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## PLAUTUS

V



Titus Maccius

PLAUTUS

WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY

PAUL NIXON

DEAN OF BOWDOIN COLLEGE, MAINE

IN FIVE VOLUMES

V

STICHUS

THREE BOB DAY

TRUCULENTUS

THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

FRAGMENTS



560162  
7.4.53

LONDON

WILLIAM HEINEMANN LTD

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS

MCMLII



*First printed 1938*  
*Reprinted 1952*

PA  
6568  
A 2  
1916  
v. 5  
cap 16

*Printed in Great Britain*

## THE GREEK ORIGINALS AND DATES OF THE PLAYS IN THE FIFTH VOLUME

THE *Stichus* was adapted from Menander's 'Ἀδελφοί, a second 'Ἀδελφοί, and was presented at Rome in A.D. 200. The date of presentation of its original is less certain. The combined facts that the brothers had been able to enjoy three years of apparently peaceful<sup>1</sup> trading in Asia, that the people of Ambracia had envoys visiting Athens,<sup>2</sup> that Pinacium intends to make things unpleasant for any "king"<sup>3</sup> who blocks his path and expects such an impressive<sup>4</sup> welcome from his mistress, lead Hueffner<sup>5</sup> to believe that the 'Ἀδελφοί was produced in 306 B.C. when Demetrius Poliorcetes wintered at Athens with much pomp and circumstance.

References in the *Trinummus* to Asian trade and war,<sup>6</sup> and to busybodies knowing *quid in aurem rex reginae dixerit*<sup>7</sup> cause Hueffner<sup>8</sup> to assign its Greek original, Philemon's Θησαυρός, to the period when this same Demetrius Poliorcetes ruled in Athens, 292–287 B.C. The *Trinummus* itself seems to have been produced no earlier than 194 B.C.

<sup>1</sup> Stich. 402–405.

<sup>2</sup> Stich. 287.

<sup>3</sup> Hueffner, 46.

<sup>4</sup> Trin. 207.

<sup>5</sup> Stich. 490–491.

<sup>6</sup> Stich. 290–291.

<sup>7</sup> Trin. 598–599.

<sup>8</sup> Hueffner, 61.

## THE GREEK ORIGINALS

The original of the *Truculentus* is unknown. Stratophanes' statement that he overthrew Syria,<sup>1</sup> together with Diniarchus' allusion to going to Lemnos *cum publico imperio*<sup>2</sup> make it likely that that original was produced in Athens between 299 and 297 B.C.<sup>3</sup> The *Truculentus* was written toward the end of Plautus' life and probably was presented at Rome about 186 B.C.

<sup>1</sup> Truc. 530-532.

<sup>2</sup> Truc. 91-92.

<sup>3</sup> Hueffner, 33.

SOME ANNOTATED EDITIONS OF PLAYS  
IN THE FIFTH VOLUME

*Stichus*, Fennell; Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1893.

*Trinummus*, Fairclough; New York, The Macmillan Company, 1909.

*Trinummus*, Freeman and Sloman; Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1885.

*Trinummus*, Morris; Boston and London, Ginn and Company, 1898.

*Truculentus*, Spengel; Göttingen, Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1868.



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# STICHVS



STICHUS

GRAECA ADELPHOE MENANDRU

ACTA LUDIS PLEBEIS

CN. BAEBIO C. TERENTIO AED. PL.

T. PUBLILIUS PELLIO

MARCIPOR OPPII

TIBIIS SARRANIS TOTAM

C. SULPICIO C. AURELIO COS.

**STICHUS**

**FROM THE GREEK PLAY OF MENANDER,  
THE BROTHERS.**

**ACTED AT THE PLEBEIAN GAMES IN  
THE PLEBEIAN AEDILESHIP OF GNAEUS  
·BAEBIUS AND GAIUS TERENTIUS.**

**PRODUCED BY TITUS PUBLILIUS PELLIO.  
MUSIC, ON TYRIAN FLUTES THROUGHOUT,  
BY OPPIUS' MARCIPOR.**

**GAIUS SULPICIUS AND GAIUS AURELIUS,  
CONSULS.**

## ARGUMENTVM I

Duas sorores simul in matrimonium  
duo fratres ducunt. post re confracta duo  
rem quaerunt peregre, qui paupertatem levent.  
ibi absunt peregrinantes per triennium.  
sorores nolunt prodere absentes viros.  
pater castigat propter eam rem filias;  
sed ei persuadent, aliis ne se conlocet.  
reveniunt opibus aucti ad uxores viri;  
facete reduces ludunt. potant servuli.

## ARGUMENTVM II

Senex castigat filias, quod eae viros  
Tam perseverent peregrinantis pauperes  
Ita sustinere fratres neque relinquere;  
Contraque verbis delenitur commodis,  
Habere ut sineret quos semel nactae forent.  
Viri reveniunt opibus aucti trans mare;  
Suam quisque retinet, ac Sticho ludus datur.

## ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY (I)

Two brothers marry two sisters at the same time. Later, having lost their money, the brothers go abroad to recoup these losses that have left them poor. And abroad they stay for three long years. The sisters will not hear of giving up their absent husbands. This leads their father to upbraid them; but they persuade him not to marry them to other men. Home come the husbands to their wives at last, affluent again; and a lively time the home-comers have. The slaves carouse.

## ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY (II)

An old gentleman upbraids his daughters for standing by their husbands through thick and thin and refusing to give them up, two impoverished brothers then abroad. The girls, however, find the proper words to appease him and are permitted to keep the mates they already have. Their husbands, affluent again, return from across the sea. They have their wives secure, and Stichus is allowed to celebrate.

## PERSONAE

PANEGYRIS VXOR EPIGNOMI

SOROR VXOR PAMPHILIPPI

ANTIPHO SENEX

GELASIMVS PARASITVS

CROCOTIVM ANCILLA

PINACIVM PVER

EPIGNOMVS }  
PAMPHILIPPVS } FRATRES

STICHVS }  
SANGARINVS } SERVI

STEPHANIVM ANCILLA



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## ACTVS I.

*Pan.* Credo ego miseram  
fuisse Penelopam,  
soror, suo ex animo,  
quae tam diu vidua  
viro suo caruit ;  
nam nos eius animum  
de nostris factis noscimus, quarum viri hinc absunt,  
quorumque nos negotiis absentum, ita ut aequom est,  
sollicitae noctes et dies, soror, sumus semper.

*Sor.* Nostrum officium  
nos facere aequomst,  
neque id magis facimus  
quam nos monet pietas.  
sed hic, soror, asside dum : multa volo tecum  
loqui de re viri.

*Pan.* Salvene, amabo ?

*Sor.* Spero quidem et volo ; sed hoc, soror, crucior,  
patrem tuum meumque adeo, unice qui unus <sup>1</sup>  
civibus ex omnibus probus perhibetur,  
eum nunc improbi viri officio uti,  
viris qui tantas absentibus nostris  
facit iniurias immerito  
nosque ab eis abducerè volt.

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo)

*Scene :—Athens. A street in which stand the houses of Epignomus, Pamphilippus and Antipho.*

## ACT I

ENTER *Panegyris* AND HER SISTER INTO DOORWAY OF *Panegyris'* HOUSE. THEY LOOK DOWN THE STREET, DISAPPOINTEDLY.

*Pan.* (*querulously*) Ah, Penelope must have felt dreary, sister, living alone without her husband all that time. We know what her feelings were, all right, from what's happened to us, with our husbands gone, and we for ever anxious about their affairs while they're away—and so we should be, sister—day and night.

*Sister.* (*resolutely*) We should do our duty, and what we do is no more than our loyalty dictates. (*drawing her to a couch within the wide open doors*) But do come and sit down here, dear. There's lots I want to talk over with you—it's this husband matter.

