -is, m., *fish*. nato, -are, -avi, -atus, *swim*.
- 49 materia, -ae, f., *stuff, matter, material* (a not too flattering way of speaking about a young lady!).
- 50 frequens, -entis (adj.), *frequent(ly), numerous, (assembled) in great numbers*. quo . . . loco introduce an indirect question after disce. puella: singular used for plural.
- 51 This and the following lines mean simply that a fellow does not have to take a long trip by sea or land to find a girl. There are plenty in Rome (or Farmville). quaerentem: remember that all participles must modify some noun or pronoun either expressed or implied; if implied, it must usually be expressed in English. Here supply te. Translate 'in your search.' vento dare vela: 'to give sails to the wind' obviously means 'to sail' or 'to take a sea voyage.' velum, -i, n., *cloth, sail*.
- 52 invenio, -ire, -veni, -ventus, *find, discover*. tero, -ere, trivi, tritus, *rub, wear out, tread*.
- 53 Andromeda, -ae (acc. -an), f.: a beautiful princess of Ethiopia rescued from a sea monster by Perseus, who completed the job by marrying her and begetting three children. niger, -gra, -grum, *black, dark, dusky*. porto, -are, -avi, -atus, *bear, carry, bring*. portarit is a syncopated form standing for portaverit (perf. subj.). The subjunctive is probably concessive ('granted that . . . , though . . .'), as is rapta sit (54). Indi, -orum, m., *the inhabitants of India, Indians* (here seemingly used for the Ethiopians).
- 54 Phrygius, -a, -um, *Phrygian, Trojan*. Graius, -a, -um, *Greek*. --There should be no question as to the names of the Greek girl (Helen) and the Trojan man (Paris), who was also a kind of

- 55 tot tibi tamque dabit formosas Roma puellas,
 'Haec habet' ut dicas 'quidquid in orbe fuit.'
 Gargara quot segetes, quot habet Methymna racemos,
 aequore quot pisces, fronde teguntur aves,
 quot caelum stellas, tot habet tua Roma puellas;
 60 mater in Aeneae constitit urbe sui.
 Seu caperis primis et adhuc crescentibus annis,
 ante oculos veniet vera puella tuos;
 sive cupis iuvenem, iuvenes tibi mille placebunt,
 cogaris et voti nescius esse tui;
 65 seu te forte iuvat sera et sapientior aetas,

Trojan horse, operating as he did in the guise of a family friend. Ovid's point in these last two lines is that Perseus and Paris had to go far afield to find their lady loves, but that this is quite unnecessary for the gentle reader.

55 tot (indecl. adj.), so many. Roma, -ae, f., Rome. --Tot and tam lead up to the result clause ut dicas, which governs the direct quotation in 56.

56 haec: i.e., Rome. ~~orbis, -is, m., circle, earth, world.~~

57 Gargara, -orum, n.: the upper part of Mt. Ida, in Troas; also a city at its foot. ~~seges, -etis, f., field of grain, crop.~~ Methymna, -ae, f.: a city on the island of Lesbos, famous for its excellent wine. ~~racemus, -i, m., cluster of grapes.~~

58 aequor, -oris, n., level surface, sea. piscis, -is, m., fish. frons, -dis, f., leafy branch, foliage, leaves. tego, -ere, -xi, -ctus, cover, hide, conceal, protect. avis, -is, f., bird.

59 caelum, -i, n., sky, heaven, the heavens. stella, -ae, f., star. tot (indecl. adj.), so many, as many. Roma, -ae, f., Rome.

60 mater, -tris, f., mother. Aeneas, -ae, m.: son of Venus and Anchises, and ancestor of the Romans. consisto, -ere, -stiti, stand, halt, stop, take up one's abode. urbs, urbis, f., city. sui here = 'of her son.' --In other words, Rome is now the headquarters of Venus.

61 seu . . . sive (63) . . . seu (65): 'if . . . or if . . . or if.' primis: 'first' here = 'youthful.' adhuc, still, yet. cresco, -ere, crevi, cretus, grow, increase.

62 verus, -a, -um, true, real, actual, genuine. puella here = 'young girl.'

63 sive: see 61. cupio, -ere, -ivi (-ii), -itus, long for, desire, wish. mille (indecl. adj.), a thousand.

64 cogo, -ere, coegi, coactus, collect, force, compel. et: a case of anastrophe; should be translated before cogaris. ~~votum, -i, n., vow, wish, desire. nescius, -a, -um, ignorant.~~

65 seu: see 61. forte, by chance, perchance, perhaps. serus, -a, -um, late, mature. sapiens, -entis, wise, sensible. aetas, -atis, f., period of life, time of life, life, age.

hoc quoque, crede mihi, plenius agmen erit.

Ovid mentions a few of the places to frequent, such as the porticoes of Pompey, Octavia, or Livia, or various temples; even the law courts, where many a lawyer has been smitten by Love and, though eloquent, has stumbled for words to speak for himself (67-88). But especially fruitful are the theaters. Here flock all the most attractive women. Ever since the first Romans obtained their wives by force in a theater, such places have afforded opportunities for flirtation.

Sed tu praecipue curvis venare theatris:

haec loca sunt voto fertiliora tuo. 90

Illic invenies quod ames, quod ludere possis,
quodque semel tangas, quodque tenere velis.

Ut redit itque frequens longum formica per agmen,
granifero solitum cum vehit ore cibum,

aut ut apes saltusque suos et olentia nactae 95

pascua per flores et thyma summa volant,
sic ruit in celebres cultissima femina ludos:

66 plenus, -a, -um, full, abundant, plentiful. agmen, -inis, n., army (on the march), crowd, throng, band.

89 praecipue, chiefly, especially, particularly. curvus, -a, -um, curved. venor, -ari, -atus, hunt, chase. theatrum, -i, n., theater. Here ablative of place where; cf. 46.

90 votum, -i, n., vow, wish, desire. fertilis, -e, fruitful, fertile, productive.

91 illic, in that place, there. invenio, -ire, -veni, -ventus, come upon, find, discover. ames: this and the following subjunctives are potential. ludo, -ere, -si, -sus, play, play with, have fun with.

92 semel, once, a single time. tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch. velis: pres. subj., 2nd pers. sing., of volo.

93 redeo, redire, redii, reditus, go back, come back, return. Logically, this should here be translated after it. frequens, -entis, in great numbers, numerous. X formica, -ae, f., ant. Here singular for plural. agmen, -inis, n., line of march, procession, army, multitude.

94 ~~granifer, -era, -erum, grain-bearing.~~ Ovid may have made up this word, as we know of no other author who used it. How did Ovid form it? solitus, -a, -um, accustomed, usual. veho, -ere, -xi, -ctus, bear, carry, convey. cibus, -i, m., food.

95 apis, -is, f., bee. saltus, -us, m., forest pasture, woodland. -que . . . et, (both) . . . and. X olens, -entis, sweet-smelling, fragrant. nanciscor, -i, nactus, happen on, find.

96 ~~pascuum, -i, n., pasture. X flos, -oris, m., blossom, flower.~~
~~Thymum, -i, n., thyme. volo, -are, -avi, -atus, fly.~~

97 sic introduces the concluding clause of the comparison, thus balancing the two subordinate clauses beginning with ut - a very common device in Latin. X ruo, -ere, rui, rurus, fall down, hasten, hurry, rush. ceber, -ebri, -ebre, crowded. cultus, -a, -um, cultivated, polished, elegant, well-dressed. femina: singu-

- copia iudicium saepe morata meum est.
 Spectatum veniunt; veniunt spectentur ut ipsae:
 100 ille locus casti damna pudoris habet.
 Primos sollicitos fecisti, Romule, ludos,
 cum iuivit viduos rapta Sabina viros.
 Tunc neque marmoreo pendebant vela theatro,
 nec fuerant liquido pulpita rubra croco;
 105 illic, quas tulerant nemorosa Palatia, frondes
 simpliciter positae, scaena sine arte fuit;
 in gradibus sedit populus de caespite factis,
 qualibet hirsutas fronde tegente comas.

lar for plural. ludus, -i, m., play; (plur.) public games, shows.

98 copia, -ae, f., abundance, ample supply, large number. iudicium, -ii, n., judgment, decision. moror, -ari, -atus, delay, retard, hinder.

99 spectatum: supine expressing purpose. --An often quoted line expressing an eternal truth.

100 [†]castus, -a, -um, pure, chaste, virtuous, modest. damnum, -i, n., harm, damage, injury, loss. pudor, -oris, m., shame, modesty, decency, good manners, propriety.

101 sollicitus, -a, -um, full of anxiety, full of excitement, disturbed, exciting. Romulus, -i, m.: founder and first king of Rome. ludus, -i, m., play; (plur.) public games, show(s).

102 viduus, -a, -um, mateless, widowed, wifeless. Sabina, -ae, f., Sabine woman or women (the Sabines being an ancient Italian people adjoining the Latins). --Ovid here begins a brief recounting of the famous story ('The Rape of the Sabines') how the first Romans, men without women, obtained wives by an elementary sort of blitzkrieg.

103 tunc, then, at that time. marmoreus, -a, -um, (made) of marble, marble. pendeo, -ere, pependi, hang (intr.), be suspended. velum, -i, n., cloth, awning, curtain, sail. theatrum, -i, n., theater.

104 liquidus, -a, -um, flowing, clear, bright. [†]pulpitum, -i, n. (sing. and plur.), platform, stage. ruber, -bra, -brum, red, ruddy. [†]crocus, -i, m., saffron.

105 illic, in that place, there. quas: the antecedent is frondes. [†]nemorosus, -a, -um, woody, leafy, shady. Palatium, -ii, n. (sing. and plur.), the Palatine hill (first of the seven hills of Rome to be built on). frons, frondis, f.; leafy branch, green bough, foliage.

106 simpliciter, simply, naturally. positae: supply sunt. scaena, -ae, f., stage, scene.

107 gradus, -us, m., step, tier of seats. populus, -i, m., people. [†]caespes, -itis, m., turf, sod.

108 quilibet, quaelibet, quodlibet, any . . . at all, any . . . whatsoever. [†]hirsutus, -a, -um, rough, shaggy, bristly. fronde: see 105. tego, -ere, texi, tectus, cover.

- Respiciunt oculisque notant sibi quisque puellam
 quam velit, et tacito pectore multa movent. 110
 Dumque, rudem praebente modum tibicine Tusco,
 ludius aequatam ter pede pulsat humum,
 in medio plausu (plausus tunc arte carebant)
 rex populo praedae signa petita dedit.
 Protinus exsiliunt, animū clamore fatentes, 115
 virginibus cupidas iniciuntque manus.
 Ut fugiunt aquilas, timidissima turba, columbae,
 utque fugit visos agna novella lupos,
 sic illae timere viros sine more ruentes;

109 respicio, -ere, respexi, respectus, look back, look about.
 noto, -are, -avi, -atus, mark, note, observe. quisque: Note
 this not unusual use with a plural verb to make the action more
 particular. It shows clearly that all the men are engaged in the
 action, but each one is picking out a different girl for himself.

110 velit: a potential subj.: 'he would like.' tacitus, -a, -um,
 silent.

111[†] rudis, -e, rude, rough, unpolished. praebeo, -ere, -ui,
 offer, furnish, supply. tibicen, -inis, m., piper, flute
 player. Tuscus, -a, -um, Tuscan, Etruscan. The Etruscans were a
 people settled in Italy who had great influence on the development
 of Roman civilization in the early days. Music at public perform-
 ances was one of their contributions.

