

Ars Amatoria

Liber Primus

Si quis in hoc artem populo non novit amandi
If anyone among this people does not know the art of loving,
hoc legat et lecto carmine doctus ariet!
Let him read this and with the poem read, let him love as one instructed

Arte citae vetogue rates remogue moventur,
By skill speedy ships are propelled by sail and oar,

arte leves currus: arte regendus Amor.
By skill light chariots are guided: by skill must Love be guided

Curibus Automedon lentisque erat aptus habenis,
Automedon, by means of pliant reins, was fitted for chariots

Tiphys in Haemonia puppe magister erat:
Tiphys was master in the Haemonian prow:

me Venus artificem tenero praefecit Amori:
Venus has placed me as an expert in charge of tender Love:

Tiphys et Automedon dicar Amoris ego.
I shall be called the Tiphys and Automedon of Love.

I

Principiō, quod amāre vetis, reperire laborā,
First of all, what you wish to love, work hard to find,

qui nova nunc primum miles in arma venis!
You who now first as a soldier are coming into new arms!

Proximus huic labor est placitorum exorare puellam;
The next labor for this person is to win over a pleasing girl;

Tertius, ut longo tempore duret Amor.
Third, that Love last for a long time.

Hic modus; haec nostrō signabitur aera currū,
This is the method; this ground will be marked by our chariot.

haec erit admissa meta premenda rota.
This goal will have to be pressed forward by our flying wheel.

Aum licet, et locis passim potes ire solutis,
While it is permitted and you are able to go hither and thither with reins
set free

elige cui dicās "Tū mihi sola places!
Choose the one to whom you will say "You alone are pleasing to me.

Haec tibi non temeris veniet delapsa per auras:
She will not come to you as having slipped down through
the thin air.

III

quaerenda est oculis apta puella tuis.
 The suitable girl must be sought by your eyes.

Scit bene venator, cervis ubi retia tendat,
 The hunter knows well where he should stretch out his nets for stags,

scit bene, quā frendens vālle morētur aper;
 He well knows in which valley the boar gnashing its teeth lingers;

Avenisibus notū frutices, quī sustinet harnas,
 Bushes are familiar to birdwatchers; he who holds the fishhooks

novit, quae multo pisce natentur aquae.
 knows which waters are swarming with many fish.

Tu quoque materiam longo quī quaeris amōri,
 You also who seek the material for a lasting passion,

ante frequēns quō sit discē puella loco.
 Learn beforehand in which place girls are common.

Non ego quaerentem vento dare vēta iuhēbō,
 I shall not command the one seeking to spread sails to the wind,

nec tibi, ut invenias, longa terenda via est.
 nor, so that you may find (a girl) must a lengthy path be beaten
 by you.

Andromedan Perseus nigris portavit ab Indis,
 Though Perseus brought Andromeda from the dusky Indies,

raptaque sit Phrygiō Troia puella viro:
 though the Grecian girl was carried off by the Phrygian man

pp. 4-6.

Tot tibi tanque dabit formosās Roma puellās,
 So many and such beautiful girls will Rome give to you,

'Haec habet' ut dicās 'quidquid in orbe fuit.
 that you will say" She has whatever has existed in the world.

Gargara quot segetēs, quot habet Methymna racēmōs,
 As many as the crops at Gargara, as many clusters of grapes as Methymna has.

aequore quot pisces, fronde teguntur aves,
 as many as the fish in the sea, (as many) birds (as) are covered with foliage,

quot caelum stellās, tot habet tua Roma puellās;
 as many stars as the sky (has), so many girls does your Rome contain;

Mater in Aeneae constitit urbe suā.
 The mother of Aeneas still lives in his city.

Sen caperis primis et adhuc crescentibus annis,
 Whether you are taken by the youthful and still growing years,

^V
ante oculos veniet vera puella tuos;
a real girl will come before your eyes;

Sive cupis juvenem, juvenes tibi mille placebunt,
Or if you wish a mature woman, a thousand will please you,

cogeris et voti nescius esse tui;
and you are compelled to be ignorant of your promise;

sen te forte juvat sera et sapientior aetas,
or by chance a late and wiser age delights you,

hoc quoque, crede mihi, plenius agmen erit.
this line also, believe me, will be quite full.

Sed tu praecipue curvis venare theatris:
But especially hunt in the round theatres:

haec loca sunt voto fertiliora tuo.
these places are quite productive for your vows.

Ilic invenies quod ames, quod ludere possis,
There you will find what you may love, what you are able to dally with,

quodque seruet tangas, quodque tenere velis.
something you may touch once, something you may wish to hold
(unto).