*Pan.* (*as they seat themselves*) Mercy! All's well, isn't it?  
*Sister* I certainly hope so and wish so. But here's what torments me, sister—to have your father, yes, and mine, who's held to be the one outstanding man of high principles in this whole city, to have him, him, act like an unprincipled scoundrel now in doing our absent husbands such dreadful, undeserved injustice and wanting to take us away



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- haec res vitae me, soror, saturant,  
haec mihi dividiae et senio sunt.
- Pan.* Ne lacruma, soror, neu tuo id animo 20  
fac quod tibi tuos pater facere minatur :  
spes est eum melius facturum.  
novi ego illum : ioculo istaec dicit,  
neque ille sibi mercat Persarum  
montis, qui esse aurei perhibentur,  
ut istuc faciat quod tu metuis.  
tamen si faciat, minime irasci  
decet, neque id immerito eveniet.  
nam viri nostri domo ut abierunt,  
hic tertius annus.
- Sor.* Ita ut memoras. 30
- Pan.* Quom ipsi interea vivant, valeant,  
ubi sint, quid agant, ecquid agant,  
neque participant nos, neque redeunt.
- Sor.* An id doles, soror, quia illi suom officium  
non colunt, quom tu tuom facis?
- Pan.* Ita pol.
- Sor.* Tace sis, cave sis audiam ego istuc  
posthac ex te.
- Pan.* Nam quid iam?
- Sor.* Quia pol meo animo omnis sapientis 40  
suom officium aequom est colere et facere.  
quam ob rem ego te hoc, soror, tametsi es maior,  
moneo, ut tuom memineris officium :  
etsi illi improbi sint atque aliter  
nobis faciant quam aequomst, tam pol  
ne quid magi' sit,<sup>1</sup> omnibus obnixè opibus  
nostrum officium meminisse decet.

<sup>1</sup> *magi' sit* Lindsay, *sit* A : *magis simus* (Leo), lacuna noted.

## STICHUS

from them. (*choking*) It's this that makes me tired of life, dear. It's this that makes me feel so harassed, so worn.

*Pan.* (*petting her*) There, there, sister, don't cry! Don't treat your own self the way your father threatens to treat you. I'm in hopes he'll do better than that by us. I know him: he's having his little joke. Why, not for all those fabled Persian mountains made of gold would he do the thing you fear. (*somewhat resentfully*) Even if he did, though, we have no earthly right to be angry, and it wouldn't be anything (*with emphasis*) undeserved. Why, it's three years now since those husbands of ours left home.

*Sister* (*sobbing*) Yes, three years.

*Pan.* (*her resentment rising*) And all this time whether they're safe and sound, where they are, what they're doing, how they're doing—they don't vouchsafe us a word and they don't return.

*Sister* (*tearfully*) Is this what . . . bothers you, sister, that they . . . disregard their duty while you do yours?

*Pan.* Yes, indeed it is!

*Sister* Will you please hush! Will you please never let me hear any . . . such words from you again!

*Pan.* And pray why not?

*Sister* Why, because, as I see it, right . . . thinking people should all have regard for what's their own . . . duty and do it. So no matter if you are the older, dear, I warn you to keep your own duty in mind. Even if our husbands are irresponsible and do treat us . . . inconsiderately, well then, we mustn't add to the . . . injury, but exert every effort to remember what our own . . . duty is.

## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pan.* Placet : tacco.

*Sor.* At memineris facito.<sup>1</sup>

I. 2.

*Ant.* Qui manet ut moneatur semper servos homo officium  
suom

nec voluntate id facere meminit, servos is habitu hau  
probust.

vos meministis quot kalendis petere demensum  
cibum :

qui minus meministis quod opus sit facto facere in  
aedibus ?

iam quidem in suo quicque loco nisi erit mihi situm  
supellectilis,

quom ego revortar, vos monimentis commonefaciam  
bubulis.

non homines habitare mecum mi hic videntur, sed  
sues.

facite sultis, nitidae ut aedes mcae sint, quom  
redeam domum.

iam ego domi adero : ad meam maiorem filiam  
inviso modo ;

siquis me quaeret, inde vocatote aliqui ; aut iam  
egomet hic ero.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 48–57 :

*Pan.* *Nolo ego, soror, me credi esse immemorem viri,  
neque ille eos honores, mihi quos habuit, perdidit ;  
nam pol mihi grata acceptaque eiust benignitas.  
et me quidem haec condicio nunc non paenitet,  
neque est cur <sup>2</sup> studeam has nuptias mutarier ;  
verum postremo in patris potestate est situm :  
faciendum id nobis quod parentes imperant.*

*Sor.* *Scio, atque in cogitando maerore augeor,  
nam propemodum iam ostendit suam sententiam.*

*Pan.* *Igitur quaeramus, nobis quid facto usus sit.*

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following non.

## STICHUS

**Pan.** (*with a hug*) You're right; I'll hush.

**Sister** But see you . . . remember.<sup>1</sup> (*both cry and comfort each other*)

Scene 2. ENTER *Antipho*, GLOWERING, INTO HIS DOORWAY.

**Ant.** (*hotly, to servants within*) A slave that's eternally remiss in doing his duty till he's reminded and never remembers it of his own accord, well, he's a slave of no principles. You fellows remember to claim your rations the first of every month. What makes your memories fail you for doing what needs to be done in the house? Now mark my words! If things aren't arranged in there just exactly where they ought to be, when I return, the reminders you get from me will be memorials of cowhide. It looks as if I were living here with swine, not human beings. You kindly see to it that this house of mine is spick and span by the time I'm back. I'll soon be home; I'm only going over to my elder daughter's. If anyone wants me, you come there and call me—or I'll soon be here myself. (*leaves the doorway and then halts, meditating*)

<sup>1</sup> vv. 48–57:

**Pan.** I don't want to be thought unmindful of my husband, sister, and his esteem of me isn't wasted, either. No indeed, I'm certainly grateful for his kind-heartedness and appreciate it. And so far as I'm concerned, my marriage isn't something I now regret or have any reason for desiring changed. But after all, our father has absolute authority in this: we simply must obey parental orders.

**Sister** I know, and that's what depresses me all the more when I think about it, for already he has pretty nearly shown us how he feels.

**Pan.** Then let's consider what our best course is.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Sor.* Quid agimus, soror, si offirmabit pater adversum nos?

*Pan.* Pati nos oportet quod ille faciat, cuius potestas plus potest.  
exorando, haud adversando sumendam operam censeo :

70

gratiam per si petimus, spero ab eo impetrassere;  
adversari sine dedecore et scelere summo haud possumus,  
neque equidem id factura neque tu ut facias consilium dabo,

*Ant.* verum ut exoremus. novi ego nostros : exorablest.  
Principium ego quo pacto cum illis occipiam, id ratiocinor :

utrum ego perplexim laccessam oratione ad hunc modum,  
quasi numquam quicquam in eas simulem, quasi nil indaiverim

eas in se meruisse culpam, an potius temptem saeviter,<sup>1</sup>

si manere hic sese malint potius quam alio nubere. non faciam. quid mi opust decurso aetatis spatio cum meis

80

gerere bellum, quom nil, quam ob rem id faciam, meruisse arbitror?

minime, nolo turbas, sed hoc mihi optimum factu arbitror :<sup>2</sup>

perplexabiliter carum hodie perpavefaciam pectora;  
post id<sup>3</sup> igitur deinde, ut animus meus erit, faciam palam.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 79 :  
*an minaciter. scio litis fore, ego meas novi optume.*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

multa scio faciunda verba. ibo intro. sed apertast  
foris.