112[†] ludius, -ii, m., stage player, actor, dancer. aequo, -are,
 -avi, -atus, make equal, level, smooth. ter, three times,
 thrice. pulso, -are, -avi, -atus, beat, strike. humus, -i, f.,
 earth, ground. --This is a classic and rather picturesque way of
 describing a dance (solo, not the modern gliding embrace).

113 plausus, -us, m., clapping, applause. tunc, then, at that
 time. careo, -ere, -ui, -itus, be without, lack (with abl.).

114 rex, regis, m., king. populus, -i, m., people. praeda, -ae,
 f., booty, plunder, prey. signum, -i, n., sign, signal.

115 protinus, straightway, immediately. exsilio, -ire, exsilui,
 spring forth, leap up, jump up. clamor, -oris, m., shout,
 cry. fateor, -eri, fessus, confess, acknowledge, reveal.

116 virgo, -inis, f., maiden, young woman, girl. cupidus, -a,
 -um, desirous, eager. iniciunt manus: 'lay hands on,' 'take
 hold of,' 'seize.' Inicio takes both a direct and indirect object
 -que: to be translated at the beginning of the line.

117 aquila, -ae, f., eagle. timidus, -a, -um, timid. turba,
 -ae, f., crowd, throng. Here in apposition with columbae.
 columba, -ae, f., dove, pigeon.

118 agna, -ae, f., ewe lamb. [†] novellus, -a, -um, young, new.
 lupus, -i, m., wolf.

119 timere: note the use (very frequent in Ovid) of the ending
 -ere for -erunt. sine more: 'without custom' = 'in an un-
 precedented manner.' ruo, -ere, rui, rurus, fall, hasten, rush.

- 120 constitit in nulla, qui fuit ante, color.
 Nam timor unus erat, facies non una timoris:
 pars laniat crines, pars sine mente sedet;
 altera maesta silet, frustra vocat altera matrem;
 haec queritur, stupet haec; haec manet, illa fugit.
 125 Ducuntur raptae, genialis praeda, puellae,
 et potuit multas ipse decere timor.
 Siqua repugnarat nimium comitemque negabat,
 sublatam cupido vir tulit ipse sinu
 atque ita 'Quid teneros lacrimis corrumpis ocellos?'
 130 Quod matri pater est, hoc tibi' dixit 'ero.'
 Romule, militibus scisti dare commoda solus!
 Haec mihi si dederis commoda, miles ero.

- 120 A poetic way of saying 'They all changed color.' *consisto, -ere, -stiti, stand, remain unchanged, continue.*
- 121 *nam (conj.), for. timor, -oris, m., fear.*
- 122 *lanio, -are, -avi, -atus, tear. crinis, -is, m., hair.*
- 123 *maestus, -a, -um, sad, dejected, melancholy. sileo, -ere, -ui, be still, be silent. frustra, uselessly, in vain. voco, -are, -avi, -atus, call. mater. -tris, f., mother.*
- 124 *queror, queri, questus, complain, lament. stupeo, -ere, -ui, be stunned, be astounded, be stupefied. maneo, -ere, mansi, mansus, stay, remain.*
- 125 *duco, -ere, duxi, ductus, lead (away). [†]genialis, -e, pleasant, delightful. praeda, -ae, f., booty, plunder, prey. Here in apposition with puellae.*
- 126 *timor, -oris, m., fear.*
- 127 *repugno, -are, -avi, -atus, fight back, resist. repugnarat = repugnaverat. nimium, too much. (A little coyness, it seems, makes things more interesting.) comes, -itis, m., f., companion, comrade. nego, -are, -avi, -atus, say no (to), deny, refuse.*
- 128 *tollo, -ere, sustuli, sublatus, lift up, raise. cupidus, -a, -um, desirous, eager.*
- 129 *ita, thus, so, in this way. corrumpo, -ere, -rupi, -ruptus, ruin, mar; make red (?). ocellus, -i, m.: diminutive of oculus; a Latin way of saying 'dear little eye' in one word.*
- 130 The antecedent of *quod* is *hoc*. *mater, -tris, f., mother.*
 --A very good psychological approach to a difficult situation complicated by the fact that the girl is crying, always a masculine hazard.
- 131 *Romulus, -i, m.: founder and first king of Rome. miles, -itis, m., soldier. scio, -ire, -ivi, -itus, know (how). scisti = scivisti. commodum, -i, n., advantage, reward, pay.*
- 132 *commoda: see 131. miles: see 131.*

Scilicet, ex illo sollemni more, theatra
nunc quoque formosis insidiosa manent.

The horse races at the Circus and the gladiatorial shows are also recommended. There are various devices by which you can make a favorable impression on young ladies who attend.

Nec te nobilium fugiat certamen equorum; 135

multa capax populi commoda Circus habet.

Nil opus est digitis, per quos arcana loquaris,

nec tibi per nutus accipienda nota est:

proximus a domina, nullo prohibente, sedeto,

iunge tuum lateri qua potes usque latus; 140

et bene, quod cogit, si nolit, linea iungi,

133 scilicet, evidently, undoubtedly. X sollemnis, -e, established, sacred; hallowed by time (?). theatrum, -i, n., theater. --In the expression ex illo sollemni more Ovid seems to imply that the passage of time and the halo surrounding the name of Romulus have given an almost religious sanction to an act of violence. In his more modern and civilized age Ovid regards this as a precedent for flirtation at the theater. Undoubtedly the more strict people of Rome frowned on the theater just as many good people have in recent centuries.

134 Note that quoque always emphasizes the word it follows; this should be brought out in translation. X insidiosus, -a, -um deceitful, dangerous. maneo, -ere, -nsi, -nsus, remain, continue.

135 nobilis, -e, famous, renowned, highborn, noble, thoroughbred. certamen, -inis, n., contest, struggle. --This line simply means, don't miss the horse races (as a place to meet girls).

136 X capax, -acis (with gen.), spacious, large, holding a lot. populus, -i, m., people. X commodum, -i, n., advantage, reward. Circus, -i, m: probably the Circus Maximus. Chariot races, games, and public shows were held in the circuses.

137 nil opus est (with abl.): 'there is no need of.' X arcanum, -i, n., secret, private matter.

138 nutus, -us, m., nod. nota, -ae, f., mark, sign, signal.

139 proximus, -a, -um, next. proximus a: Latin is just as logical in saying 'next from' as English is in saying 'next to.' prohibeo, -ere, -ui, -itus, hinder, prevent, forbid, prohibit. sedeto: future imperative.

140 iungo, -ere, -nxi, -nctus, join, (press). latus, -eris, n., side. usque, all the way, continuously.

141 bene, well, successfully, easily. Here to be taken closely in conjunction with the preceding clause: 'and you can do this easily' quod, because. cogo, -ere, coegi, coactus, collect, force, compel. nolo, nolle, nolui, not wish, be unwilling. The subject here is she. X linea, -ae, f., line (here the line used to mark off one seat from another, as in our stadia or bleachers). iungi: 140. As subject supply latera (from 140).

- quod tibi tangenda est lege puella loci!
 Hic tibi quaeratur socii sermonis origo,
 et moveant primos publica verba sonos.
 145 Cuius equi veniant, facito studiose requiras,
 nec mora, quisquis erit, cui favet illa, fave.
 At cum pompa frequens certantibus ibit ephebis,
 tu Veneri dominae plaude favente manu;
 utque fit, in gremium pulvis si forte puellae
 150 deciderit, digitis excutiendus erit;
 et si nullus erit pulvis, tamen excute nullum:
 quaelibet officio causa sit apta tuo.

142 quod: 141. tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch. lex, legis, f., law, regulation, rule.

143 ~~socius, -a, -um, united, mutual, sociable, friendly. sermo, -onis, m., talk, conversation. origo, -inis, f., beginning, commencement, source, origin.~~

144 publicus, -a, -um, public, usual, ordinary, general. sonus, -i, m., sound, word. --In the following lines Ovid gives examples of *publica verba*, ordinary, impersonal topics of conversation (personal topics would not be, or certainly should not be, *publica*). Oddly, he neglects to suggest the weather as a possible subject. Perhaps Roman weather was not so variable as our own, and hence less subject to comment; or else the Romans were conversationally more resourceful.

145 studiose, eagerly, anxiously, with an air of concern. requiro, -ere, -sivi (-sii), -situs, ask, inquire.

146 nec mora (sit may be understood) = 'without delay.' faveo, -ere, favi, faustus (with dat.), favor, be favorable to, be inclined toward, applaud.

147 pompa, -ae, f., procession, parade. The *Circensis pompa* was headed by the presiding magistrate with his civil and military escort. The charioteers and other performers followed, then the ceremonial group (priests and bearers of sacred objects), including the images of the gods. It is such an image of Venus that in the next line is to be applauded (why Venus?). frequens, frequentis, crowded. certo, -are, -avi, -atus, contend, compete. ~~X~~ ephēbus, -i, m., youth (strictly, a Greek, from 18 to 20).

148 plaudo, -ere, -si, -sus, clap, applaud. favente: 146. --It is an amusing picture Ovid presents of the young man, anxious to impress the attractive girl in the adjoining seat and making a point of shouting 'Yea-a-a Venus,' as it were, to show in what direction his interests lie.

149 fit: supply saepe. gremium, -ii, n., lap, bosom. ~~X~~ pulvis, -eris, m., dust. forte, by chance, perhaps, perchance.

150 decido, -ere, -cidi, fall (down), drop. excutio, -ere, -cussi, -cussus, shake off, knock off, brush off.

151 pulvis: 149. excute: 150. nullum: 'that no dust.' --This is one of Ovid's neatest lines.

152 quilibet, quaelibet, quodlibet, any . . . at all, any . . . whatsoever. officium, -ii, n., service, kindness, courtesy, duty.

Pallia si terra nimium demissa iacebunt,
 collige et immunda sedulus effer humo;
 protinus, officii pretium, patiente puella 155
 contingent oculis crura videnda tuis.
 Respice praeterea, post vos quicumque sedebit,
 ne premat opposito mollia terga genu.
 Parva leves capiunt animos: fuit utile multis
 pulvinum facili composuisse manu; 160
 profuit et tenui ventos movisse tabella

153 ~~X~~ pallium, -ii, n., cloak, mantle (a Greek garment for males, worn also by the more emancipated women of Greece and Rome). Here plural for singular. terra, -ae, f., earth, ground. nimium, too much, too, very much. demissus, -a, -um, low, drooping, falling, hanging down, downcast.

154 colligo, -ere, -legi, -lectus, collect, gather up, pick up. ~~X~~ immundus, -a, -um, unclean, dirty, filthy. ~~X~~ sedulus, -a, -um, diligent, zealous, careful, solicitous. effero, efferre, extuli, elatus, bring out, lift up, raise. humus, -i, f., earth, ground.

155 protinus, immediately. officii: 152. pretium, -ii, n., price, pay, reward. Here in apposition with the rest of the sentence. patior, pati, passus, suffer, endure, allow, permit. patiente puella: the ablative absolute properly should be regarded as conditional!

156 contingo, -ere, -tigi, -tactus (with dat.), touch, happen, befall, fall to one's lot, attain. crus, -uris, n., leg, shin, ankle. contingent oculis . . . videnda: 'eyes will have an opportunity to glimpse' - but work out literally.

157 respicio, -ere, -spexi, -spectus, look back at, look around at, glare back at. praeterea, besides this, besides, moreover. post (with acc.), behind, after. post . . . sedebit: the whole clause is the object of respice.