Ut redit itque frequēns longum formica per agmen,
 As crowded ants go and return by a long line,

granifero solitum cum vehit ore cibum,
 they bear with their grain-burdened mouth their accustomed food,

Aut ut apēs saltusque suos et olentia nactae
 Or as bees having found their glades and fragrant

pasua per florēs et thyma summa volant,
 pastures, they flit over flowers and the high thymes,

sic ruit in celebēs cultissima femina ludōs:
 thus hastens the most cultivated woman to the crowded games:

cōpia iudicium saepe morata meum est.
 often the huge supply has hindered my judgement.

Spectatum veniunt; veniunt spectentur ut ipsae:
 They come to watch; they come that they may be watched:

ille locus casti damna sudōris habet.
 that place contains dangers of chaste modesty.

Primos sollicitos fecisti, Rōmule, ludōs,
 Romulus, you caused the first disturbed games,

VII

cum iuuit viduōs rapta Sabina viros,
when captured Sabine women helped (consoled) the widowed men.

Tunc neque marmoreo pendebant vela theatro,
At that time no awnings hung over a marble theater.

nec fuerant liquorō pulpita rubra crocō;
nor was the stage bright red with crocus

illuc, quās tulerant nemorōsa Palatia, frondēs
there branches were simply placed which the wooded Palatine

simpliciter positae; scaene sine arte fuit;
had borne; the stage was undolored;

in gradibus sedit populus de caespite factis,
people sat on steps made of sod,

qualibet hirsutās fronde tegente comās.
with any leaf whatsoever covering their rough hair.

pp. 7-9

Respiciunt oculisque notant sibi quisque puellam
They look about them and each one notes with his eyes the girl

quam velit, et tacito pectore multa movent.
which he likes, and with silent heart they mull over
many things.

VIII

Sumique, ridentem praebente modum tibicine Tusco,
 And with the Tuscan flute-player furnishing rude music,

ludius aequatam ter pede pulsat humum,
 while the dancer strikes the leveled ground 3 times with his foot,

in medio plausu (plausus tunc arte carebant)
 in the midst of applause, applause at that time was far from genteel.)

rex populo praedae signa petita dedit.
 the king gave to the people the sought signs of plunder.

Protinus exsiliunt, animum clamore fatentes,
 Immediately they jump forth, showing the mind with a shout,

virginibus cupidas iniiciuntque manus.
 and they lay lustful hands on the young girls.

Ut fugiunt aquilas, timidissima turba, columbae,
 As doves, the most fearful crowd (of birds) flee eagles,

utque fugit visos aqua novella lupos,
 and as the new-born lamb flees wolves when seen,

sic illae timere viros sine more ruentes;
 so they feared the men rushing upon them in an unprecedented fashion;

cōstitutū in nūllā, qui fuit ante, color.
 the color, which was present before, was in no one.
 (In none remained her former color.)

Nam timor unus erat, faciēs nōn una timōris:
 For their fear was one, their appearance of fear was not (one):

pars laniat crines, pars sine mente sedet;
 Part tear their hair, part sit down mindless;

altera maesta silet, frustra vocat altera matrem;
 One is silent in grief, another calls for her mother in vain;

haec queritur, stupet haec haec manet, illa fugit.
 this one complains, this one is struck dumb, one remains, that
 one flees.

Invenitur raptae, genialis praeda, puellae,
 The captured girls, a delightful plunder, are led off.

et potuit multas ipse decere timor.
 and fear itself was able to stint (lend grace to) many.

Si qua repugnaret nimium comitemque negabat,
 If any fought back too much and refused her companion.

sublatam cupidō vir tulit ipse sinū
 the man himself bore the uplified girl on his eager
 breast

atque ita 'Quid teneros lacrimis corrumpis ocellos?
 and thus (spoke) Why do you spoil your tender little eyes with tears?

Quod matri pater est hoc tibi dixit 'erō.'
 He said, 'what your father is to your mother, this I will be to you.'

Pompe, militibus scisti dare commoda solus!
 (Ah!) Pompeius you alone knew how to bestow rewards
 upon your soldiers!

Haec mihi si dederis commoda, miles erō.
 If you give these rewards to me, I shall be a soldier.

Scilicet, ex illo sollemnī more, theātra
 Obviously, in accord with that hallowed tradition, the theaters

nunc quoque formosis insidiōsa manent.
 now also remain dangerous to the fair.

Nec te nobilium fugiat certamen equōrum;
 And do not let the contest of noble steeds escape you;

multa capax populi commoda Circus habet.
 the spacious circus of the people has many rewards.