*Sor.* Certo enim mihi paternae voeis sonitus auris accidit.

*Pan.* Is est ecastor. ferre advorsum homini occupemus  
osculum.

*Sor.* Salve, mi pater.

*Ant.* Et vos ambae. ilico agite assidite. 90

*Sor.* Osculum—

*Ant.* Sat est osculi mihi vestri.

*Pan.* Qui, amabo, pater?

*Ant.* Quia ita meae animae salsura evenit.

*Sor.* Asside hic, pater.

*Ant.* Non sedeo istic, vos sedete; ego sedero in subsellio.

*Pan.* Mane pulvinum.

*Ant.* Bene procuras. mihi satis sic fultumst. sede.

*Sor.* Sine, pater.

*Ant.* Quid opust?

*Pan.* Opust.

*Ant.* Morem tibi geram. atque hoc est satis.

*Sor.* Numquam enim nimis curare possunt suom paren-  
tem filiae.

quem aequiust nos potiozem habere quam te?

postidea, pater,

viros nostros, quibus tu voluisti esse nos matres  
familias.

## STICHUS

It'll take a lot of talking, that's sure. Well, I'll go in. (*approaching Panegyris' house*) But the door's open.

**Sister** Why, that was the sound of father's voice I caught, it certainly was!

**Pan.** (*peeking*) Goodness, yes, it's he! Let's surprise him with a kiss as he comes in. (*they do so with high success*)

**Sister** Good morning, father dear!

**Ant.** (*feigning gruffness and trying to release himself*) Same to you both. That'll do, that'll do, sit down!

**Sister** (*both still embracing him*) Just a kiss—

**Ant.** I've had enough of your kissing.

**Pan.** Oh, father dear, how can you say that?

**Ant.** (*scanning their tear-stained faces*) Because it already has made my breath briny.

**Sister** (*trying to draw him to the couch*) Sit down here, father.

**Ant.** Not I, you two sit there. I'll sit on this bench myself. (*does so*)

**Pan.** Wait—a cushion! (*makes him comfortable*)

**Ant.** (*liking it*) You do take good care of me. There, there, that's plenty of propping. Sit down.

**Sister** (*bringing another cushion*) Just one more, father.

**Ant.** Oh, what's the sense?

**Pan.** (*as they fuss over him*) But there is.

**Ant.** (*succumbing*) I give up. (*they complete his comfort*) Now that's plenty, plenty.

**Sister** Why, daughters can't ever take too good care of their parents. Who ought to be held higher by us than you? And next to you, (*with a sly glance at Panegyris*) our husbands, father, that you yourself wished us to be married to.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ant.* Bonas ut aequomst facere facitis, quom tamen  
apsentis viros  
proinde habetis quasi praesentes sint.

*Sor.* Pudicitiaest, pater, 100  
eos nos magnificare, qui nos socias sumpserunt sibi.

*Ant.* Num quis hic est alienus nostris dictis auceps  
auribus?

*Pan.* Nullus praeter nosque teque.

*Ant.* Vostrum animum adhiberi volo;  
nam ego ad vos nunc imperitus rerum et morum  
mulierum,  
discipulus venio ad magistras: quibus matronas  
moribus,  
quae optumae sunt, esse oportet? sed utraque ut  
dicat mihi.

*Sor.* Quid istuc est quod huc exquaesitum mulierum  
mores venis?

*Ant.* Pol ego uxorem quaero, postquam vostra mater  
mortuast.

*Sor.* Facile invenies et peiorem et peius moratam, pater,  
quam illa fuit: meliorem neque tu reperies neque  
sol videt. 110

*Ant.* At ego ex te exquaero atque ex istac tua sorore.

*Sor.* Edepol pater,  
scio ut oportet esse: si sint—ita ut ego aequom  
censeo.

*Ant.* Volo scire ergo, ut aequom censes.

*Sor.* Vt, per urbem quom ambulent,  
omnibus os opturent, ne quis merito male dicat sibi.



## STICHUS

- Ant.* (*with apparent heartiness*) You act as good wives ought to act in having the same regard for your absent husbands as if they were present.
- Sister* (*hiding her surprise*) It's only decent of us, father, to hold in honour men who've chosen us to be their helpmates.
- Ant.* (*peering about*) There's no outsider within earshot eavesdropping on what we say?
- Pan.* (*looking startled*) No one but you and us.
- Ant.* (*very grave and confidential*) Well then, I wish to be accorded your attention. The fact is, unfamiliar as I am with feminine affairs and characteristics, I am coming to you girls now as a pupil to his teachers. Tell me what characteristics should women have, to be the very best wives and mothers? (*as his daughters exchange wondering glances*) But I want the opinion of each of you.
- Sister* What's your idea in coming to us with questions about feminine characteristics?
- Ant.* Well, I am looking for a wife, (*the girls gasp*) now that your mother is no more.
- Sister* (*after a pained silence*) Ah, father, you'll easily find a worse one and one with worse characteristics than hers. A better one you'll never find; there's not one under the sun.
- Ant.* Still, I ask this question of you and your sister there.
- Sister* (*hesitantly*) Dear me, father, I . . . know the sort they should have: if they're to be—the sort I . . . approve of.
- Ant.* (*enjoying the situation*) Ah then, I wish to know the sort you do approve of.
- Sister* Well, the sort that . . . seen on the city streets . . . mew up all maligning mouths and give no one cause for gossip.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ant.* Dic vicissim nunciam tu.

*Pan.* Quid vis tibi dicam, pater?

*Ant.* Vbi facillime spectatur mulier, quae ingenio est bono?

*Pan.* Quoi male faciundi est potestas, quae ne id faciat temperat.<sup>1</sup>

*Ant.* Qui potest mulier vitare vitus?

*Sor.* Vt cottidie 121  
 pridie caveat ne faciat quod pigeat postridie.

*Ant.* Quae tibi mulier videtur multo sapientissima?

*Pan.* Quae tamen, cum res secundae sunt, se poterit noscere,  
 et illa quae aequo animo patietur sibi esse peius quam fuit.

*Ant.* Edepol vos lepide temptavi vostrumque ingenium ingeui.

sed hoc est quod ad vos venio quodque esse ambas conventas volo :

mi auctores ita sunt amici, ut vos hinc abducam domum.

*Sor.* At enim nos, quarum res agitur, aliter auctores sumus.

nam aut olim, nisi tibi placebant, non datas oportuit, 130  
 aut nunc non aequomst abduci, pater, illisce apsentibus.

*Ant.* Vosne ego patiar cum mendicis nuptas me vivo viris?

*Sor.* Placet ille meus mihi mendicus : suos rex reginae placet.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 118–120 :

*Ant.* *Hau male istuc. age tu altera, utra sit condicio pensior, virginemne an viduam habere?*

*Sor.* *Quanta mea sapientias, ex malis multis malum quod minimumst, id minimest malum.*

## STICHUS

*nt.* (to Panegyris) Your turn now, let me hear from you.

*an.* What do you want to hear from me, father?

*nt.* The best proof of a woman's excellence of character.

*an.* Her . . . having the chance to do wrong and the self-restraint not to.<sup>1</sup>

*nt.* (to Sister) How can a woman keep free from faults?

*ister* Oh, by . . . daily avoidance the . . . day before of . . . actions she'll regret the day after.

*nt.* (to Panegyris) Hm! And who is far the wisest sort of woman, in your opinion?

*an.* The one that can . . . really see herself even when things go well, and still is . . . cheerful and patient when they (*on the verge of tears*) don't.

*nt.* (*laughing heartily*) Well, well, my dears, this has been a most entertaining test of you and your own characteristics of character! (*finally checking their demonstrative relief*) But here's the true cause of my coming to you and wishing a conference with you both: my friends are advising me to take you away to my own home.