158 premo, -ere, pressi, pressus, press. oppono, -ere, -posui, -positus, place against. tergum, -i, n., back. Here plural for singular. Whose back is meant? genu, -us, n., knee. --The implication is that such an occasion will almost inevitably arise (it still does, frequently). But Ovid would not have been above feigning the situation if it would permit him to show solicitude for a pretty girl in the next seat.

159 parva (from parvus, -a, -um, little, small): 'little things,' 'trifles.' --The first four words of this line are a clever if unchivalric stigmatization of the female sex. There is at least part truth in what Ovid says. It is notorious that women like frills: bright ribbons around packages, the right labels on their dresses, maraschino cherries on their desserts, countless little attentions. Whether this tendency also indicates frilly minds is a question. Regardless of that, Ovid's advice is certainly sound. utilis, -e, useful.

160 ~~X~~ pulvinus, -i, m., cushion, pillow. facilis, -e, easy, ready, courteous. compono, -ere, -posui, -positus, put together, arrange, adjust.

161 prosum, prodesse, profui, be useful, be of use, be advantageous. tabella, -ae, f., tablet, fan.

- et cava sub tenerum scamna dedisse pedem.
 Hos aditus Circusque novo praebebit amori
 sparsaque sollicito tristis harena foro.
 165 Illa saepe puer Veneris pugnavit harena,
 et qui spectavit vulnera, vulnus habet:
 dum loquitur tangitque manum poscitque libellum
 et quaerit posito pignore, vincat uter,
 saucius ingemuit telumque volatile sensit
 170 et pars spectati muneris ipse fuit.

Mention of a mock naval battle staged by Augustus Caesar (2 B.C.) leads Ovid into a long but diplomatic digression in praise of the young Gaius Caesar, grandson of Augustus, who was about to lead a campaign against the Parthians. This in turn leads to the subject of the triumphal procession which will eventually take place. The up-to-the-minute young man will be ready to give any girl who asks, the names of the kings, places, mountains, or rivers represented in the parade. Even if she does not ask, he will give the names all the same; and if he does not know the names, he will make up some that sound just as good (171-228). Dinner parties also enable a person to meet girls. But be careful: wine and artificial light often impair the judgment.

162 ~~†~~ cavus, -a, -um, hollow. † scamnum, -i, n., stool.

163 aditus, -us, m., approach. Circus, -i, m., the Circus, the Circus Maximus (scene of chariot races, etc.). praebeo, -ere, -ui, -itus, offer, give, furnish, supply.

164 spargo, -ere, sparsi, sparsus, scatter, sprinkle. sollicitus, -a, -um, troubled, disturbed, exciting. tristis, -e, sad, melancholy. harena, -ae, f., sand. Sand was strewn in arenas where fights were held. forum, -i, n., market place, forum. Gladiatorial contests were sometimes held in the Forum.

165 In the next six lines Ovid plays with the idea that a person fallen in love is as much wounded (by the weapons of Cupid) as the defeated gladiator in the arena. Cf. the double meaning of our word 'smitten.' pugno, -are, -avi, -atus, fight. harena: see 164.

166 habet: the traditional cry of the people when a gladiator was wounded.

167 tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch, take hold of. manum: whose? posco, -ere, poposci, ask for, request. libellus, -i, m., booklet, program.

168 ~~†~~ pignus, -oris, n., pledge, wager, stake, bet. uter, utra, utrum (interr.), which (of two).

169 ~~†~~ saucius, -a, -um, wounded, smitten. † ingemō, -ere, -uī, groan. telum, -i, n., dart, javelin, spear, arrow. Here, Cupid's arrow. volatilis, -e, flying, winged, swift. sentio, -ire, -si, -sus, feel, perceive.

170 In this last sentence Ovid has referred to one and perhaps two old Roman customs which do not seem peculiarly Roman: betting on athletic contests and holding hands.

- ✓ Dant etiam positis aditum convivium mensis:
 est aliquid praeter vina, quod inde petas. 230
 * * * * *
 Illic saepe animos iuvenum rapuere puellae,
 et Venus in vinis ignis in igne fuit.
 Hic tu fallaci nimium ne crede lucernae: 245
 iudicio formae noxque merumque nocent.
 - Luce deas caeloque Paris spectavit aperto,
 cum dixit Veneri 'vincis utramque, Venus.'
 Nocte latent mendae, vitioque ignoscitur omni,
 horaque formosam quamlibet illa facit. 250
 Consule de gemmis, de tincta murice lana,
 consule de facie corporibusque diem.

- 229 aditus, -us, m., *approach*. convivium, -ii, n., *banquet, dinner party*. mensa, -ae, f., *table*.
 230 praeter (acc.), *past, besides*. vinum, -i (also plur.), n., *wine*. inde, *from that place, from there*.
 243 illic, *in that place, there*.
 244 If for nothing else, this line is notable for its double play on words, a thing dear to Ovid's heart. His idea is, combining love and wine is like combining fire and fire. ✕
 245 tu: with an imperative, best omitted in translation. fallax, -acis, deceitful, deceptive nimium, *too much*. lucerna, -ae, f., *lamp*. --A very sensible line. Moonlight, which is notorious for the effect it has, should be included in the same category as lamplight.
 246 iudicium, -ii, n., (*power of*) *judgment*. merum, -i, n., (*unmixed*) *wine*. noceo, -ere, -cui, -citus (with dat.), *hurt, harm, injure, impair*.
 247 lux, lucis, m., *light, light of the sun, daylight*. dea, -ae, f., *goddess*. The reference here, of course, is to Juno, Minerva, and Venus. caelum, -i, n., *sky, air*. Paris, -idis, m., *Paris, who caused the Trojan War by carrying off Helen. He decided a famous beauty contest ('Miss Heaven') in favor of Venus*. apertus, -a, -um, *open, clear*.
 248 uterque, utraque, utrumque, each, both.
 249 lateo, -ere, -ui, *lie hid, be concealed*. ✕ menda, -ae, f., fault, defect, blemish. ignosco, -ere, -novi, -notus, *pardon, forgive, overlook*. When ignosco is used in the impersonal passive, the English subject will be found in the dative in Latin; or for the literal 'it is pardoned' etc. we may substitute some such phrase as 'pardon is granted' etc.
 250 hora, -ae, f., *hour*. quilibet, quaelibet, quodlibet, *any(one) at all, any(one) whatsoever*.
 251 consulo, -ere, -ui, -tus, *consult*. gemma, -ae, f., *bud, gem, jewel*. tingo, -ere, -nxi, -nctus, *wet, dye, color*. ✕ murex, -icis, m., purple dye, purple. lana, -ae, f., *wool*.
 252 Anyone who, buying a suit, has been told to take it to the

Having concluded the first portion of his discussion, how to find the girl, Ovid now proceeds to his second topic, how to win the girl. The first requisite is confidence that no woman is beyond your reach.

- Hactenus, unde legas quod ames, ubi retia ponas,
praecipit imparibus vecta Thalia rotis.
265 Nunc tibi, quae placuit, quas sit capienda per artes,
dicere praecipuae molior artis opus.
Quisquis ubique, viri, dociles advertite mentes,
pollicitisque favens vulgus adeste meis!
Prima tuae menti veniat fiducia, cunctas
270 posse capi; capies, tu modo tende plagas.
Vere prius volucres taceant, aestate cicadae,
Maenalius lepori det sua terga canis,

door and examine it by natural light will appreciate the soundness of this advice.

- 263 hactenus, so far, thus far. unde, from which (what) place, whence. rete, -is, n., net.
- 264 praecipio, -ere, -cepi, -ceptus, advise, teach. impar, -aris, unequal. veho, -ere, vixi, vectus, bear, carry, convey. Thalia, -ae, f.: the Muse of Comedy, claimed by Ovid as the source of his inspiration. rota, -ae, f., wheel. The 'unequal' wheels refer to the alternating long (hexameter) and short (pentameter) lines used in the *Ars Amatoria*, as if they were the wheels of the Muse's chariot.
- 265 The antecedent of quae is the subject of sit capienda, which is a subjunctive in an indirect question depending on dicere.
- 266 praecipuus, -a, -um, particular, special. molior, -iri, -itus, undertake, attempt. opus is either in apposition with dicere, the object of molior; or is itself the object of molior, and dicere is in apposition with opus.
- 267 With each of the first two words of the line supply 'you are.' ubique, wherever. docilis, -e, teachable, docile, attentive. adverto, -ere, -ti, -sus, turn.
- 268 pollicitum, -i, n., promise. faveo, -ere, favi, faustus, be well disposed, be favorable, favor. vulgus, -i, n., (common) people, crowd. Here vocative.
- 269 fiducia, -ae, f., confidence, assurance. cunctus, -a, -um, all. Note the gender here.
- 270 tendo, -ere, tetendi, tentus (-sus), stretch, spread. plaga, -ae, f., hunting net, snare.
- 271 ver, veris, n., springtime, spring. prius . . . quam, sooner . . . than; before (not to be translated 'before' until the clause headed by quam is reached). volucris, -is, f., bird. taceo, -ere, -cui, -citus, be silent. aestas, -atis, f., summer. cicada, -ae, f., cicada, tree cricket, grasshopper, locust.
-
- 272 Maenalius, -a, -um, Maenalian, Arcadian (here referring to a hound bred in that region). lepus, -oris, m., hare. tergum, -i, n., back. Here plur. for sing. Obviously 'give the back to' means 'run away from.' canis, -is, m., f., dog.

femina quam iuveni blande temptata repugnet;
 haec quoque, quam poteris credere nolle, volet.
 Utque viro furtiva Venus, sic grata puellae; 275
 vir male dissimulat, tectius illa cupit.
 Conveniat maribus, ne quam nos ante rogemus,
 femina iam partes victa rogantis agat!
 Mollibus in pratis admugit femina tauro,
 femina cornipedi semper adhinnit equo; 280
 parcior in nobis nec tam furiosa libido:
 legitimum finem flamma virilis habet.
 * * * * *

Ergo age, ne dubita cunctas sperare puellas! 343

- 273 quam: see 271. blande, *flatteringly, courteously, pleasantly, charmingly.* tempto, -are, -avi, -atus, *handle, assail, court, woo, make love to.* repugno, -are, -avi, -atus, *fight against, fight back, resist.*
- 274 quam: subject of nolle, which depends on credere, which depends on poteris. nolo, nolle, nolui, *not wish, be unwilling, be reluctant; be unfriendly (?)*.
- 275 Both clauses of this line have Venus for subject, est (understood) for verb, and grata for predicate adjective. furtivus, -a, -um, *stolen, secret, hidden.* gratus, -a, -um, *pleasing, agreeable.* --This line may be taken as meaning that girls are as susceptible to the secret fires of love as are men.
- 276 dissimulo, -are, -avi, -atus, *disguise, hide, conceal, keep secret.* Supply 'his love' as the object. ~~tecto, secretly, hiddenly, cautiously.~~ cupio, -ere, -ivi (-ii), -itus, *desire, be in love.*
- 277 convenio, -ire, -veni, -ventus, *come together, suit, be agreed (on) among.* Here we have the protasis of a condition with si omitted; English sometimes does the same thing ('should it be agreed') ~~mas, maris, m., a male.~~ qui, quae, quod (after si, nisi, ne, num), *anyone, any.*
- 278 rogantis: With such participles used alone always supply some substantive in the same case: 'of the one making love,' 'of the one who makes love,' etc.
- 279 ~~pratum, -i, n., meadow.~~ admugio, -ire, -ii, *low to, bellow to.* femina does not mean woman here! taurus, -i, m., *bull.*
- 280 cornipes, -pedis, *horn-footed, hoofed.* ~~adhinniō, -īre, -īvī (-ii), -ītus, neigh to, whinny to.~~
- 281 ~~parcus, -a, -um, sparing, moderate.~~ furiosus, -a, -um, *mad, raging, frantic.* libido, -inis, f., *desire, eagerness, longing, passion.*
- 282 legitimus, -a, -um, *lawful, just, proper.* finis, -is, m., *limit, bound, end.* flamma, -ae, f., *flame, flame of love, love, passion.* virilis, -e, *of a man, manly, masculine.*
- 343 ergo, *therefore, then, accordingly.* dubito, -are, -avi, -atus, *doubt, hesitate.* cunctus, -a, -um, *all.* spero, -are, -avi, -atus, *hope (for).* --This line is reminiscent of the commencement speaker who created a sensation some years ago by urging

- Vix erit e multis, quae neget, una tibi.
 345 Quae dant quaeque negant, gaudent tamen esse rogatae;
 ut iam fallaris, tuta repulsa tua est.
 Sed cur fallaris, cum sit nova grata voluptas,
 et capiant animos plus aliena suis?
 Fertiliior seges est alienis semper in agris,
 350 vicinumque pecus grandius uber habet.