Nihil opus est digitis, per quos arcana loquāris,
 There is no need of fingers, by which you should speak secret things,

XI

nec tibi per nūtūs accipiēda nota est:

Nor must a signal be received by you through nods:

profirms ā dominā, nūllō prohibente, sedēto,
with no one keeping you back, sit next to your lady,

junge tuum lateri quā potes usque lateri;
join your side to her side as far as possible;

et bene, quod cōgit, si nōlit, linea jungi,
and well (it is), because, if she is unwilling, the line forces (her) to be joined,

quod tibi tangenda est lege puella loci!
because according to the rule of the place, the
girl must be touched by you!

pp. 10 - 12

Hic tibi quaeratur socii sermonis origo,
Here by you may be sought a beginning of friendly conversation.

et moveant primos publica verba sonos.
and may public words give rise to the first sounds.

Cujus equi veniant, facito studiose requirās,
Eagerly make it that you ask whose horses are coming,

XII

nec mora, quisquis erit, cui favet illa, favē.
and no delay, whichever one it will be, favor the one that she favors.

At cum pompa frequēns certantibus ibit ephēbis,
Now when the parade crowded with fighting youths will go (by),

tu Veneri dominae placide favente manū;
Applaud your mistress Venus with favoring hand;

utque fit, in gremium pulvis si forte puellae
and as it happens, if a speck of dust by chance falls down onto the lap
of your girl,

deciderit, digitis excutiendus erit;
it will have to be flicked off with your fingers;

et si nullus erit pulvis, tamen exente nullum:
and if there is no dust, nevertheless, flick off none:

quaelibet officio causa sit apta tuo.
Let any cause whatsoever be convenient to your duty.

Pallia si terrā nimium demissa jacebunt,
If her cloak lies too cast down on the ground,

Collige et immundā sedulus effer humo;
Gather it up and lift it carefully from the dirty ground;

protinus, officii pretium, patiente puella
 straight away, reward of the service, with the girl allowing,

contingent oculis crura videnda tuis.
 it happens that her ankles have to be seen by your eyes.

Respice praeterea, post vos quicumque sedebit,
 Moreover look back behind you lest whoever sits (there),

ne premat opposito mollia terga genu.
 presses with his knee against her soft back.

Parva levēs capiunt animos: fuit utile multis
 Little things capture the light minds: it has been useful to many.

pulvum facili composuisse manu,
 to have arranged her cushion with a ready hand;

proffit et tenui ventos movere tabella
 and it has been useful to have stirred the air with a light fan

et cava sub tenerum scamna dedisse pedem.
 and to have set a hollow chair under a dainty foot.

Hos aditus Circusque novo praebet amori
 and the Circus will offer these approaches to a new love

sparsaque sollicito tristis harena foro.
and the sad sand scattered on the disturbed (busy) Forum.

Illa saepe puer Veneris pignavit harena,
Often has Venus's boy fought on that sand,

et qui spectavit vulnera, vulnus habet:
and he who watched the wounds, has a wound:

dum loquitur tangitque manum positque libellum
while he is speaking and touching her hand, and asking for the book

et quaeritposito pignore, vincat inter,
and inquiring, with the bet placed, which one is winning,

saucius ingemuit telumque volatile sensit,
smitten he groans and feels the winged weapon,

et pars spectati muneris ipse fuit.
and is himself part of the show watched.

pp. 13-15

Non est etiam positum aditum convivium mensis:
With tables set, banquets also give an approach

est aliquid praeter vina quod inde petas.
there is something beside wine which you may find there.

Illic saepe animos juvenum rapuere puellae,
 There often women have captured the minds of young men,

et Venus in vinis ignis in igne fuit.
 and Venus in wine has been fire in fire.

Hic tu fallaci nimium ne crede lucernae:
 Here do not trust too much in the deceptive lamp:

iudicio formae nocere merumque nocent.
 the night and unmix'd wine are harmful to (your) judgement of beauty.

Luce deas caeloque Paris spectavit aperto,
 With sky unclouded, by means of the day light Paris looked at the goddess.

cum dixit Venere 'vincis utramque, Venus!
 when he said to Venus, 'Venus, you surpass both!'

Nocte latent mendae, vitioque ignoscitur omni,
 At night blunders lie hidden, every fault is forgiven,

horumque formosam quamlibet illa facit.
 that time of day makes any woman you please beautiful.

Consule de gemmis, de tincta murrice lana,
 Consult the day concerning jewels, about wool² dyed in purple.

XVI

consule de faciē corporibusque diem.
Consult the day about the face and bodies (figures).

Hactenus, unde legās quod amēs, ubi retia ponās,
Thus far, whither you may choose what you love, where you should place the snares,

praecipit imparibus vecta Thatia rotis.
Thatia, borne on unequal wheels, teaches you.