*ister* (*fondling him*) Ah, but it's our lives that are affected, and we advise you otherwise. For either you ought not to have given us at all to husbands you didn't esteem, or now it's unfair, father, to take us away from those husbands in their absence.

*nt.* (*with a poor show of indignation*) So I'm to let you girls stay married. in my own lifetime, to mendicants?

*ister* That mendicant of mine is dear to me: it's her

<sup>1</sup> vv. 118-120:

*nt.* Not bad, that. (to Sister) Come, you other one—which makes the more desirable wife, maid or widow?

*ister* To the best of my . . . knowledge, of infinite ills the . . . least irksome is the ill that . . . irks the least.

## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

idem animus in paupertate qui olim in divitiis fuit :<sup>1</sup>  
non tu me argento dedisti, opinor, nuptum, sed viro.

*Ant.* Quid illos exspectatis, qui abhinc iam abierunt  
triennium?

quin vos capitis condicionem ex pessuma primariam?

*Pan.* Stultitiast, pater, venatum ducere invitas canes.

hostis est uxor, invita quae viro nuptum datur.

140

*Ant.* Certumne est neutram vostrarum persequi im-  
perium patris?

*Pan.* Persequimur, nam quo dedisti nuptum, abire  
nolumus.

*Ant.* Bene valet. ibo atque amicis vostra consilia  
eloquar.

*Pan.* Probiores credo arbitrabunt, si probis narraveris.

*Ant.* Curate igitur familiarem rem ut potestis.

*Pan.* Optume,  
nunc places, quom recte monstras; nunc tibi  
auscultabimus.

nunc, soror, abeamus intro.

*Sor.* Immo intervisam domum.

si a viro tibi forte veniet nuntius, faeito ut sciam.

*Pan.* Neque ego te celabo, neque tu me celassis quod  
scias.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 135 :

*Ant.* *Vosne latrones et mendicos homines magni penditis?*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

eho, Crocotium, i, parasitum Gelasimum huc  
arcesso,  
tecum adduce; nam illum ecastor mittere ad  
portum volo,  
si quae forte ex Asia navis heri aut hodie venerit.  
nam dies totos apud portum servos unus assidet;  
sed tamen volo intérvisi. propera atque actutum  
redi.

150

I. 3.

*Gel.*

Famem ego fuissé suspicor matrem mihi,  
nam postquam natus sum, satur numquam fui.  
neque quisquam melius referet matri gratiam<sup>1</sup>  
neque rettulit, quam ego refero mcae matri Fami.  
nam illa me in alvo menses gestavit decem,  
at ego illam in alvo gesto plus annos decem.  
atque illa puerum me gestavit parvolum,  
quo minus laboris cepisse illam existumo:  
ego non pauxillulam in utero gesto famem,  
verum berele multo maximam et gravissimam;  
uteri dolores mihi oboriuntur cotidie,<sup>2</sup>  
sed matrem parere nequeo, nec quid agam scio.  
atque auditavi saepe hoc volgo dicier,  
solere elephantum gravidam perpetuos decem  
esse annos; eius ex semine haec certost fames,  
nam iam complures annos utero haeret meo.

160

170

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 157<sup>a</sup>:  
*quam ego meae matri refero invitissimus.*

<sup>2</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *quot dies* Goetz.

---

<sup>1</sup> v. 157<sup>a</sup>: Than I square accounts with my mother,  
much as I hate to.

# STICHUS

ENTER *Crocotium*.

Go and find the parasite Gelasimus, bring him here with you. I simply must send him to the harbour to see if some ship hasn't possibly arrived from Asia yesterday or to-day. Even though I do have a slave stationed at that harbour all the time, I want someone to go and look. Hurry up, and return at once.

[EXIT INTO HER HOUSE, *Crocotium* HURRYING ONLY AS FAR AS *Antipho's* DOORWAY, WHERE SHE STOPS TO CHAT WITH ANOTHER SLAVE.

Scene 3.

ENTER *Gelasimus*, OBVIOUSLY LIVING IN A HARD, COLD WORLD.

*Gel.*

Dear, dear, I do suspect that I'm the son of old mother Hunger herself, for never since my birth have I had my fill. And no one ever will square accounts with his mother,<sup>1</sup> or ever has, better than I square 'em with my mother Hunger. Why, she carried me in her belly a mere ten months, while I've carried her in mine ten years and more. Yes, and I was only a mite of a thing when she carried me, which must have reduced the labour for her. But this Hunger I'm carrying in my inside is no miniature. Lord, not by a jugful! It's the biggest, most unwieldy one on record! I get my pains there every day, yet still can't manage to deliver mother, and what to do about it I don't know. I've often a-heard the common saying, that an elephant stays in the family way for ten years straight; that's the stock this Hunger of mine must come from, for it's been hanging to my insides for years and years already.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

nunc si ridiculum hominem quaerat quispiam,  
venalis ego sum cum ornamentis omnibus;  
inanimentis explementum quaerito.

Gelasimo nomen mi indidit parvo pater,  
quia inde iam a p[au]sillo puero ridiculus fui.<sup>1</sup>  
propter pauperiem hoc adeo nomen repperi,  
eo quia paupertas fecit ridiculus forem;  
nam illa artis omnis perdocet, ubi quem attigit.  
per annonam caram dixit me natum pater:  
propterea, credo, nunc essurio acrius.

180

sed generi nostro haec redditast benignitas:  
nulli negare soleo, siquis me essum vocat.  
oratio una interiit hominum pessume,  
atque optuma hercle meo animo et scitissima,  
qua ante utebantur: "veni illo ad cenam, sic face,  
promitte vero, ne gravare. est commodum?  
volo inquam fieri, non amittam quin eas."

nunc reppererunt iam ei verbo vicarium  
—nihili quidem berele verbumst ac vilissimum:  
"vocem te ad cenam, nisi egomet cenem foris."  
ei berele ego verbo lumbos diffractos velim,  
ni vere perierit, si cenassit domi.

190

haec verba subigunt me uti mores barbaros  
discam atque ut faciam praeconis compendium  
itaque auctionem praedicem, ipse ut venditem.

*Croc.* Hic ille est parasitus, quem arcessitum missa sum.  
quae loquitur auscultabo prius quam conloquar.

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *inde* deleted (Quietus).

(*surveying the neighbourhood with a sigh*) Well now, if anyone's hunting for a humourist, here I am for sale, with my entire equipment; what I always hunt, myself, is (*soulfully*) satiation of my inanitions. I got the name Gelasimus from my father as a youngster, for even since I was a little shaver I've been a (*smirking*) jolly ass. And besides, I acquired this name from being poor, for it was poverty made a professional humourist out of me. Ah, poverty does teach all the arts to anyone she lights on. Father told me food was dear when I was born. No doubt that's why I'm damn near starved at present. But our family's always been endowed with altruism: I never refuse a living soul that asks me out to eat. It's wicked, though, the way one kind of speech, that people used to make, has perished from the earth, the noblest, most appealing speech, by gad, that ever was, in my opinion: "Come on to dinner—do, you must—there, there, now! Promise—don't fight shy. The time is right? I tell you I insist. You can't escape me till you come." But now they've found a new set phrase they substitute—and, oh Lord, it's the scummiest, scurviest phrase I know: "I'd ask you in to dinner, but I'm dining out myself." Ugh! I'd like to see that phrase get its loins wrecked, "unless it suffers the worse fate of having to dine at home." It's phrases of this sort that constrain me to learn foreign customs, so I must dispense with an auctioneer and announce my own auction, and offer myself for sale.

*Troc.*

(*aside, seeing Gelasimus, her friend having left*) Here's that parasite I was sent to fetch. I'll just catch what he's saying before I speak to him.

## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Gel.* Sed curiosi sunt hic complures mali,  
 alienas res qui curant studio maximo,  
 quibus ipsis nullast res, quam procurent, sua : 200  
 ei quando quem auctionem facturum sciunt,  
 adeunt, perquirunt quid sit causae ilico :  
 alienum aes cogat an pararit praedium,  
 uxorin sit reddenda dos divortio.  
 eos omnis tametsi hercle haud indignos iudico  
 qui multum miseri sint, laborent, nil moror :  
 dicam auctionis causam, ut damno gaudeant ;  
 nam curiosus nemo est quin sit malevolus.<sup>1</sup>  
 damna evenerunt maxuma misero mihi,  
 ita me mancupia miserum adfecerunt male, 210  
 potationes plurumae demortuae,  
 quot adeo cenae, quas deflevi, mortuae,  
 quot potiones mulsi, quae autem prandia,  
 quae inter continuum perdidit triennium.  
 prae maerore adeo miser atque aegritudine  
 consenui ; paene sum fame emortuos.
- Croc.* Ridiculus aequè nullus est quando esurit.
- Gel.* Nunc auctionem facere decretumst mihi :  
 foras necessumst quidquid habeo venderè.  
 adeste sultis, praeda erit praesentium. 220  
 logos ridiculos vendo. age licemini.  
 qui cena poscit ? ecqui poscit prandio ?  
 berele aestumavi prandio, cena tibi.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 208<sup>a</sup> :  
*ipse egomet quam ob rem auctionem praedicem.*

<sup>1</sup> v. 208<sup>a</sup> : The reason why I myself announce an auction.



## STICHUS

*el.* (*with a casual glance at the audience*) But this place is overrun with inquisitive riffraff, heart and soul intent on other folk's business, having none of their own that claims attention. When they learn anyone's holding an auction, up they come and straightway pry into the reasons for it: "Dunned for his debts, is he?" "Investing in real estate?" "Wife divorced and dowry to be returned, eh?" All right, I don't mind, though I must admit that the whole drove of 'em deserve to be the poor, hard-working devils that they are. So I'll state the reasons for the auction myself and let 'em revel in my misfortunes—for no one is inquisitive without wishing for the worst.<sup>1</sup>

(*loudly, playing public crier*) I am a miserable man; dire misfortunes have befallen me. Alas! It is my possessions that have made me a miserable man—countless drinks quite dead and gone—and all the poor dead dinners I have mourned, besides—and all the draughts of mead, aye, and noonday meals that I have missed within these last three years! Alas, alas, sorrow and suffering have made me old before my time; I am almost dead and gone myself from hunger.

*roc.* (*aside*) He's just the funniest fellow ever, when he's ravenous.

*el.* Now I have determined to hold an auction: all that I possess I must sell to strangers.

(*to spectators, changing to auctioneer*) Step up, please, step up! Prizes for all present! For sale—some funny stories! Come, make your bids! (*silence*) Who offers a dinner? (*silence*) Anyone offer a lunch? (*more silence*) Gad, I thought 'em worth a lunch or one of (*to a spectator*) your dinners! (*to*

TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ebem, adnuistin? nemo meliores dabit.<sup>1</sup>  
 vel unctiones Graecas sudatorias  
 vendo vel alias malacas, crapularias;  
 cavillationes, adsentatiunculas  
 ac perieratiunculas parasiticas;  
 robiginosam strigilem, ampullam rubidam,  
 parasitum inanem quo recondas reliquias.  
 haec veniisse iam opus est quantum potest,  
 ut decumam partem Herculi polluceam.

230

*Croc.* Ecastor auctionem haud magni preti.  
 adhaesit homini ad infimum ventrem fames.  
 adibo ad hominem.

*Gel.* Quis haec est quae advorsum it mihi?  
 Epignomi ancilla haec quidem est Crocotium.

*Croc.* Gelasime, salve.

*Gel.* Non id est nomen mihi.

*Croc.* Certo mecastor id fuit nomen tibi.

240

*Gel.* Fuit disertim, verum id usu perdidit:  
 nunc Miccotrogus nomine e vero vocor.

*Croc.* <sup>2</sup> Eu ecastor, risi te hodie multum.

*Gel.* Quando aut quo in loco?

*Croc.* Hic quom auctionem praedicabas,

*Gel.* Pessuma,

eho an audivisti?

*Croc.* Te quidem dignissumam.

*Gel.* Quo nunc is?

*Croc.* Ad te.

*Gel.* Quid venis?

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 225:  
*nulli meliores esse parasito sinam.*

<sup>2</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *eu ecastor / risi ted* Lindsay.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Croc.* Panegyris  
rogare iussit te ut opere maximo,  
mecum simitu ut ires ad sese domum.
- Gel.* Ego illo mehercule vero eo quantum potest. 250  
iamne exta cocta sunt? quot agnis fecerat?
- Croc.* Illa quidem nullum sacrificavit.
- Gel.* Quo modo?  
quid igitur me volt?
- Croc.* Tritici modios decem  
rogare, opinor.<sup>1</sup>
- Gel.* Mene, ut ab sese petam?
- Croc.* Immo ut a vobis mutuom nobis dares.
- Gel.* Nega esse quod dem nec mihi nec mutuom;  
neque aliud quicquam nisi hoc quod habeo pallium;  
linguam quoque etiam vendidi datariam.
- Croc.* Au,  
nullan tibi lingua est?
- Gel.* Quae quidem dicat "dabo"; 260  
ventri reliqui cccam aliam quae dicat "cedo."
- Croc.* Malum quidem si vis—
- Gel.* Haec eadem dicit tibi.
- Croc.* Quid nunc? ituru's an non?
- Gel.* Abi sane domum,  
iam illo venturum dicito. propera atque abi.  
demirror quid illaec me ad se arcessi iusserit,  
quae numquam iussit me ad se arcessi ante hunc  
diem,  
postquam vir abiit eius. mirror quid siet,  
nisi ut periculum fiat: visam quid velit.  
sed cecum Pinacium eius puerum. hoc vide, 270

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *te volt*.



## STICHUS

*roc.* (*impressively hospitable*) Panegyris ordered me to ask you, press you, to accompany me to her house to see her.

*iel.* (*thrilled*) By the Lord, indeed I will, as fast as I know how. Is the sacrificial meat cooked yet? How many lambs did she offer up?

*roc.* Lambs? Why, she made no sacrifice at all.

*iel.* How's that? Then what does she want of me?

*roc.* (*innocently*) I believe it's a matter of asking for some wheat, ten pecks or so.

*iel.* (*hopefully*) Asking me to ask it of her?

*roc.* Oh no, asking you to lend it to us.

*iel.* Tell her I've got nothing to give myself or lend to others, not a single thing except this cloak I wear. More than that, I've even sold my tongue, my giveawayish one.

*roc.* Poor thing! You have no tongue now?

*iel.* None to say "I'll give" with. But look, I've left my belly another one (*demonstrating*) to say "I'd like it."

*roc.* (*irate*) Like trouble, eh? Well, if that's what you want—

*iel.* (*interrupting*) The same to you, says this article.

*roc.* (*leaving*) Well now? Are you coming, or not?

*iel.* Yes, yes, be off home. Tell her I'll be there soon. Hurry up and be off.

[EXIT *Crocotium*.]

I wonder why on earth she had me summoned to her, when she never once did it before to-day, not since her husband left. I do wonder what it is—but I'd better chance it and go see what she wants. (*looking down the street*) Aha, though, there's her page, Pinacium! Will you look at that! If that



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

satin ut facete, aequae atque ex pictura, astitit?  
ne iste edepol vinum poculo pauxillulo  
saepe exanclavit submerum scitissime.