It is well to be on good terms with the lady's maid. She can tell you the best times to press your suit. But do not fall for the maid (351-398). Certain days must be avoided; especially those on which presents are given, such as the day of the Matronalia (= St. Valentine's) (399-416). Worst of all is your girl friend's birthday. But one way or another she will get presents out of you.

- 417 Magna superstitio tibi sit natalis amicae,
 in quaque aliquid dandum est, illa sit atra dies.
 Cum bene vitaris, tamen auferet; invenit artem

the graduating class to aspire to marrying the boss's daughter.

- 344 vix, *hardly, scarcely*. erit: cultivate the trick of supplying the English expletive 'there' when needed, as here: 'there will be.' nego, -are, -avi, -atus, *say no, deny, refuse*. tibi: more easily read with neget.
- 345 A statement of the general truth that all women, whether they accept or decline, are flattered by a proposal of marriage. quae dant: 'girls who consent.' negant: 344. gaudeo, -ere, gavisus sum, *rejoice, be glad*.
- 346 tutus, -a, -um, *safe, without danger, harmless, without loss*. repulsa, -ae, f., *rejection, refusal, repulse*.
- 347 cur, *why*. gratus, -a, -um, *pleasing, agreeable*. voluptas, -atis, f., *enjoyment, pleasure, delight*. --The advantage of being a new face would, of course, be only temporary, but would afford at least a beginning.
- 348 alienus, -a, -um, *belonging to another person, not one's own, another's*. Here used substantively; supply 'things' or the like. suis: 'than one's own.'
- 349 Another of Ovid's pat illustrations which he slips in so smoothly. fertilis, -e, *fertile, productive*. seges, -etis, f., *grainfield, crop*. alienis: 348. ager, agri, m., *field*.
- 350 vicinus, -a, -um, neighboring. pecus, pecoris, n., *cattle, herd, flock*. grandis, -e, *large, full, abundant*. uber, uberis, n., *udder*.
- 417 superstitio, -onis, f., superstition; a thing of dread. ³ natalis, -is, m., birthday.
- 418 qua: the antecedent is dies; ater, atra, atrum, *black, dark, dismal, unlucky, sad*.
- 419 vito, -are, -avi, -atus, *shun, seek to escape, avoid*. vitaris = vitaveris. aufero, auferre, abstuli, ablatum, *carry off, obtain*. As often, an object must be supplied here; e.g., 'the loot.' invenio, -ire, -veni, -ventus, *come upon, find, discover*. invenit, the scansion shows, is present tense.

femina, qua cupidi carpat amantis opes. 420
 Institor ad dominam veniet discinctus emacem,
 expediet merces teque sedente suas,
 quas illa inspicias, sapere ut videare, rogabit,
 oscula deinde dabit; deinde rogabit, emas.
 Hoc fore contentam multos iurabit in annos, 425
 nunc opus esse sibi, nunc bene dicet emi.
 Si non esse domi, quos des, causabere nummos,
 littera poscetur - ne didicisse iuuet.
 Quid, quasi natali cum poscit munera libo

420 cupidus, -a, -um, *desirous, eager, fond, passionate.* carpo, -ere, -psi, -ptus, *pluck, gather, snatch, fleece.* amans, amantis, m., *lover.*

421 An example of how a woman may go about getting presents out of a man follows. Presumably Ovid is speaking from experience; his words seem to come from the heart. Institor, -oris, m., peddler. discinctus, -a, -um, ungirt, slovenly, carelessly dressed, dissolute. emax, -acis, eager to buy, fond of buying. z

422 expedio, -ire, -ivi (-ii), -itus, *set free, bring out, set forth.* merx, -cis, f., *goods, wares, merchandise.* -que should be translated at the beginning of the line.

423 inspicio, -ere, -spexi, -spectus, *look at, inspect, examine.* inspicias depends on rogabit, ut being omitted. sapio, -ere, -ivi (-ii), *taste, have good taste, have discernment, be wise.* --Another instance of Ovid's keen insight into human psychology, male and especially female. The man is more or less indifferent to the goods on display, while the woman is anxious that in front of outsiders, at least, he make a show of having good taste and appreciating nice things.

424 osculum, -i, n., *little mouth, kiss.* deinde, *then, next.* emo, -ere, emi, emptus, *buy, purchase.* --This procedure speaks for itself. Eve undoubtedly used it on Adam.

425 hoc: abl. fore is fut. inf. of sum; se is understood as the subject. contentus, -a, -um, *satisfied, content.* iuro, -are, -avi, -atus, *swear.*

426 nunc . . . nunc: the emphatic word in this line. Now is the time; no putting off! opus esse sibi: 'that there is need to herself' = 'that she needs (it).' bene, with emo, means 'cheaply' or 'at a bargain.' emo: 424.

427 domus, -us & -i, f., *house, home.* causor, -ari, -atus, *plead, give as a reason, pretend, make excuse.* nummus, -i, m., *coin, money, cash.*

428 littera, -ae, f., *letter, document, promissory note, check.* posco, -ere, poposci, *ask for (urgently), beg, demand, request.* ne didicisse iuuet is Ovid's own parenthetical and sardonic comment, and means roughly 'So that you will be sorry you ever learned to write.'

429 quid: 'what's to be said?' or 'what's to be done?' quasi, *as if.* Here to be read only with natali . . . libo: 'as if for

- 430 et, quotiens opus est, nascitur illa sibi?
 Quid, cum mendaci damno maestissima plorat,
 elapsusque cava fingitur aure lapis?
 Multa rogant utenda dari, data reddere nolunt;
 perdis, et in damno gratia nulla tuo.

Letters may be used to pave the way. Use flatteries and promises. Anyone can be rich in promises (437-458). But to write effective letters, you must have eloquence based on a good education. If she does not answer at first, persevere.

- Disce bonas artes, moneo, Romana iuventus,
 460 non tantum trepidos ut tueare reos:
⁴quam populus iudexque gravis lectusque senatus,
 tam dabit eloquio victa puella manus.

(i.e., to buy) a birthday cake.' natalis, -e, natal, birthday. libum, -i, n., cake.

- 430 quotiens, how often, as often as. nascor, nasci, natus, be born. sibi: read either with opus est ('she has need') or with nascitur, showing that it is to her own interest to have such frequent birthdays ('she has a birthday for herself').
- 431 quid: 429. [†]mendax, -acis, lying, false, feigned, fictitious. damnum, -i, n., harm, loss. What sort of loss, is suggested in the next line. maestus, -a, -um, sad, sorrowful, dejected, melancholy. ploro, -are, -avi, -atus, cry, wail, lament, weep.
- 432 elabor, elabi, elapsus, slip off, fall off. Here supply esse. cavus, -a, -um, hollow, (shell-like, pierced). fingo, -ere, finxi, fictus, form, imagine, feign, pretend. auris, -is, f. ear. lapis, -idis, m., stone, jewel.
- 433 utenda dari: literally, 'to be given to be used,' hence 'to be lent.' nolo, nolle, nolui, not wish, be unwilling.
- 434 perdo, -ere, -didi, -ditus, destroy, waste, lose. damno: see 431. gratia, -ae, f., favor, thanks, gratitude.
- 459 Ovid's discussion of carrying on one's courtship by mail is useful for students separated from the objects of their affection by the exigencies of education. bonas artes: perhaps equivalent to our terms 'liberal arts' or 'belles-lettres.' More specifically, the phrase here seems to refer to eloquence and the ability to express oneself well, regarded as highly important by Romans, politicians, and would-be leaders of men (and women). moneo, -ere, -ui, -itus, warn, advise. Romanus, -a, -um, Roman, of Rome. iuventus, -utis, f., age of youth, young people, youth (in a collective sense).
- 460 tantum, only, merely. [†]trepidus, -a, -um, anxious, disturbed, alarmed. tueor, -eri, tuitus, gaze upon, defend, protect. reus, -i, m., defendant.
- 461 populus, -i, m., people. iudex, -icis, m., f., judge. gravis, -e, heavy, grave, eminent, venerable. lectus, -a, -um, chosen, selected, excellent. senatus, -us, m., senate.
- 462 do . . . manus = yield, surrender. ⁵eloquium, -ii, n., eloquence. puella is contrasted with the three nominatives in

Sed lateant vires, nec sis in fronte disertus;
 effugiant voces verba molesta tuae.
 Quis, nisi mentis inops, tenerae declamat amicae? 465
 Saepe valens odii littera causa fuit.
 Sit tibi credibilis sermo consuetaque verba,
 blanda tamen, praesens ut videare loqui.
 Si non accipiet scriptum inlectumque remittet,
 lecturam spera propositumque tene. 470
 Tempore difficiles veniunt ad aratra iuveni,
 tempore lenta pati frena docentur equi;
 ferreus adsiduo consumitur anulus usu,

the preceding line through the use of quam . . . tam; dabit serves as verb for all four of these nouns.

463 Good advice: not to make a display of your powers or learning. lateo, -ere, -ui, *lie hid, be concealed*. sis: subjunctive used as imperative. frons, frontis, f., *brow, front, appearance*. in fronte = 'too obviously' or the like. disertus, -a, -um, *fluent, eloquent*.

464 effugio, -ere, -fugi, *flee from, avoid, shun*. molestus, -a, -um, *troublesome, annoying, labored, affected*.

465 inops, -opis (with gen.), *destitute of, without*. declamo, -are, -avi, -atus, *speaks oratorically, declaim*.

466 valens, -entis, *strong, powerful*. Probably modifies causa here. odium, -ii, n., *hatred, ill-will, offense, annoyance*. littera, -ae, f., *letter*.

467 tibi: a dative of personal interest, most easily, if not exactly, translated by the English possessive. credibilis, -e, *believable, credible, plausible*. sermo, -onis, m., *conversation, speech, mode of expression, language, style, diction*. Here used of letter writing. ~~X~~ consuētus, -a, -um, *usual, ordinary, customary*.

468 blandus, -a, -um, *flattering, pleasant, agreeable, charming, smooth*. praesens, -entis, *present, in person*.

469 scriptum, -i, n., *writing, letter*. ~~X~~ inlectus, -a, -um, *unread*. remitto, -ere, -misi, -missus, *send back, return*.

470 lecturam: supply esse, a subject, and an object, all quite obvious. spero, -are, -avi, -atus, *hope*. propositum, -i, n., *plan, intention, design, purpose*.