Ecce tibi, quae placuit, quās sit capienda per artes,
Now I undertake a task of special skill to tell you by what

dicere praecipuae molior artis opus.
arts she who has pleased must be captured.

Quisquis, ubique, viri, dociles advertite mentes,
Whoever, wherever, men, turn attentive minds,

pollicitisque favens vulgus adeste meis!
and common people, favoring, be present for my promises!

Prima tuae menti veniat fiducia cunctas
Let confidence first come to your minds that all (women)

posse capi, capies, tu modo tende plagas.
are able to be captured; you will capture, only spread
your snares.

Vere prius volucres taceant, aestate irādae,
 Birds would be silent in the spring, grasshoppers in the summer,

Maenalius lepori det sua terga canis,
 the Maenalian hound turn his back to the hare,

femina quam iuveni blandē temptata repūgnat;
 before a woman flatteringly handled should resist a young man;

haec quoque, quam poteris credere nolle, volet.
 She also, whom you can believe not willing, will be willing.

Utque viro furtiva Venus, sic grata puellae;
 And as stolen love is pleasant to the man, so is it to the girl,

vir male dissimulat, tectius illa cupit.
 man pretends badly, she desires in a more hidden fashion.

Conueniat maribus, nē quam nō ante rogemus,
 If it did not suit us males, to ask any woman first,

femina jam partēs victa rogantis agat!
 the woman already won would play the rôle of the one asking!

Mollibus in pratis admingit femina taurō,
 In soft meadows the heifer lows to the bull,

femina cornipedī semper admirant equō.
 The mare always whinnies to the horn-footed steed;

Pacior in nobis nec tam furiosa libido:
 More moderate in us, not so raging (is) passion:

legitimum finem flamma virū habet.
 the manly flame has a just limit.

Ergo age, nē dubitā unctās sperāre puellās!
 Ah! so get with it, do not hesitate to hope for all women!

Virū erit ē multis, quae neget, una tibi.
 There will scarcely be one from many who will say no to you.

pp. 16-18

Quae dant quaeque negant, gaudent tamen esse rogatae;
 Who give and who deny, nevertheless they rejoice to have been asked;

ut jam fallaris, ^{tuta repulsa tua est.} ~~cum sit nova grata voluptas,~~
 that you may now be deceived, your rejection is without danger,

Sed cur fallaris, cum sit nova grata voluptas,
 But why should you be mistaken, when a new delight is pleasing,

et capiant animos plus aliena suis?
 the enjoyment of another (one's) raptures hearts more
 than one's own?

Fertilior seges est alienis semper in agris,
Crops are always more beautiful in the fields of another,

vicinamque pecus grandius ubi habet,
and the herd of a neighbor has richer odders.

Magna superstitio tibi sit natalis amicae,
Let the birthday of your girlfriend be to you an awful dread,

quaeque aliquid dandum est, illa sit atra dies.
Let that be a bleak day on which something must be given.

Cum bene vitaris, tamen auferet, invenit artem
though you will have shunned it well, nevertheless, she will carry off
(something); a woman finds the skill

femina, qua cupidi/carpit, amantis opes.
By which she will fleece the resources of an eager lover.

Institor ad dominam veniet disinctus emacem,
A dissolute peddler will come to your gold-digging mistress,

expediet mercis tegue sedente suas,
and, while you are sitting around, will bring out his stuff,

quas illa inspicias, sapere ut videare rogabit,
which she will ask you to inspect, so that you may seem to have
good taste,

Oscula deinde dabit; deinde rogabit, emās.
 then she will give you a kiss; then she will ask you to buy.

Hoc fore contentam multos jurabit in annos,
 She will swear that this will satisfy her for many years

mine opus esse sibi, mine bene dicit emi.
 that she needs it now, she will say that now it is to be bought well

Si non esse domi, quos des, causā here mmmms,
 If you make an excuse there is no money at home which you may give,

littera poscetur - nē didicisse iuret.
 an I.O.U. will be demanded - may it not please (you) to have learned
 (to write)

Quid, quasi natali cum poscit mmmra libo
 What is to be done when she demands gifts as if for her birthday cake

et, quotiens opus est, nascitur illa sibi?
 and, as often as necessary, she has a birthday?

Quid, cum mendaci damnō maestissima plorat,
 What is to be done when she weeps very sorrowfully for a fictitious loss,

elapsusque cavā fingitur aure lapis?
 and she pretends a jewel has slipped from the shell
 of her ear?

Multa rogant intenda dari, data reddere nolunt.
They ask many things to be lent, they are unwilling to return things given.

perdis, et in damnō gratia nulla tūo.
you lose, and no gratitude for your loss.