### ACTVS II

*Pin.* Mercurius, Iovis qui nuntius perhibetur, numquam  
aeque patri  
suo nuntium lepidum attulit quam ego nunc mcae  
erae nuntiabo :  
itaque onustum pectus porto laetitia lubentiaque  
neque lubet nisi gloriose quicquam proloqui pro-  
fecto.  
amoenitates omnium venerum et venustatum adfero  
ripisque superat mi atque abundat pectus laetitia  
meum.  
propera, Pinacium, pedes hortare, honesta dicta  
factis—  
nunc tibi potestas adipiscendist gloriam laudem  
decus—  
eraeque egenti subveni,<sup>1</sup>  
quae misera in expectatione est Epignomi adven-  
tum viri.  
proinde ut decet, amat virum suum; cupide expetit.  
nunc, Pinacium,  
age ut placet, curre ut lubet, cave quemquam flocci  
feceris,  
cubitis depulsa de via, tranquillam concinna viam ;  
si rex obstabit obviam, regem ipsum prius per-  
vortito.

*Gel.* Quidnam dicam Pinacium  
lascivibundum tam lubentem currere?  
harundinem fert sportulamque et hamulum pesca-  
rium.

## STICHUS

isn't the neatest pose he's striking—just like in a picture! Ah me, ah me! Many's the time that lad has ladled out the teeny cups of nearneat wine in just the knowingest way. (*withdraws to listen*)

### ACT II

ENTER *Pinacium*, WITH FISHING EQUIPMENT, WILDLY EXUBERANT.

*Pin.* No, not Mercury, the fabled messenger of Jove, e'er brought his sire so sweet a message as that I now shall bring my mistress. Oh, this breast of mine is brimming with delight and delectation! It likes me now to deal in naught but high hyperbole. The charms of all things lovable and lovely do I convey, and my heart doth overflow its banks and teem with joy. Push on, *Pinacium*, prick on thy feet, and fructify thy words with deeds—now art thou empowered to win thee fame and praise and honour—and aid thy mistress all bereft who anxiously awaits the coming of *Epignomus*, her husband. Quite as beseems her does she love that husband, long for him ardently. (*elaborately preparing himself for action*). On now, *Pinacium*, as thou dost please, run as thou likest! Care not a straw for any man alive! Elbow them all from thy path! Clean them out and clear the road! Be it a monarch that blocks thy course, up and land that monarch on his neck! (*runs, mightily*)

*Gel.* (*aside*) What the deuce makes the little frisky-romper so fond of running? He's carrying a rod, and a basket and a bit of tackle.

---

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *benefacta maiorum tuom*.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pin.* Sed tandem, opinor, aequiust eram mihi esse  
supplicem  
atque oratores mittere ad me donaque ex auro et  
quadrigas,  
qui vehar, nam pedibus ire non queo. ergo iam  
revortar.  
ad me adiri et supplicari egomet mi aequom censeo.  
an vero nugas censeas, nihil esse quod ego nunc scio?  
tantum a portu adporto bonum, tam gaudium  
grande adfero,  
vix ipsa domina hoc, nisi seiat, exoptare ab deis  
audeat.  
nunc ultro id deportem? hau placet, neque id viri  
officium arbitror.  
sic hoc videtur mihi magis meo convenire huic  
nuntio:  
adversum veniat, opsecret, se ut nuntio hoc  
impertiam;  
secundas fortunas decent superbiae.  
sed tandem cum recogito, qui potuit scire haec  
scire me?  
non enim possum quin revortar, quin loquar, quin  
edissertem  
eramque ex maerore eximam, bene facta maiorum  
meum  
exaugeam atque illam augeam insperato opportuno  
bono:  
contundam facta Talthubi contemnamque omnis  
nuntios;  
simulque <sup>1</sup> cursuram meditabor <sup>2</sup> ad ludos Olympios.  
sed spatium hoc occidit: brevest curriculo; quam  
me paenitet.  
quid hoc? occlusam ianuam video. ibo et pultabo  
fores.

290

300

## STICHUS

*Pin.* (*halting*) And yet, methinks, 'twere more fitting for mistress to petition me and send me envoys and gifts of gold and a four-horse chariot for transportation. No indeed, travel afoot is not for me. So back I go forthwith. (*struts to his starting point*) I hold it proper that I be approached myself, that I be appealed to. Canst think, forsooth, that what I now know is but a trifling thing of no account? Why, such good news from the port am I reporting, such bounteous bliss am I returning with, that mistress herself, unless informed, could hardly venture to pray it of the gods. And now am I to be porter of such news, unasked? It suits me not, 'tis not my notion of a manly part. I feel it more befits a message such as mine that she come meet me and beseech that I impart it. Hauteur sits well on those whom fortune favours. (*pauses and ponders*) And yet, on second thoughts, how could she know that I know this? Ah well, I see I must return, speak out, unfold it all, and sweep away her sorrow, overtop the good deeds of my sires and top off mistress' woes with an unexpected, timely blessing. (*girding himself for more action*) Those efforts of Talthybius<sup>1</sup> I'll scrap, and hold all messengers in scorn. Likewise I'll try my stride for the Olympic games. (*does so*) But what a rotten place to run! This track's too short. How I do regret it! (*having arrived at the house*) What ho! I see the door is shut. I'll go and knock. (*does so,*

<sup>1</sup> Herald of Agamemnon.

---

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *ad.*

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *me.*



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

aperitè atque adproperate, fores facitè ut pateant,  
removete moram;

nimis haec res sine cura geritur. vide quam dudum  
hic asto et pulto. 310

somnone operam datis? experiar, fores an cubiti ac  
pedes plus valeant.

nimis vellem hae fores erum fugissent, ea causa ut  
haberent malum magnum;

defessus sum pultando.

hoc postremumst. vae vobis

*Gel.* Ibo atque hunc compellabo.

salvos sis.

*Pin.* Et tu salve.

*Gel.* Iam tu piscator factu's?

*Pin.* Quam pridem non edisti?

*Gel.* Vnde is? quid fers? quid festinas?

*Pin.* Tua quod nil refert, ne cures. 320

*Gel.* Quid istic inest?

*Pin.* Quas tu edes colubras.

*Gel.* Quid tam iracundu's?

*Pin.* Si in te

pudor adsit, non me appelles.

*Gel.* Possum scire ex te verum?

*Pin.* Potes: hodie non cenabis.

II. 2.

*Pan.* Quisnam, opsecro, has frangit fores? ubi est?  
tun haec facis? tun mihi huc hostis venis?



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Gel.* Salve, tuo arcessitu venio huc.
- Pan.* Ean gratia fores effringis?
- Gel.* Tuos inclama, tui delinquent: ego quid me velles  
visebam;  
nam me quidem harum miserebat.
- Pin.* Ergo auxilium propere latumst.
- Pan.* Quisnam hic loquitur tam prope nos?
- Pin.* Pinacium.
- Pan.* Vbi is est? 330
- Pin.* Respice ad me et relinque egentem parasitum,  
Panegyris.
- Pan.* Pinacium.
- Pin.* Istuc indiderunt nomen maiores mihi.
- Pan.* Quid agis?
- Pin.* Quid agam rogitas?
- Pan.* Quidni rogitem?
- Pin.* Quid mecum est tibi?
- Pan.* Mein fastidis. propudiose? eloquerè propere,  
Pinacium.
- Pin.* Iube me omittere igitur hos, qui retinent.
- Pan.* Qui retinent?
- Pin.* Rogas?  
omnia membra lassitudo mihi tenet.
- Pan.* Linguam quidem  
sat scio tibi non tenere.
- Pin.* Ita celeri currículo fui  
propere a portu, tui honoris causa.
- Pan.* Ecquid adportas boni?
- Pin.* Nimio<sup>1</sup> adporto multo tanto plus quam speras.
- Pan.* Salva sum.