471 Again Ovid launches into a series of illustrations of his meaning, this time on the value of perseverance. difficilis, -e, *difficult, hard to manage, troublesome, obstinate*. aratrum, -i, n., *plow*. iuuenicus, -i, m., *young bullock, young ox*.

472 lentus, -a, -um, *pliant, flexible, tough*. patior, pati, passus, bear, suffer, endure, submit to. ~~X~~ frena, -orum, n., *bridle, bit, reins*.

473 ferreus, -a, -um, *made of iron, iron*. adsiduus, -a, -um, *continual, constant*. consumo, -ere, -sumpsi, -sumptus, *consume, wear away*. anulus, -i, m., *ring*. usus, -us, m., *use, wear*.

- interit adsidua vomer aduncus humo.
 475 Quid magis est saxo durum, quid mollius unda?
 Dura tamen molli saxa cavantur aqua.
 Penelopen ipsam, persta modo, tempore vinces;
 capta vides sero Pergama, capta tamen.
 Legerit et nolit rescribere, cogere noli:
 480 tu modo blanditias fac legat usque tuas.
 Quae voluit legisse, volet rescribere lectis;
 per numeros venient ista gradusque suos.
 Forsitan et primo veniet tibi littera tristis,
 quaeque roget, ne se sollicitare velis:
 485 quod rogat illa, timet; quod non rogat, optat, ut instes;

474 interēō, -tra, -iī, -itus, *perish, wear away.* ^x vōmer, -eris, *m., plowshare.* aduncus, -a, -um, *hooked, curved.* humus, -i, *f., earth, ground, soil.* adsidua . . . humo in this context clearly means 'by continual plowing in the ground.'

- 475 magis, *more.* saxum, -i, n., *stone, rock.*
 476 saxa: 475. cavō, -āre, -āvi, -ātus, *make hollow, hollow out.*
 477 Penelope, -es (acc. -en), *f.: faithful wife of Ulysses.* persto, -are, -stiti, -status, *stand fast, persevere, persist.*
 478 sero, *late, after a long time.* Pergama, -orum, n., *(the citadel of) Troy.*
 479 legerit et nolit: either conditional subjunctives (supply si) or concessive: 'suppose that she has read (your letter) and does not want' nolo, nolle, nolui, *not wish, not want, be unwilling.* rescribo, -ere, -psi, -ptus, *write back, reply (in writing).* cogo, -ere, coegi, coactus, *collect, force, compel.* noli (with inf.) = 'do not.'
 480 blanditia, -ae, *f., flattery.* usque, *all the way, all the while, continually.*
 481 quae: its antecedent is either the subject of volet ('she') or else may be found in lectis. rescribere: 479. lectis (dat.): 'things read,' i.e., 'what she had read'; or 'when she has read them.'
 482 per numeros . . . gradusque suos: 'by their own steps and stages,' 'in their own good time' (lit. 'through their own numbers and steps'). iste, ista, istud, *that, that of yours.* As often with neuter plural pronouns, here supply 'things.'
 483 forsitan, *perhaps.* primo (adv.), *at first.* littera, -ae, *f., letter.* tristis, -e, *sad, ill-humored, stern, harsh.*
 484 quae: 'one which.' sollicito, -are, -avi, -atus, *disturb, vex, bother.*
 485 opto, -are, -avi, -atus, *wish, desire.* ut instes explains quod non rogat. insto, -are, -stiti, -status, *press on, insist, persist.*

insequere, et voti postmodo compos eris.

Appear wherever she appears (487-504). Next some advice about personal grooming.

Sed tibi nec ferro placeat torquere capillos, 505
nec tua mordaci pumice crura teras.

* * * * *

Forma viros neglecta decet: Minoida Theseus.

abstulit a nulla tempora comptus acu; 510

Hippolytum Phaedra, nec erat bene cultus, amavit;
cura deae silvis aptus Adonis erat.

Munditie placeant, fuscentur corpora Campo;
sit bene conveniens et sine labe toga;

486 *insequor*, -qui, -cutus, *follow on, pursue, proceed, press on.* *votum*, -i, n., *vow, wish, desire.* *postmodo*, *afterwards, presently, shortly.* *compos*, -potis (with gen.), *master of, possessing, possessed of, in possession of.*

505 *ferrum*, -i, n., *iron, implement of iron, curling irons.* *torqueo*, -ere, *torsi, tortus, turn, twist, curl.*

506 *mordax*, -ācis, *biting.* *pumex*, -icis, m., *pumice stone.* *crus*, -uris, n., *leg.* *terō*, -ere, *trivi, tritus, rub, smooth.*
--These were practices of the up-to-date women of Ovid's time (and more recent times, too) and of some men.

509 *neglectus*, -a, -um, *neglected, careless.* *Minois*, -idis (acc. -ida), f., *daughter of Minos; Ariadne (who fell in love and ran off with Theseus).* *Theseus*, -ei, m.: Greek hero who conquered the Minotaur.

510 *aufero*, *aufferre, abstuli, ablatus, carry off.* *comptus*, -a, -um, *adorned, ornamented.* *tempora* (acc. of respect) *comptus*: translate freely 'though his temples were adorned'; how literally? *acus*, -us, f., *pin, hairpin, ornamental pin.*

511 These next two lines refer to two more famous love affairs of mythology, in each of which cases, says Ovid, the man was not noted for the elegance of his dress. Hippolytus was very much interested in hunting and very little interested in women, least of all Phaedra, his young step-mother. The outcome, incidentally, was catastrophic. Adonis, an extraordinarily handsome lad madly loved by Venus, also enjoyed hunting (which explains *silvis aptus*) and eventually lost his life because of it. He would have done better to listen to Venus. *cultus*, -a, -um, *cultivated, ornamented, adorned, polished, dressed, elegantly dressed.*

512 *dea*, -ae, f., *goddess.* *silva*, -ae, f., *wood, forest.*

513 *munditiēs*, -ēi, f., *cleanliness, neatness.* *placeant*: the subject is *corpora*, or possibly *virī*. *fusco*, -are, -avi, -ātus, *darken, bronze, tan.* *Campus*, -i, m., *the Campus Martius, a field in Rome used for assemblies, drills, games, exercise, and recreation.* As the Romans took their exercise naked or nearly so, again anticipating more recent times, they could acquire a good sun tan at the same time.

514 *conveniens*, -entis, *fitting.* *bene conveniens* = 'a good fit.'

- 515 lingula ne ruget; careant rubigine dentes.
 Nec vagus in laxa pes tibi pelle natet,
 nec male deformat rigidos tonsura capillos:
 sit coma, sit scita barba resecta manu.
 Et nihil emineant et sint sine sordibus unguis,
 520 inque cava nullus stet tibi nare pilus.
 Nec male odorati sit tristis anhelitus oris,
 nec laedat nares virque paterque gregis.
 Cetera lascivae faciant, concede, puellae . . .

† labēs, -is, f., spot, stain, blemish. toga, -ae, f., toga (a flowing outer garment worn by Roman citizens).

515 lingula ne ruget: a conjecture (i.e., guess based on certain evidence) by Palmer. No one is sure what Ovid wrote here, as the manuscript readings are confused. lingula, -ae, f., (little) tongue, tongue of a shoe, shoe strap. rugeo, -are, -avi, -atus, become wrinkled, become coated (?). careo, -ere, -ui, -itus (with abl.), be without, be free from, lack. † rubigō, -inis, f., rust, stain, yellowness. dens, dentis, m., tooth.

516 † vagus, -a, -um, rambling, wandering. † laxus, -a, -um, wide, loose, roomy; too large. † pellis, -is, f., skin, leather, shoe. nato, -are, -avi, -atus, swim, float. --All this is merely Ovid's way of saying not to wear shoes that are too large.

517 deformo, -are, -avi, -atus, disfigure, spoil, mar. rigidus, -a, -um, stiff, stubborn. † tonsura, -ae, f., clipping, trimming, cutting.

518 scitus, -a, -um, knowing, experienced, skillful. † barba, -ae, f., beard. † resecō, -āre, -āvī, -ātus, cut off, cut.

519 nihil, nothing, not at all, not. emineo, -ere, -ui, stand out, project. sordes, -is, f., dirt, filth. unguis, -is, m., fingernail.

520 cavus, -a, -um, hollow. sto, -are, steti, status, stand, remain. naris, -is, f., nostril. † pilus, -i, m., hair.

521 † odoratus, -a, -um, odorous, fragrant, smelling. tristis, -e, sad, offensive, foul, unpleasant. † anhelitus, -ūs, m.; breathing, breath. --This is the passage that brought Ovid to national attention when advertisements of an antiseptic manufacturer featured it in 1950.

522 nares: 520. grex, gregis, m., flock, herd. --The preceding line refers to halitosis, this one to B.O. (body odor). 'The husband and father of the herd' means 'the he-goat,' an animal not noted for a too pleasant smell. The Romans used these goatish expressions, just as we do B.O., to refer euphemistically to underarm odor.

523 The sense of the line is that it is proper for men to go this far in attention to their personal appearance and grooming. Anything further should be left to the women. ceterus, -a, -um, the other, the rest. † lascivus, -a, -um, playful, frolicsome,

The story of Ariadne and Bacchus is related to show that the latter is not incompatible with love.

Gnosis in ignotis amens errabat harenis,
 qua brevis aequoreis Dia feritur aquis;
 utque erat e somno tunica velata recincta,
 nuda pedem, croceas inreligata comas, 530
 Thesea crudelem surdas clamabat ad undas,
 indigno teneras imbre rigante genas.
 Clamabat flebatque simul, sed utrumque decebat;
 non facta est lacrimis turpior illa suis.
 Iamque iterum tundens mollissima pectora palmis, 535

frisky, roguish, wanton. *faciant* depends on *concede*, with *ut* omitted; its subject is *puellae*. *concedo*, -ere, -cessi, -cessus, *depart, grant, concede, allow.*

527 However we may feel about the use of wine (it was taken as a matter of course by the Romans, as it is by Europeans), Ovid is certainly to be praised in that he warns against drunkenness. Besides, it gives him an excuse for relating the conclusion of Ariadne's adventure (cf. 509-510), after she had been deserted in her sleep on the island of Dia by Theseus, just subsequent to their elopement from Crete. It is a masterpiece of verbal painting. The processional scene Ovid describes has been reproduced by several of the great masters of visual painting, including Titian and Poussin. *Gnosis*, -idis, f., *the Cnossian girl, the Cretan girl; i.e., Ariadne* (daughter of Minos, king of Crete). *ignotus*, -a, -um, *unknown, strange.* *amens*, *amentis*, *out of one's senses, frantic, distracted.* *erro*, -are, -avi, -atus, *wander (up and down), rove.* *harena*, -ae, f., *sand, shore, beach.*

528 *brevis*, -e, *little, small.* *aequoreus*, -a, -um, *of the sea.* *Dia*, -ae, f.: either of two islands (Standia or Naxos) north of Crete. *ferio*, -ire, *strike, beat.*

529 *ut erat*: 'just as she was (on awaking).' *somnus*, -i, m., *sleep.* *tunica*, -ae, f., *undergarment, tunic.* *velo*, -are, -avi, -atus, *cover, clothe.* *recingo*, -ere, -xi, -ctus, *ungird, loose.*

530 *nudus*, -a, -um, *naked, bare.* *pedem*, *comas*: accusatives of specification. *croceus*, -a, -um, *saffron-colored, golden, yellow.* *inreligatus*, -a, -um, *unbound.*

531 *Theseus*, -ei (acc. -ea), m.: Greek hero who conquered the Minotaur with Ariadne's help. *crudelis*, -e, *hard-hearted, cruel.* *surdus*, -a, -um, *deaf.*

532 *indignus*, -a, -um, *unworthy, undeserved.* *imber*, -bris, m., *rain, shower (of tears).* *rigo*, -are, -avi, -atus, *wet, moisten, bedew.* *gena*, -ae, f., *cheek.*

533 *simul*, *at the same time.* *uterque*, *utraque*, *utrumque*, *each, both.*

534 *non . . . turpior* is a roundabout way of saying 'prettier.' This device is called *litotes*.