Disce bonas artes, moneo, Romāna iuventus,
Learn the fine arts, I advise, o Roman youth,

nōn tantum trepidos ut teneare reos:
not only so that you may protect trembling clients:

Quam populus iudexque gravis lectusque senatus,
Just as the people, and the grave judge and the chosen senate,

tam dabit eloquio victa puella manus.
So will the conquered woman yield to your eloquence.

pp. 19-21

Sed lateant irēs, nec sis in fronte disertus
But let your power be hidden, don't flaunt your eloquence

effugiant vocēs verba molesta tuae.
Let your sayings avoid affected words.

Quis, nisi mentis inops, tenerae delectat amicae?
Who, but an idiot would speak oratorically to his tender girlfriend?

Saepe valens odii littera causa fuit.

Often a letter has been a powerful cause of hate.

Sit tibi credibilis sermo consuetaque verba,

Let your conversation inspire trust and your words (be) familiar,

blanda tamen, praesens ut videre loqui.

pleasant nevertheless, as if you seem to speak (as one) present.

Si non accipiet scriptum in lecturamque remittet,

If she does not accept your letter and sends it back unread,

lecturam spera propositumque tene.

Hope (that she) will read (it) and stick to your plan.

Tempore difficiles veniunt ad aratra iuveni.

In time difficult young oxen come to the plow.

tempore lenta pati / frēna doctus equi;

in time studs are taught to bear the pliant reins;

ferrens adsidio consumitur annulis usi,

An iron ring is consumed by constant use,

interit adsidua vorner aduversus humo.

a curved plowshare wears away by continual
plowing in the ground

Quid magis est saxo durum, quid mollius unda?
 What is harder than rock, what softer than waves?

Aura tamen molli saxa cavantur aqua.
 Nevertheless hard rocks are hollowed out by soft water.

Penelopē ipsam, persta modo, tempore vincēs;
 only persevere, in time you will overcome Penelope herself;

capta vidēs serō Pergama, capta tamen.
 Pergama was captured after a long time, you see, it was
 captured nevertheless.

Legerit et nōlit rescribere, cogere nōli:
 Suppose that she has read (your letter) and does not want to write back, don't

force her.

Tū modo blanditiās fac legat usque tuās.
 Only make it so that she is continually reading your

flatteries.

Quae voluit legisse, volet rescribere lectis;
 She who has wished to read, will wish to reply to (things) read;

per numeros venient ista gradusque suos.
 they will come by their own steps and stages.

Forisitan et primō veniet tibi littera tristis,
 Perhaps even first will come to you a harsh letter.

quaeque roget, ne se sollicitare vetis.
and she will ask you not to bug her:

quod rogat illa, timet; quod non rogat, optat, ut instes;
what she asks, she fears; what she does not ask, she wishes, that you
should persist;

insequere et voti post modo compos eris.
Press on and shortly you will be in possession of your wish.

Sed tibi nec ferro placeat torquere capillos,
But let it not please you that your hair be curled by the iron,

nec tua mordaci pumice crura teras.
Nor should you rub your legs with the biting pumice
stone.

Forma viros neglecta decet: Minōida Theseus
An uncared for beauty is becoming to men: Theseus carried off Ariadne

abstulit a multa temporaromptus acū;
though his temples were adorned with no ornamental pin;

Hippolytum Phaedra, nec erat bene cultus, amavit;
Phaedra loved Hippolytes and he was not very refined;

cura deae silvis aptus et domus erat.

Aldomis, suitable (born to) for the woods, was a concern of
a goddess. ♂

Munditie placeant, inscentur corpora Campō;
 By means of cleanliness let your bodies please; and let them be tanned
 in the Campus;

sit bene conveniens et sine labe togā,
 let your toga fit well and be without stain,

pp. 22 - 24

lingula ne rugeat: careant rubigine dentes.
 Don't let the tongue be coated, let your teeth be free of stain.

Nec vagus in laza pes tibi pelle matet,
 Let not your foot float about, wandering in too large a shoe,

nec male deformet rigidos tonsura capillos:
 nor let a clipping disfigure badly stubborn hair:

sit coma, sit scita barba, resecta manū.
 Let your hair and your beard be cut by an experienced hand.

Et nihil emineant et sint sine sordida unguēs,
 Do not let your nails grow too long and let them be without dirt,

inque cavā nullus stet tibi nare pilus.
 and do not let any hair stand in the hollow of your nostrils.

Nec male odorati, sit tristis anhelitus oris,
 Let not the breath of your mouth be offensive and smelling
 badly

nec laedat nāres virgine paterque gregis.
 nor let the lord and father of the herd offend the nose.