<sup>1</sup> *Nimio adporto* Ritschl: *nimio in parti corrupt* (Leo).

## STICHUS

*Gel.* (*with dignity*) Good morning. I come because you summoned me.

*Pan.* Which explains your battering down my door?

*Gel.* Lecture your own people; the fault is theirs. I was coming to see why you wanted me; and this poor thing, (*with a wave toward the door*) well, I did pity it.

*Pin.* (*ironically*) And therefore rushed to the rescue.

*Pan.* (*not seeing him*) Why, who's that talking so close to us?

*Pin.* (*consequentially*) Pinacium.

*Pan.* Where is he?

*Pin.* (*swaggering up*) Attend to me, Panegyris; away with that beggarly parasite.

*Pan.* (*reprovingly*) Pinacium!

*Pin.* (*grandly*) So my forebears have yclept me.

*Pan.* What are you at?

*Pin.* What am I at, you ask?

*Pan.* (*sharply*) Why shouldn't I ask?

*Pin.* (*yawning*) How do I concern you, pray?

*Pan.* Putting on airs with me, you scalawag? Come, speak, Pinacium! This instant!

*Pin.* (*affecting exhaustion*) Then order my custodians to let me go.

*Pan.* Custodians? Who?

*Pin.* What a question! Fatigue has all my limbs in custody.

*Pan.* Well, it's clear enough your tongue has escaped.

*Pin.* (*reproachfully*) Such a race as I ran, hurrying home from the port, just for your sake.

*Pan.* (*eagerly*) You've something good to report?

*Pin.* Ah, such a report! Miles and miles beyond your hopes!

*Pan.* Oh, I am saved, saved!



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pin.* At ego perü, quoi medullam lassitudo perbibit! 340

*Gel.* Quid ego, quoi misero medullam ventris percepit  
fames.

*Pan.* Eequem convenisti?

*Pin.* Multos.

*Pan.* At virum?

*Pin.* Equidem plurimos:  
verum ex multis nequiores nullum quam hic est.

*Gel.* Quo modo?

iam dudum ego istum patior dicere iniuste mihi.  
praeterhac si me inritassis —

*Pin.* Edepol essuries male.

*Gel.* Animum inducam, ut istuc verum te elocutum esse  
arbitrer.

*Pin.* Munditias volo fieri. ecferte huc scopas simulque  
harundinem,  
ut operam omnem araneorum perdam et texturam  
improbem  
deiciamque eorum omnis telas.

*Gel.* Miseri algebunt postea.

*Pin.* Quid? illos itidemne esse censés quasi te, cum  
veste unica?

cape illas scopas.

*Gel.* Capiam.

*Pin.* Hoc egomet, tu hoc converre.

*Gel.* Ego fecero.

*Pin.* Ecquis huc effert nassiternam cum aqua?

*Gel.* Sine suffragio  
populi tamen aedilitatem hic quidem gerit.

## STICHUS

**Pin.** But I am dead, dead! The marrow of my bones is all sucked out by weariness.

**Gel.** Lord! And what of me? The marrow of my stomach is all scrunched in by hunger.

**Pan.** (*hesitantly*) You met some one?

**Pin.** Many a one.

**Pan.** But my—a man?

**Pin.** Drove of 'em. But there wasn't a worse specimen in the whole gang than (*scowling at Gelasimus*) this one.

**Gel.** (*enraged*) How's that? (*to Panegyris*) I have endured his incivility too long! (*to Pinacium*) If you provoke me further, I'll—

**Pin.** (*interrupting amiably*) Stay awfully empty, right you are.

**Gel.** (*wryly, torn between ire and hope*) I shall prevail upon myself to assume that you state the case correctly.

**Pin.** (*taking full charge, to Panegyris*) Everything must be tidied up. (*shouting to slaves within*) Bring some brooms here, and a long pole, too, so that I can throw out the spiders' work entirely, condemn their weaving and discard all their webs.

**Gel.** Then the poor things will freeze.

**Pin.** Huh! Think they're in your own fix, do you, with only one outfit? (*as slaves bring out implements*) Here, take that broom.

**Gel.** (*obeying*) All right.

**Pin.** (*using his own frantically*) I'll sweep here and you sweep there.

**Gel.** (*joining in*) I'm your man.

**Pin.** (*yelling at the door*) Pail and water, someone, will you?

**Gel.** (*aside, to audience*) He's serving as Sanitary Commissioner without waiting to be elected.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pin.* Age tu ocius

<sup>1</sup> pinge humum, consperge ante aedis.

*Gel.* Faciam.

*Pin.* Factum oportuit.

ego hinc araneas de foribus deiciam et de pariete.

*Gel.* Edepol rem negotiosam.

*Pan.* Quid sit, nil etiam scio,  
nisi forte hospites venturi sunt.

*Pin.* Vos lectos sternite.

*Gel.* Principium placet de lectis.

*Pin.* Alii ligna caedite,  
alii piscis depurgate, quos piscatū rettuli,  
pernam et glandium deicite.

*Gel.* Hic hercle homo nimium sapit. 360

*Pan.* Non ecastor, ut ego opinor, satis erae morem geris.

*Pin.* Immo res omnis relictas habeo prae quod tu velis.

*Pan.* Tum tu igitur, qua causa missus es ad portum, id  
expedi.

*Pin.* Dicam. postquam me misisti ad portum cum luci  
simul,

commodum radiosus sese sol superabat ex mari.

dum percontor portitores, ecquae navis venerit

ex Asia, negant venisse, conspicatus sum interim

cercurum, quo ego me maiorem non vidisse censeo.

in portum vento secundo, velo passo pervenit.

alius alium percontamur: quoiast navis? quid  
vehit?

370

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt' (Leo): hic Leo. . . .

## STICHUS

*Pin.* (*thrusting the pail into Gelasimus' hand*) Come you, quick, paint the ground, sprinkle in front of the house.

*Gel.* Do it I will.

*Pin.* It should be already done. (*seizing the pole*) Now to knock these spiders off the door and walls!

*Gel.* (*aside to Panegyris*) This is our busy day, by Jove?

*Pan.* (*aside to Gelasimus*) I'm not at all sure even yet what it means, unless maybe (*tremulous*) guests are coming.

*Pin.* (*to slaves within*) Cover the couches, you!

*Gel.* (*aside*) Couches! Capital start!

*Pin.* Cut wood, some of you! And you—clean the fish I brought back from my fishing trip! And you—get out ham and sweetbreads!

*Gel.* (*aside, redoubling his activity*) By the Lord, this lad shows lots of sense.

*Pan.* (*to Pinacium, plaintively*) It certainly does seem to me that you give your mistress very little consideration.

*Pin.* (*chasing spiders*) The idea! When I've neglected everything else to accommodate you.

*Pan.* Well then, the matter I sent you to the harbour about—tell me, tell me!

*Pin.* Ah, yes. (*keeps busy with the spiders*) After you sent me down to the harbour at early (*swatting one*) dawn, the arradiant sun was but then (*swatting another*) surmounting the sea. While I was inquiring of the customs chaps if any ship had come from Asia, and they said (*another*) no, I caught sight of a Cyprian bark, as big a one as I ever saw, I think. Right on into harbour it came, full sail, in front of a spanking breeze. We're just asking each other whose ship it is and what it's laden with, when I set my eyes on (*swats*



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

interibi Epignomum conspicio tuom virum et servom  
Stichum.

*Pan.* Hem quid? Epignomum elocutu's?