535 *iterum*, *again, a second time.* *tundo*, -ere, *tutudi, tūnsus*

'Perfidus ille abiit! Quid mihi fiet?' ait.
 'Quid mihi fiet?' ait: sonuerunt cymbala toto
litore et attonita tympana pulsa manu.
 Excidit illa metu rupitque novissima verba;
 540 nullus in exanimi corpore sanguis erat.
 Ecce Mimallonides sparsis in terga capillis,
 ecce leves satyri, praevia turba dei,
 ebrius ecce senex: pando Silenus asello
 vix sedet et pressas continet arte iubas.

(tūsus, tūsus), *beat, strike (repeatedly)*. palma, -ae, f., palm, hand. --This classic way of expressing grief is not so much in fashion as it used to be.

536 perfidus, -a, -um, *faithless, false, treacherous, perfidious*. abeo, -ire, -ivi (-ii), -itus, *go away, depart, disappear*. aio, *say*.

537 A very dramatic line. Its power is based on the repetition of Ariadne's words, then the sudden sound of the cymbals breaking in on her lonely lament. This startling succession of soft and loud effects has often been strikingly used by the great composers, such as Tschaikowsky and Wagner. ait: 536. sono, -are, -ui, -itus, *sound, resound*. † cymbalum, -i, n., *cymbal* (especially associated with Bacchus). totus, -a, -um, *all, whole, entire*.

538 litus, -oris, n., *seashore, beach*. attonitus, -a, -um, *thunder-struck, frantic, frenzied*. Ablative case here. † tympanum, -i, n., *drum, tambourine*. pello, -ere, pepuli, pulsus, *beat, strike, drive*.

539 excido, -ere, -cidi, *fall down, faint, swoon, collapse*. It is doubtful if Ariadne actually faints, since a few lines later she is quite conscious and tries to run away. metus, -us, m., *fear, dread*. rumpo, -ere, rupi, ruptus, *break (off), interrupt*. --As Ariadne has already begun to repeat herself, it may be just as well that she breaks off talking.

540 † exanimis, -e, *lifeless, breathless, terrified*. sanguis, -inis, m., *blood*.

541 ecce, *lo! see! behold! here are (is)*. Mimallonis, -idis, f., *a Bacchante, a female follower of Bacchus*. spargo, -ere, -si, -sus, *scatter, strew, spread*. tergum, -i, n., *back*.

542 ecce: 541. satyrus, -i, m., *satyr (a goat-footed forest deity)*. † praevius, -a, -um, *going before, leading the way, preceding*. turba, -ae, f., *crowd, throng, band, troop*. dei: the god here is Bacchus, god of wine.

543 ebrius, -a, -um, *drunken, intoxicated*. ecce: 541. senex, senis, m., *old man (i.e., Silenus)*. † pandus, -a, -um, *bent, crooked, curved, sway-backed*. Silenus, -i, m.: the tutor and constant attendant of Bacchus; bald, flat-nosed, perpetually drunk; excessively fond of young women; one of the clowns of mythology. asellus, -i, m., *(little) ass, donkey*.

544 vix, *with difficulty, scarcely, barely*. premo, -ere, -essi, -essus, *press, hold fast, firmly grasp*. contineo, -ere,

Dum sequitur Bacchas, Bacchae fugiuntque petuntque, 545
 quadrupedem ferula dum malus urget eques,
 in caput aurito cecidit delapsus asello;
 clamarunt satyri 'surge age, surge, pater!'
 Iam deus in curru, quem summum texerat uvis,
 tigribus adiunctis aurea lora dabat: 550
 et color et Theseus et vox abiere puellae
 terque fugam petiit terque retenta metu est;
 horruit, ut steriles agitatas quas ventus aristas,
 ut levis in madida canna palude tremit.

-tinui, -tentus, hold together, hold fast, cling to. arte, closely, fast, firmly. Aiuba, -ae, f., mane.

545 sequor, -qui, secutus, follow, chase, pursue. Baccha, -ae, f., a Bacchante, a female follower of Bacchus. --The girls are having some fun, in an immemorial female way, by tantalizing the old fellow.

546 quadrupes, -pedis, m., f., n., quadruped. ferula, -ae, f., staff, (walking) stick, whip. malus, -a, -um, bad, unlucky, awkward, unskillful. urgeo, -ere, ursi, press, drive, urge on. eques, -itis, m., horseman, rider.

547 caput, -itis, n., head. auritus, -a, -um, long-eared. cado, -ere, cecidi, casus, fall. delabor, -bi, -lapsus, fall, slip down, slide off. asellus, -i, m., (little) ass, donkey.

548 clamarunt = clamaverunt. satyri: 542. surgo, -ere, surrexi, surrectus, rise, get up, stand up.

549 currus, -us, m., chariot. summum: must be translated before quem. tego, -ere, -xi, -ctus, cover. uva, -ae, f., grape, bunch of grapes.

550 tigris, -is (-idis), m., f., tiger, tigress. Bacchus used tigers for drawing his chariot. Everyone to his own taste. adlungo, -ere, -nxi, -nctus, join, yoke, harness. aureus, -a, -um, of gold, golden. lora, -orum, n., reins. To give reins is to slacken reins, or to let go unrestrained.

551 Theseus: 531. Here could mean either Theseus himself or the thought of Theseus. abeo, -ire, -ii (-ivi), -itus, go away, depart, leave, disappear, vanish. The ending -ere = -erunt.

552 ter, three times, thrice. fuga, -ae, f., flight, escape. retineo, -ere, -ui, -tentus, hold back, keep back, restrain. metus, -us, m., fear, dread.

553 horreo, -ere, -ui, bristle, tremble, shake, shudder. steriles . . . aristas have been incorporated into the relative clause and have taken the case of the relative pronoun. Properly they should be in the nominative case and the line written thus: 'horruit, ut steriles aristae quas ventus agitatas.' sterilis, -e, barren, dry. agito, -are, -avi, -atus, drive, shake, toss about, move to and fro. arista, -ae, f., ear of grain, (stalk).

554 madidus, -a, -um, moist, wet. canna, -ae, f., reed, cane. palus, -udis, f., swamp, marsh. tremo, -ere, -ui, shake,

- 555 Cui deus 'en, adsum tibi cura fidelior,' inquit;
 'pone metum: Bacchi, Gnosias, uxor eris!
 Munus habe caelum: caelo spectabere sidus;
 saepe reget dubiam Cressa Corona ratem.'
 Dixit, et e curru, ne tigres illa timeret,
 560 desilit (imposito cessit harena pede),
 implicitamque sinu (neque enim pugnare valebat)
 abstulit: in facili est omnia posse deo.
 Pars 'Hymenaeae' canunt, pars clamant Euhion, 'euhoe!'
 Sic coeunt sacro nupta deusque toro.

quiver, tremble.

555 en, lo! behold! see! fidelis, -e, trusty, faithful; true.
 inquam, say.

556 metus, -us, m., fear, dread. Bacchus, -i, m.: god of wine.
 Gnosias, -adis, f., Cnossian girl, Cretan girl. uxor, -oris,
 f., wife.

557 munus: in apposition with caelum. caelum, -i, n., sky, heav-
 en, the heavens. sidus, -eris, n., constellation, star. Here
 in apposition with the subject 'you.' --This is the mythical ori-
 gin of that circular group of stars still known as 'Corona' (see
 next line) or 'Ariadne's Crown.'

558 rego, -ere, -xi, -ctus, guide, direct, rule. dubius, -a,
 -um, doubting, doubtful, uncertain. Cressa, -ae (adj.), Cre-
 tan. corona, -ae, f., wreath, crown. ratis, -is, f., boat, ship.

559 currus, -us, m., chariot. tigres: 550.

560 desilio, -ire, -silui, -sultus, leap down. impono, -ere, -po
 sui, -positus, place on. cedo, -ere, cessi, cessus, go,
 withdraw, yield. harena, -ae, f., sand. --This parenthetical
 statement is perhaps thrown in to show the eagerness with which
 Bacchus jumped from his chariot and hence to indicate that he was
 not merely interested in allaying Ariadne's fear of the tigers.

561 implico, -are, -ui (-avi), -itus (-atus), enfold, embrace,
 clasp. With implicitam supply eam. neque enim, for . . .
 not. pugno, -are, -avi, -atus, fight, struggle. valeo, -ere,
 -ui, -itus, have strength, have the power, be in condition, be
 able.

562 aufero, auferre, abstuli, ablatus, carry off. in facili est:
 'it is easy.' omnia posse: 'to be able (to do) all things.'
 --Ovid's wistful envy of the gods, especially in affairs of the
 heart, is evident.

563 Hymenaeus, -i, m., Hymen (god of marriage, who was invoked
 when a wedding was taking place). cano, -ere, cecini, can-
 tus, sing. Euhion, -ii (acc. Euhion), m.: a surname of Bacchus.
 euhoe: a shout of joy at the festivals of Bacchus.

564 coeō, -ire, -ivi (-iī), -itus, 'come together, meet, be unit-
 ed, unite. sacer, -era, -erum, holy, sacred. nupta, -ae,
 f., bride, wife. torus, -i, m., couch, bed, marriage, wedlock.

Ergo ubi contigerint positi tibi munera Bacchi, 565
 atque erit in sōcii femina parte tori,
 Nycteliumque patrem nocturnaue sacra precare,
 ne iubeant capiti vina nocere tuo.
 Hic tibi multa licet sermone latentia tecto
 dicere, quae dici sentiat illa sibi, 570
 blanditiasque leves tenui perscribere vino,
 ut dominam in mensa se legat illa tuam,
 atque oculos oculis spectare fatentibus ignem:
 saepe tacens vocem verbaue vultus habet.
 Fac primus rapias illius tacta labellis 575
 pocula, quaque bibit parte puella, bibas;

565 Ovid's story is ended and he returns to his subject. *ergo*, therefore, accordingly. *contingo*, -ere, -tigi, -tactus (with dat.), touch, befall, fall to the lot of. *Bacchus*, -i, m., *Bacchus* (god of wine), the vine, wine. --It would seem more logical for *positi* to agree with *munera* than with *Bacchi*.

566 *socius*, -a, -um, sharing, shared, social. *tori*: 564. *socii* . . . *tori* refers, of course, to the Roman custom of reclining on long couches at meals, several to a couch.

567 *Nyctelius*, -a, -um, *Nyctelian*, an epithet of *Bacchus* (because his mysteries were celebrated at night, the word being derived from the Greek for 'night'). *nocturnus*, -a, -um, of the night, nocturnal. *sacrum*, -i, n., sacred thing, sacred rite. *precor*, -ari, -atus, entreat, pray (to), call upon, beseech. *precare* is imperative.

568 *caput*, -itis, n., head. *vinum*, -i, n. (also in plur.), wine. *noceo*, -ere, -ui, -itus (with dat.), do harm to, injure, (go to).