Cetera lascivae^(ut) faciant, concede puellae.....
 Let wanton women do the rest....

{ Et si quis male vir quaerit habere virum.
 { And such a man as basely seeks to please a man.

Inōsis in ignōtis amēns errabat hārēnis,
 the Inosian girl wandered frantic on unknown sands,

quā brevis aequoris Dīa fertur aquis;
 where little Dīa is struck by the sea waters;

Utque erat ē somnō tunicā veltata recinctā,
 Just as she was (out of) sleep, clothed with a loosened tunic,

nuda pedem, croceās inreligata comās,
 bare of foot and with her yellow hair unbound,

Thēsea crudēlem surdās clamābat ad undās,
 She shouted for cruel Thesens over the deaf waves,

indignō tenerās imbre rigante genās,
 With an undeserved shower sprinkling her
 tender cheeks.

Clamābat flebatque simul, sed utrumque decēbat,
She shouted and wept at the same time, but both became her;

nōn facta est lacrimis turpior illa suis.
She did not become uglier by her tears.

Jamque iterum tundens mollissima pectora palmis,
And now again striking her very soft breast with her palms,

'Perfidus ille abiit! Quid mihi fiet' ait.
She cries, that faithless one has gone away! What will happen to me?

'Quid mihi fiet?' ait: sonnerunt cymbala toto
What will happen to me, she cries: cymbals sounded on all

litore et attonita tympana pulsa manu.
the beach and drums beaten by frenzied hand.

Exiit illa metū rēpūtque novissima verba;
She fell from fear and broke off her last words;

nūllus in exanimi corpore sanguis erat.
there was no blood in her lifeless body.

Ecce Mimallonides sparsis in terga capillis,
Here are the Bacchantes with hair scattered on their backs,

ecce levēs satyrū, praecira turba deū,
Here are the fickle satyrs, the preceding throng of the god,

ēbrius ecce senex: pandō Sītenus asellō
Here is a drunken old man: Sītenus on a sway-backed donkey,

vix sedet et pressās continet arte iubās.
He scarcely sits and holds on closely to the firmly grasped
mane.

pp. 25-27

Dum sequitur Bacchās, Bacchae fugimque petimque
While he pursues the Bacchantes, the Bacchantes flee and attack,

quadripedem ferulā dum malus urget eques,
while the awkward horseman urges his beast on with a
stick,

in caput amittō recidit delapsus asellō:
from the long-eared donkey slipping, he fell on his head;

clāmābant satyrū: surge age, surge, pater!
the satyrs shouted, 'Come, get up, get up, father!

Iam dens in currū, quem summum texerat uvīs,
Now the god in his chariot, the top of which he had covered with
grape clusters,

Tigris adjunctis aurea tora dabat:
gave the golden reins to the joined together tigers:

et color et Thēsens et vōx abiēre puellae
 Color and Theseus and her voice departed from the girl

tergūe fugam petit tergūe retenta metu est;
 thrice she sought flight and thrice she was held back because of her
 fear;

horruit, ut steriles agitat quās ventus aristas,
 She shuddered just as the dry stalks of grain which the wind shake.

ut levis in madida canna patude tremunt.
 just as the light reeds tremble in the wet swamps.

Cui deus 'en, adsum tibi cura fidelior,' inquit;
 To whom the god said, 'Look!', I am a more faithful love to you;

'pone metum: Bacchi, Inosias, iuxor eris!
 'put away your fear: Cretan girl, you will be the wife of Bacchus!

Stunus habē caelum: caelo spectābere sidus;
 Have the sky as a gift: you will be gazed upon as a constellation in
 the sky;

saepe reget dubiam Cressa Corona ratem.
 the Cretan crown will often guide the uncertain ship.

Stixit et ē currū, nē tigres illa timeret,
 He spoke, and from his chariot, lest she should fear the tigers.

desilit (imposito cessit harēna pede),
 he leaps down (the sand yielded, with the foot having been placed on
 (the ground

implicitamque simū (neque enim pugnare valebat)
 and clasped to his chest (for she was not strong enough to fight)

abstulit: in facili est omnia posse deo.
 he bore her away: it is easy for a god to do everything.

⁴⁹ Pars 'Hymenaei' canunt, pars clamant Euhion, 'euhoie!'
 A part chants, 'O Hymen' a part shout 'O joy to Bacchus!'

Sic coeunt sacro nupta densque toro.
 thus the god and bride unite on the sacred couch.

Ergo ubi contigerint posita tibi munerera Bacchi,
 therefore when gifts of Bacchus (set down) fall to your lot,

atque erit in sociū femina parte tori,
 and a woman will be a part of your sociable couch,

Kyctelinūque patrem nocturnaque sacra precare,
 call upon both the Kyctetion father and the night rites,

nē iubeant capiti vīna nocere tuo.
 that they order the wines not to harm your head.

Hic tibi multa licet sermōne latentia tecto
 Here it is permitted to you to say many hidden things with veiled,
 speech,

dicere, quae dici sentiat illa sibi,
 so that she may feel those things said to her,

blanditiis quae leves tenui perscribere vno,
 and (it is permitted) to trace with thin wine light flatteries,

ut dominam in mensa se legat illa tuam,
 so that she may read herself on the table as your mistress,

atque oculos oculis spectare latentibus ignem;
 and (it is permitted) to look at her eyes with eyes confessing passion:

saepe tacens vocem verbaque vultus habet.
 often a silent countenance contains a voice and words.

Fac primus raptas illius tacta labellis
 Cause to be the first to seize the cup touched by her lips,

potula, quaeque bibit parte puella, bibas;
 and drink at the part where the girl has drunk;

p.p. 28-30

et quemcumque cibum digitis bibaverit illa,
 and whatever food she will have touched with her fingers,

tu pete dumque petes, sit tibi tacta manus.
ask for it, and while you are asking, let her hand be touched
by you.

Certa tibi a nobis dabitur mensura bibendi.
A certain measure of drinking will be given by us to you:

officium praestent mensurae pedesque suum.
Let the mind and the feet perform their duty.

Furgia praecipue vino stimolata caveto;
Especially beware of quarrels provoked by wine,

et nimium facites ad fera bella manus:
and hands too quick for fierce fights:

occidit Eurymion stultè data vina bibendo;
Eurymion fell stupidly by drinking wine given (to him);

aprior est dulci mensa merumque joco.
the table and unmixed wine are more suitable for pleasant
mirth.

Si vox est, cantà; si mollia brachia, saltà;
Sing if there is (to you) a voice; dance if (you have) little arms;

et quaecumque potes dote placere, place.
and by whatever gift you are able to please, please.

At cum discedet mensa conviva remota
 But with the table removed, when the banqueters depart

ipsa tibi accessus turba locumque dabit.
 the throng itself will give you a place and access.

Insere te turbae, leviterque admotus eunti
 Insert yourself into the crowd, and gently drawing near to her going

velle lateris digitis et pede tange pedem.
 pinch her side with your fingers and touch her foot with your foot.

Colloqui jam tempus adest; fuge rustice longe
 Now the time of conversation is at hand; flee far from here

~~hinc~~ Tudor! audentem Forsque Venusque juvat.
~~prudent~~ Shyness! Venus and Fortune help the daring.

Non tua sub nostras veniat facundia leges;
 your facility of speaking will not come under our laws;

fac tantum cupias: sponte disertus eris.

Do only what you wish: you will be eloquent spontaneously.

Est tibi agendus amans imitandaque vulnera verbis.
 you must act the part of the lover and wounds must be imitated by words;

haec tibi quaeratur quolibet arte fides.
 let this belief be sought by you by any skill whatsoever.

Nec crederi labor est: sibi quaeque videtur amanda;
 It is a hard thing not to be believed: each (girl) deems worthy of love to herself;

peissima sit, nulli non sua forma placet.
 though she be very homely, to no woman is her appearance not-
 pleasing.

Saepe tamen verè coepit simulator amare,
 Nevertheless often truly a pretender has begun to love,

saepe, quod incipiens finxerat esse, fuit,
 often, what he had pretended to be (in the) beginning, he has become.

Quo magis o, faciles imitantibus este puellae:
 Therefore, o girls, be more pleasant to the "fakers":

fiet amor verus, qui modo falsus erat.
 (he) who a little while ago was false, will become a true love.

Blanditiis animum furtim depravare nunc sit.
 Now let it be (the time) to, stealthily capture (her) mind with smooth
 words.

ut pendens liquida ripa subter aqua:
 just as the river bank is undermined by flowing water:

ne faciem ne te pigeat laudare capillos
 May it not irk you to praise the face, the hair

et teretes digitos exiguumque pedem.
 and slender fingers and trimy feet.

pp. 31-33

delectant etiam castas praecōnia formae;
 Praises of the figure also delight virtuous girls;

virginibus curae grataque forma sua est.
 one's own figure is pleasing and of a concern to young girls

Nam cur in Phrygiis Junōrem et Pallada silvis
 For why does it shame Juno and Minerva now also

non quoque iudicium non tenuisse pudet?
 not to have won the judgement in the Phrygian forests?

laudatas ostendit avis Junonia pinnas:
 The bird of Juno displays her feathers when praised:

si tacitus spectes, illa recondit opes;
 if you watch while silent, she hides her wealth;

quadrupes inter rapidi certamina cursus
 steeds during the contests of a rapid race

de pexaeque iubaе plansaque colla iuvant.
 combed maids and patted necks delight.

et lacrimae prosunt: lacrimis adamantam movēbis!
 And tears are useful: with tears you will move iron!