569 *sermo*, -onis, m., talk, conversation. *latens*, -entis, lying hid, hidden, concealed, secret. *tectus*, -a, -um, hidden, secret, concealed, disguised, cautious.

570 *sentio*, -ire, -si, -sus, feel, perceive. Note the mood here.

571 *blanditia*, -ae, f., flattery; (plur.) flatteries, loving words. *perscribo*, -ere, -psi, -ptus, write (trace) out. *vin*: 568. --It should be understood here that the wine has been spilled on the table and the finger is used as a writing instrument.

572 *mensa*, -ae, f., table. *se*: subject of *esse* understood.

573 *fateor*, -eri, fassus, confess, show, declare.

574 *tacens*, -entis, silent. *vultus*, -us, m., expression, features, face, countenance.

575 *tango*, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch. *labellum*, -i, n., (little, dear, sweet) lip.

576 *poculum*, -i, n., cup, goblet. --A more obvious order of words for the rest of the line would be: 'bibasque parte (po-

et quemcumque cibum digitis libaverit illa,
578 tu pete dumque petes, sit tibi tacta manus.

Do not drink to excess; but be entertaining.

Certa tibi a nobis dabitur mensura bibendi:
590 officium praestent mensque pedesque suum.

Iurgia praecipue vino stimulata, caveto
et nimium faciles ad fera bella manus:
occidit Eurytion stulte data vina bibendo;
aptior est dulci mensa merumque ioco.

595 Si vox est, canta; si mollia bracchia, salta;
et quacumque potes dote placere, place.

As the guests leave the table, seize the opportunity for a few private words with the girl. Pour on the compliments. Everybody loves flattery.

culi) qua bibit puella.' As often happens, the antecedent has been incorporated into the relative clause. --The little act of devotion referred to here is surely no more repulsive or unsanitary than the modern traditional gesture of gulping champagne from a lady's slipper.

577 *cibus*, -i, m., *food*. *libo*, -are, -avi, -atus, *taste, touch*.

578 *tibi*: dat. of agent. That this is basically a dative of personal interest must be quite apparent here. *tacta*: 575.

589 *certus*, -a, -um, *fixed, sure, reliable, certain, definite*.
X *mēnsūra*, -ae, f., *measure, quantity, extent, limit*.

590 *officium*, -ii, n., *service, duty, function, office*. *praesto*, -are, -avi, -atus, *stand before, fulfil, perform, show*.

591 *iurgium*, -iī, n., *quarrel, dispute, strife*. *praecipue*, especially, particularly. *vinum*, -i, n., *wine*. *stimulo*, -are, -avi, -atus, *arouse, incite, stimulate*. *caveo*, -ere, *cavi, cautus*, *beware of, guard against, avoid*. *caveto*: fut. imperative.

592 *nimium*, *too much, too*. *facilis*, -e, *easy, ready, quick*. *ferus*, -a, -um, *wild, savage, fierce*. *bellum*, -i, n., *war, battle, fight*. *manus*: accusative plural.

593 *occido*, -ere, -cidi, -casus, *fall down, perish, die*. *Eurytion*, -onis, m.: a centaur who became drunk at a wedding and tried to make off with the bride, Hippodamia. The bridegroom, Pirithous, and his friends resented this and there was quite a fight, with results disastrous to Eurytion. *stulte*, *foolishly*. Could modify either *data* or *bibendo*. *vina*: 591.

594 *dulcis*, -e, *sweet, delightful, pleasant*. *mensa*, -ae, f., *table, dining*. *merum*, -i, n., *(unmixed) wine*. *iocus*, -i, m., *jest(ing), joke, joking, mirth*. --In these last lines, a pretty good temperance lesson.

595 In both *si* clauses, *tibi* should be understood, as well as *sunt* in the second one. *canto*, -are, -avi, -atus, *sing*. *bracchium*, -ii, n., *arm*. *salto*, -are, -avi, -atus, *dance*.

596 *dōs, dōtis*, f., *dowry, gift, talent*.

At cum discedet mensa conviva remota,
 ipsa tibi accessus turba locumque dabit.
 Inse^re te turbae, leviterque admotus eunti 605
 velle latus digitis et pede tange pedem.
 Colloquii iam tempus adest; fuge rustice longe
 hinc Pudor! audentem Forsque Venusque iuvat.
 Non tua sub nostras veniat facundia leges;
 fac tantum cupias: sponte disertus eris. 610
 Est tibi agendus amans imitandaque vulnera verbis;
 haec tibi quaeratur qualibet arte fides.

603 discedo, -ere, -cessi, -cessus, separate, depart, go away, leave. mensa: 594. conviva, -ae, m., f., table companion, guest. Here may refer in a collective sense to all the guests rather than to the one girl in question. removeo, -ere, -movi, -motus, move back, take away, remove.

604 accessus, -us, m., approach, access, chance to approach. turba, -ae, f., crowd, throng.

605 Yinse^ro, -ere, -se^rui, -se^rtus, insert, mix with. inse^re te (with dat.): 'mingle with.' turbae: 604. leviter, lightly, easily, gently. admoveo, -ere, -movi, -motus, move towards. admotus eunti: 'drawing near to her as she goes.'

606 Yvello, -ere, vulsi, vulsus, pluck, tweak, pinch. latus, -eris, n., side. tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch.

607 colloquium, -ii, n., conversation. rusticus, -a, -um, rustic, provincial, prudish. This is Ovid's favorite word for describing anyone or anything too strait-laced to suit his tastes. 'Mid-Victorian' sometimes conveys the same idea. longe, far, far off, far away.

608 hinc, from this place, from here, hence. pudor, -oris, m., shame, shyness, modesty. Here personified and in the vocative case. audens, -entis, daring, bold, brave. Yfors, fortis, f., chance, luck, fortune. Also personified as the goddess of chance.

609 These next two lines mean that Ovid can give you no specific rules as to what you should say in such a situation; if you are sufficiently interested (or can just get started), words should come of themselves. Yfacundia, -ae, f., eloquence, fluency. lex, legis, f., law, precept, rule.

610 tantum (adv.), only. cupio, -ere, -ivi (-ii), -itus, desire, wish, be eager. Some editors here substitute incipias, 'that you make a beginning,' which they think makes better sense. It certainly makes good sense. Whether it is what Ovid wrote in the first place is another question. sponte, of one's own accord, spontaneously. Ydisertus, -a, -um, fluent, eloquent.

611 Est tibi agendus amans: 'you must act the part of a lover.' imitor, -ari, -atus, imitate, feign, pretend. Here supply sunt. vulnera = 'wounds of love.' --At the start, at least, Ovid visualizes a mere flirtation rather than a serious case of love.

Y612 quⁱlibet, quaelibet, quodlibet, any . . . at all, any . . . whatsoever. fides, -ei, f., trust, faith, belief. --Ovid

- Nec credi labor est: sibi quaeque videtur amanda;
 pessima sit, nulli non sua forma placet.
- 615 Saepe tamen vere coepit simulator amare,
 saepe, quod incipiens finxerat esse, fuit.
 Quo magis o, faciles imitantibus este, puellae:
 fiet amor verus, qui modo falsus erat.
 Blanditiis animum furtim deprendere nunc sit,
- 620 ut pendens liquida ripa subitur aqua:
 nec faciem nec te pigeat laudare capillos
 et teretes digitos exiguumque pedem.

means you must put on a convincing performance.

- 613 labor, -oris, m., *work, trouble; a hard thing*. amanda: 'to be loved' = 'worthy of love' or 'lovable.'
- 614 pessimus, -a, -um (superlative of malus), *very bad, very ugly*. sit: concessive subjunctive ('though . . .'). nulli non sua forma placet: lit., 'to no (woman) is her own appearance not pleasing.' This should be rephrased in more idiomatic English.
- 615 vere, *truly, really, in fact*. coepi, coepisse, coeptus (perf. tenses only), *have begun, began*. simulātor, -ōris, m., *feigner, pretender*.
- 616 incipio, -ere, -cepi, -ceptus, *begin*. fingo, -ere, finxi, fictus, *form, imagine, feign, pretend*. --The sense of the line: 'often he has become what in the beginning he had (only) pretended to be.'
- 617 quo, *wherefore, for which (this) reason*. magis (adv.), *more, rather*. o, O! *oh!* Goes with puellae here, but very effective in this particular position. facilis, -e, *easy, pleasant, not harsh, kind*. imitor, -ari, -atus, *imitate, pretend*. The participle is used here as a substantive: 'to those who . . .'. este: imperative of sum. --The implication may be that women are not fooled by men; they just pretend to be fooled.
- 618 verus, -a, -um, *true, real, genuine*. falsus, -a, -um, *feigned, pretended, false*.
- 619 blanditia, -ae, f., *flattery; (plur.) flatteries, smooth words*. furtim, *stealthily, secretly*. deprendo, -ere, -di, -sus, *take away, seize, capture, take possession of*. sit: in English some predicate must be supplied, such as 'your purpose' or 'the time.'
- 620 pendeo, -ere, pependi, *hang*. liquidus, -a, -um, *flowing, liquid, clear, bright, limpid*. ripa, -ae, f., *bank*. subeo, -ire, -ii, -itus, *go under, undermine, approach*.
- 621 piget, -ēre, piguit (pigitum est), *it irks, annoys, displeases, disgusts*. It is an impersonal verb which in English is best turned around and translated with the personal object as the subject; so that te pigeat ('let it displease you') = 'be displeased,' or with a negative, 'be sure to.' laudo, -are, -avi, -atus, *praise*.
- 622 teres, -etis (adj.), *round, smooth, slender*. exiguus, -a, -um, *small, little, tiny*.

Delectant etiam castas praeconia formae;
 virginibus curae grataque forma sua est.
 Nam cur in Phrygiis Iunonem et Pallada silvis 625
 nunc quoque iudicium non tenuisse pudet?
 Laudatas ostendit avis Iunonia pinnas:
 si tacitus spectes, illa recondit opes;
 quadrupes inter rapidi certamina cursus
 depexaeque iubae plausaque colla iuvant. 630

Since girls are mostly a deceptive race, it is fair and proper to practice a little deception in dealing with them (631-658). Tears may be useful.

623 delecto, -are, -avi, -atus, *delight, please*. castus, -a, -um, *pure, chaste, virtuous, modest*. Used here as a feminine substantive. praeconium, -ii, n., *a proclaiming, laudation, commendation, praise*.

624 virgo, -inis, f., *maiden, young woman, girl*. curae: 'for a care,' i.e., 'a concern,' 'a source of interest,' or the like. gratus, -a, -um, *pleasing*.

625 nam (conj.), *for*. cur, *why*. Phrygius, -a, -um, *Phrygian, Trojan*: Iuno, -onis, f., *Juno, queen of the gods, wife of Jupiter*. Pallas, -adis or -ados (acc. -ada), f., *Pallas, surname of Minerva (Athene), goddess of wisdom, etc.* As both she and (to a lesser degree) Juno were of a very strict moral character, Ovid is trying to show that even such women are inclined to be vain about their looks. silva, -ae, f., *wood, forest*.

626 iudicium, -ii, n., *judgment, decision*. tenuisse here = 'to have won.' pudet, -ere, -uit or puditum est, *it makes ashamed, one is ashamed*. Like piget (621), this is an impersonal verb whose object should be translated as the subject, replacing the word *one* in the meaning given above.

627 laudo, -are, -avi, -atus, *praise*. ostendo, -ere, -di, -sus and -tus, *spread out, show, exhibit, display*. avis, -is, f., *bird*. Iunonius, -a, -um, *of or belonging to Juno (whose bird was the peacock)*. --Unfortunately some peacocks, not having read Ovid, do not react in the prescribed manner.