Fac madidas videat, si potes, illa genas.
 If you are able cause that she see (your) wet cheeks.

Si lacrimae (neque enim veniunt in tempore semper)
 If tears are lacking (for they do not always come on time)

deficient, iudā lūmina tange manu.
 touch the eyes with a wet hand.

Quis sapiens blandis non misceat oscula verbis?
 Who being wise would not mingle kisses with flattering words?

Ille licet non det non data sume tamen!
 She (may) not give them, take, nevertheless, those not given!

Pugnabit primō fortassis et 'improbe!' dicet:
 Perhaps she will struggle at first and will say, "You varlet!"

pugnando vincet se tamen illa volet.
 nevertheless, by the struggling, she will wish herself
 to be overcome.

XXXVII

Tantum ne noceant teneris male rapta labellis,
Only let the stolen kisses not harm her tender little lips,

neve quera possit dura fuisse, cave.

Beware not to have been rough (kisses) that she be able
to complain

Candidus in nauta turpis color: aequoris unda
White in a sailor (is) an ugly color: he ought to be tan

debet et a radiis sideris esse niger;

both by the wave(s) of the sea and by Heaven's beams;

turpis et agricolae, qui vomere semper adunco
and ugly also to a farmer, who always with a curved plowshare

et gravibus, rastris sub Jove versat humum,
and heavy mattocks turns up the soil beneath the sky;

et tua, Palladiae petitur cui palma coronae,
And you, by whom the prize of the wreath of Minerva is sought,

candida si fuerint corpora, turpis eris.
if your body is white, you will be ugly.

Palleat omnis amans! Ille est color aptus amanti;
Let every lover be pale. Here is the color suitable to a lover;

XXXVIII

hoc decet, hoc stulti non valuisse putent.

With this (color) he is becoming; let fools think that this (color) does not prevail.

Arguat et maerens animum, nec turpe putaris,
And let leanness prove your feeling, do not think it shameful,

palliolum nitidis imposuisse comis.
to have placed a hood on your bright hair.

Attendant juvenum vigilatae corpora noctes
Nights passed without sleeping, concern, and the

curae et, in magno qui fit amore, dolor.
sorrow that occurs in a great passion make thin the
bodies of young (lovers).

Ut voto potiare tuo, miserabilis esto,
So that you may gain your desire, be pitiable,

ut qui te videat, dicere possit 'amas!'
so that he who sees you, may say 'you are in love!'

pp. 34-35

Finiturnus eram; sed sunt diversa puellis
I was going to finish; but the hearts of (to) women are various:

pectora: mille animos excipe mille modis.
capture a thousand hearts by a
thousand ways.

Nec tellus eadem parit omnia: vitibus illa
The same earth does not bear every thing: that soil is suitable

convenit, hanc oleis: hic bene farra vident.
for vines, this for olive trees; wheat thrives well here.

Pectoribus mores tot sunt, quot in orbe figurae,
There are as many natures to the heart as there are shapes in
the world;

qui sapit, innumeris moribus aptus erit
He who is wise will be fit (adapt to) innumerable natures

utque leves Proteus modo se tenuabit in undas,
and as Proteus will now dissolve himself into the light waves,

nunc leo, nunc arbor, nunc erit hirtus aper.
Now he will be a lion, now a tree, now a shaggy boar.

Hic jaculo pisces, illic capiuntur ab hamis,
Here fish by spears, there by hooks are caught;

hic cava contento retia fune trahunt.
Here hollow nets pull (them in) with a stretched rope.

Nec tibi conveniet cunctos modus unus ad annos:
Nor to you will one method be suitable for all ages:

longins insidiās cerva vidēbit amns;
 a mature hind will regard a snare from farther away;

sī doctus videāre nudi petulānsve pudenti,
 If you seem learned to the simple or wanton to the prude,

diffidet miseræ protinus illa sibi.
 Unhappily she will immediately lack confidence in herself.

Inde fit, ut quae se timuit committere honesto,
 Thereupon it happens that she who has feared to entrust herself to an
 honorable man,

vilis in amplexūs inferioris eat.
 may go into the embraces of a base inferior (person.)

Pars superat coepti, pars est exhausta laboris.
 Part of my task begun remains, part of my work
 is finished.

Hic teneat nostrās ancora jacta rates.
 Here may the anchor thrown hold my ships.