628 tacitus, -a, -um, *silent, in silence*. recondo, -ere, -didi, -ditus, *shut up, hide, conceal*.

629 quadrupes, -pedis, m., f., n., *quadruped, horse*. inter (with acc.), *between, among, amid*. rapidus, -a, -um, *swift, rapid*. certamen, -inis, n., *contest, struggle*. cursus, -us, m., *running, race*. Here genitive case.

630 ~~X~~ depexō, -ere, --, -xus, *comb*. iuba, -ae, f., *mane*. plaudo, -ere, -si, -sus, *clap, pat*. collum, -i, n., *neck*. --A typical Latin usage appears in this line. The logical subjects are implied in the two participles, which should be translated by English gerunds; the two nouns, the grammatical subjects, should then be translated as though in the genitive case. The famous example of this construction is *ab urbe condita*, which means literally

- Et lacrimae prosunt: lacrimis adamantina movebis!
 660 Fac madidas videat, si potes, illa genas.
 Si lacrimae (neque enim veniunt in tempore semper)
 deficient, uda lumina tange manu.
 Quis sapiens blandis non misceat oscula verbis?
 Illa licet non det, non data sume tamen!
 665 Pugnabit primo fortassis et 'improbe!' dicet:
 pugnando vinci se tamen illa volet.
 Tantum ne noceant teneris male rapta labellis,
 neve queri possit dura fuisse, cave.

Most women like to be swept off their feet. Some, however, are just the opposite and are attracted by that which seems to avoid them (669-722). Paleness and thinness are appropriate to a lover, so that everyone may see that he is in love.

- 723 Candidus in nauta turpis color: aequoris unda
 debet et a radiis sideris esse niger;

'from the city having been founded,' i.e., 'from the founding of the city.'

- 659 prosum, prodesse, profui, be useful, be of use, help. ^X adamas, -antis (acc. -anta), m., adamant, the hardest iron.
 660 madidus, -a, -um, moist, wet. gena, -ae, f., cheek.
 661 neque enim, for . . . not.
 662 deficio, -ere, -feci, -fectus, fail, be lacking. ^X udus, -a, -um, wet, moist, damp. Here abl. lumen, -inis, n., light, eye. tango, -ere, tetigi, tactus, touch.
 663 sapiens, -entis, wise, knowing, sensible. blandus, -a, -um, smooth, flattering, caressing, coaxing. misceo, -ere, miscui, mixtus, mix, mingle. osculum, -i, n., little mouth, kiss.
 664 data modifies oscula understood. sumo, -ere, sumpsi, sumptus, take.
 665 pugno, -are, -avi, -atus, fight, resist. primo (adv.), at first. ~~fortassis, perhaps, probably, possibly.~~ improbus, -a, -um, bad, wicked, shameless, impudent. improbe corresponds remarkably to our expression, now burlesqued, 'You naughty man!'
 666 pugnando: 665.
 667 tantum (adv.), only. noceo, -ere, -cui, -citus (with dat.), harm, injure, hurt. rapta modifies oscula, understood as the subject of noceant. labellum, -i, n., (little) lip.
 668 neve, and (that) not, and lest. queror, queri, questus, complain. dura: pred. acc. agreeing with oscula, understood as subject of fuisse. caveo, -ere, cavi, cautus, take care, beware. The two preceding ne clauses depend on cave.
 723 candidus, -a, -um, white, clear, bright. nauta, -ae, m., sailor. aequor, -oris, n., level surface, sea.
 724 debeo, -ere, -ui, -itus, owe, ought, must, should. radius, -ii, m., rod, ray, beam. sidus, -eris, n., constellation,

turpis et agricolae, qui vomere semper adunco 725
 et gravibus rastris sub Iove versat humum;
 et tua, Palladiae petitur cui palma coronae,
 candida si fuerint corpora, turpis eris.
 Palleat omnis amans! Hic est color aptus amanti;
 hoc decet; hoc stulti non valuisse putent. 730
 * * * * *
 Arguat et macies animum, nec turpe putaris
 palliolum nitidis imposuisse comis.
 Attenuant iuvenum vigilatae corpora noctes 735
 curaque et, in magno qui fit amore, dolor.
 Ut voto potiare tuo, miserabilis esto,
 ut qui te videat, dicere possit 'amas!'

star, sun, sky. niger, -gra, -grum, black, dark, tan.

725 Both subject (from 723) and verb must be supplied in this first clause. agricola, -ae, m., farmer. vomer, -eris, m., plowshare. aduncus, -a, -um, bent, hooked, curved.

726 gravis, -e, heavy. rastris, -orum, m., toothed hoe, rake, mattock. Iuppiter, Iovis, m., Jupiter, heaven, sky. verso, -are, -avi, -atus, turn (up). humus, -i, f., earth, ground, soil.

727 tua modifies corpora. By its advanced position it affords a quasi antecedent for cui, which refers to the person directly addressed here: 'you by whom.' Palladius, -a, -um, of Pallas (Athene, Minerva). palma, -ae, f., palm, prize. corona, -ae, f., garland, wreath, crown. --This crown of Pallas (to whom the olive tree was sacred) was the olive wreath, given as a prize in athletic contests.

728 candida: 723. corpora: plural for singular.

729 palleo, -ere, -ui, be pale, look pale. amans, -antis, m., lover.

730 stultus, -i, m., fool, the foolish. valeo, -ere, -ui, -itus, be strong, be healthy, have influence, be effective, avail.

733 ~~Arguo, -ere, -ui, -utus, make clear, make known, show, accuse. macies, -ei, f., leanness, thinness. puta(ye)ris: with nec, a prohibitive subjunctive: 'do not think (it).'~~ ^{PM}

734 ~~palliolum, -i, n., hood. nitidus, -a, -um, shining, bright, neat, trim. impono, -ere, -posui, -positus, place on, put on. --The present-day equivalent might be to pull the hat down over the eyes.~~

735 ~~Attenuo, -are, -avi, -atus, make thin, thin, weaken. vigilo, -are, -avi, -atus, watch, be awake, spend in wakefulness, pass without sleeping.~~

736 dolor, -oris, m., pain, ache, anguish.

737 votum, -i, n., vow, wish, desire. potior, -iri, potitus (with abl.), become master of, get, obtain. miserabilis, -e, pitiable, miserable, wretched, sad. esto: fut. imperative of sum.

738 qui: 'he who,' 'whoever.' amas: 'you are in love!'

Beware of your closest friend. He may steal your sweetheart (739-754). There are all sorts of girls, and each must be approached in a different way.

- 755 Finiturus eram; sed sunt diversa puellis
pectora: mille animos excipe mille modis.
Nec tellus eadem parit omnia: vitibus illa
convenit, haec oleis; hic bene farra virent.
Pectoribus mores tot sunt, quot in orbe figurae;
760 qui sapit, innumeris moribus aptus erit
utque leves Proteus modo se tenuabit in undas,
nunc leo, nunc arbor, nunc erit hirtus aper.
Hic iaculo pisces, illic capiuntur ab hamis;
hic cava contento retia fune trahunt.

-
- 755 finio, -ire, -ivi (-ii), -itus, finish, come to an end, cease. diversus, -a, -um, different, dissimilar, various.
- 756 mille (indecl. adj.), a thousand. excipio, -ere, -cepi, -ceptus, take (out), capture, catch.
- 757 Xtellus, -uris, f., earth, land, ground, region. idem, eadem, idem, same. pario, -ere, peperit, paritus and partus, bring forth, bear, produce. vitis, -is, f., (grape)vine. illa: tellus is understood.
- 758 convenio, -ire, -veni, -ventus, come together, be suitable to, be adapted to. Xolea, -ae, f., olive (tree). Xfar, far-ris, n., spelt, wheat. Xvireo, -ere, -ui, flourish, thrive.
- 759 tot, so many, (just) as many. orbis, -is, m., circle, earth, world. figura, -ae, f., form, shape, figure.
- 760 qui: cf. 738. sapio, -ere, -ivi (-ii), have sense, be wise. innumerus, -a, -um, countless, innumerable.
- 761 ut (going with Proteus only) = 'like.' Proteus, -ei (-eos), m.: a god of the sea who was accustomed to turn himself into a variety of shapes. Here he is cited as a model for the lover, who must be ready to assume a variety of natures. Xtenuo, -are, -avi, -atus, make thin, dilute, reduce, dissolve.
- 762 leo, -onis, m., lion. arbor, -oris, f., tree. Xhirtus, -a, -um, rough, hairy, shaggy. aper, apri, m., wild boar.
- 763 The following lines declare that women, like fish, must be caught in different ways. Xiaculum, -i, n., dart, javelin, gig. piscis, -is, m., fish. illic, in that place, there. hamus, -i, m., hook.
- 764 cavus, -a, -um, hollow, concave. A picturesque adjective for describing nets weighed down with fish. contentus, -a, -um (from contendo), stretched, strained, tense, tight. rete, -is, n., net. funis, -is, m., rope. traho, -ere, -xi, -ctus, drag, draw, draw in, draw up. The subject of trahunt is retia, the object is 'them' (fish) understood.

Nec tibi conveniet cunctos modus unus ad annos: 765
 longius insidias cerva videbit anus;
 si doctus videre rudi petulansve pudenti,
 diffidet miseræ protinus illa sibi.
 Inde fit, ut quae se timuit committere honesto,
 vilis in amplexus inferioris eat. 770

Here ends a part of Ovid's undertaking.

Pars superat coepti, pars est exhausta laboris.
 Hic teneat nostras ancora iacta rates.

-
- 765 *convenio*, -ire, -veni, -ventus, come together, suit, be suitable, be appropriate. *cunctus*, -a, -um, all.
- 766 *longius* (comp. adv.), from farther off, from a greater distance. *insidiae*, -arum, f., ambush, snare. *cerva*, -ae, f., hind, female deer. *anus*, -us, f. (but used here as adj.), old (woman), aged, mature. --Ovid uses *cerva* . . . *anus* here to designate the more mature type of woman who does not fall into either love or marriage as easily as a young girl.
- 767 *doctus*, -a, -um, learned, intellectual. *videare* = *videaris*. *rudis*, -e, unpolished, uncultivated, ignorant, simple. With both *rudi* and *pudenti*, *puellae* is understood. *petulans*, -antis, forward, wanton, bold. -ve, or. *pudens*, -entis, bashful, shy, modest.
- 768 *diffido*, -ere, -fusus sum (with dat.), distrust, lack confidence in. *protinus* (adv.), immediately, on the spot.
- 769 *inde*, thence, from that, in consequence. *quae*: 'she who.' *committo*, -ere, -misi, -missus, unite, give, entrust, commit. *honestus*, -a, -um, honorable, respectable. Understand *viro* here.
- 770 *vilis*, -e, cheap, common, worthless, base, vile. *amplexus*, -us, m., embrace. *inferior*, -ius, inferior. Used as noun here.
- 771 *supero*, -are, -avi, -atus, surpass, remain. *coeptum*, -i, n., work begun, undertaking. *exhaurio*, -ire, -hausi, -haustus, empty, bring to an end, finish. *labor*, -oris, m., labor, work.
- 772 *ancora*, -ae, f., anchor. *iaceo*, -ere, *ieci*, *iactus*, throw (out), cast. *ratis*, -is, f., raft, bark, boat, vessel. Here plur. for sing. Ovid speaks metaphorically of his poem as a ship.