*Pin.* Tuom virum.

*Gel.* Et vitam meam.

*Pin.* Venit inquam.

*Pan.* Tutin ipsus ipsum vidisti?

*Pin.* Lubens.

argenti auriq̄ue advexit nimium.

*Gel.* Nimis factum bene.

berele vero capiam scopas atque hoc convorram  
lubens.

*Pin.* Lanam purpuramq̄ue multam.

*Gel.* Em qui ventrem vestiam.

*Pin.* Lectos eburatos, auratos.

*Gel.* Accubabo regie.

*Pin.* Tum Babylonica et peristroma tonsilia et tappetia  
advexit, nimium bonae rei.

*Gel.* Hercle rem gestam bene.

*Pin.* Poste, ut occepi narrare, fidicinas, tibicinas,  
sambucas advexit secum forma eximia.

380

*Gel.* Eugepae,  
quando adbibero, adludiabo: tum sum ridiculis-  
sumus.

*Pin.* Poste unguenta multigenerum multa.

*Gel.* Non vendo logos.

iam non facio auctionem, mi optigit hereditas:  
malivoli, perquisitores auctionum, perierint.

Hercules, decumam esse adauctam tibi quam vovi  
gratulor.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 387:  
*spes est, tandem aliquando inportunam exigere ex utero famem.*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Pin.* Postea autem advexit parasitos secum.
- Gel.* Ei, perii miser.
- Pin.* Ridiculiſsimos.
- Gel.* Revorram berele hoc quod converri modo.
- Pan.* Vidistin virum sororis Pamphilum?
- Pin.* Non.
- Pan.* Non adest? 390
- Pin.* Immo venisse eum simitu aiebat ille: ego huc citus  
praecucurri, ut nuntiarem nuntium exoptabilem.
- Gel.* Venales logi sunt illi, quos negabam vendere.  
ilicet, iam meo maloſt quod malevolentes gaudeant.  
Hercules, qui deus sis, sane discessisti non bene.
- Pan.* I intro, Pinacium, iube famulos rem divinam mi  
apparent.  
bene vale.
- Gel.* Vin administrem?
- Pan.* Sat servorum habeo domi.
- Gel.* Enim vero, Gelasime, opinor provenisti futille,  
si neque ille adest neque hic, qui venit, quicquam  
subvenit.  
ibo intro ad libros et discam de dictis melioribus; 400  
nam ni illos homines expello, ego occidi planissime.

## STICHUS

*Pin.* (*guilelessly*) Yes, and besides, he has brought along some parasites.

*Gel.* (*aside*) Oh damnation! That's a blow!

*Pin.* And the wittiest ones alive!

*Gel.* My God! All this sweeping I have done I'll now unsweep!

*Pan.* Did you see my sister's husband, Pamphilus?

*Pin.* No.

*Pan.* He's not arrived?

*Pin.* Yes, he came at the same time, so master said. But I rushed on ahead here to announce this gladsome news.

*Gel.* (*very low*) Those stories I refused to sell are now on sale. It is all over. That spiteful crowd now have their chance to crow at my disaster. Hercules, you have plainly botched this business for yourself—and you a god!

*Pan.* Go in, Pinacium, and tell the servants to get things ready for me for a sacrifice.

[EXIT *Pinacium*, JEERING AT *Gelasimus*.

(*to Gelasimus*) And a very good day to you, sir.

*Gel.* Don't you want me to supervise?

*Pan.* I have plenty of help at home, thanks.

[EXIT *Panegyris*.

*Gel.* Upon my soul, Gelasimus, the outcome of this looks rank for you, if one of 'em isn't here and the one who has come doesn't come to your assistance. I'll hie me home to my books and prime myself with some of the best bons mots; for unless I fight off those fellows of his, my goose is cooked and no mistake.

[EXIT.



# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## ACTVS III

- Epig.* Quom bene re gesta salvos convortor domum  
Neptuno grates habeo et Tempestatibus ;  
simul Mercurio, qui me in mercimoniis  
iuvit lucrisque quadruplicavit rem meam.  
olim quos abiens adfeci aegrimonia,  
eos nunc laetantis faciam adventu meo.  
nam iam Antiphonem conveni adfinem meum  
cumque eo reveni ex inimicitia in gratiam.  
videte, quaeso, quid potest pecunia : 410  
quoniam bene gesta re redisse me videt  
magnasque adportavisse divitias domum,  
sine advocatis ibidem in cercuro in stega  
in amicitiam atque in gratiam convortimus.  
et is hodie apud me cenat et frater meus ;  
nam heri ambo in uno portu fuimus, sed mea  
hodie solutast navis aliquanto prius.  
age abduce hasce intro, quas mecum adduxi, Stiche.
- Stich.* Ere, si ego taceam seu loquar, scio scire te  
quam multas tecum miserias mulcaverim. 420  
nunc hunc diem unum ex illis multis miseriis  
volo me eleutheria capere advenientem domum.
- Epig.* Et ius et aequom postulas : sumas, Stiche.  
in hunc diem te nil moror ; abi quo lubet.  
cadum tibi veteris vini propino.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Eleutheria celebrated in honour of the victory at Plataea.

# STICHUS

## ACT III

ENTER *Epignomus* AND *Stichus*, FOLLOWED BY MUSIC  
GIRLS AND PORTERS.

*Epig.*

(*devoutly*) Thanks be to Neptune and the weather-goddesses for returning me safe home again, my venture a success! And thanks to Mercury as well, who helped me in my mercantile affairs and quadrupled my fortune with the profits. (*surveying his house*) Ah, those that I once grieved by my going I'll now make glad by getting back. (*chuckling*) As for father-in-law Antipho, I've fallen in with him already, and also fallen out of his disfavour into his esteem once more. Here's an illustration for you of what money means. Because he sees I've been successful and here I am at home with plenty of the wherewithal aboard, he meets me right on my vessel's pont, and without mediating parties we're reconciled and friends again. And now he's to dine with me to-day, he and my brother too. For we both lay in the same harbour yesterday, but my ship got under way a bit earlier this morning. (*going toward his door*) Come, Stichus, bring in these girls that I've brought back with me.

*Stich.*

(*ingratiatingly*) Master, whether I speak of it or not, I know you know how often I've helped you give hard times hard treatment. Now, sir, after all those hard times, I wish I could have this one day off, this day of my arrival home, for the Feast of Freedom.<sup>1</sup>

*Epig.*

(*smiling*) A fair and reasonable request. Granted, Stichus. The day is yours, I shan't bother you. Be off where you like. And I'll contribute a cask of good old wine.



# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Stich.*

Papae,

ducam hodie amicam.

*Epig.*

Vel decem, dum de tuo.

*Stich.*

Quid? hoc etiam unum?

*Epig.*

Quid id autem unumst? expedi.

*Stich.*

Ad cenam ibone?

*Epig.*

Si vocatu's, censeo.

*Stich.*

Sic hoc placet; rogatu necne, nil moror.

*Epig.*

Vbi cenas hodie?

*Stich.*

Sic hanc rationem institi:

430

amicam ego habeo Stephanium hinc ex proxumo,  
tui fratris ancillam: eo condixi in symbolam  
ad cenam, ad eius conservom Sangarinum Syrum.  
eademst amica ambobus, rivales sumus.

*Epig.*

Age abduce basce intro. hunc tibi dedo diem.

*Stich.*

Meam culpam habeto, nisi probe excruciavero.

iam hercle ego per hortum ad amicam transibo  
meam

mi hanc occupatum noctem; eadem symbolam  
dabo et iubebo ad Sangarinum cenam coqui.

aut egomet ibo atque opsonabo opsonium.

440

Sangarinus scio iam hic aderit cum domino suo.

servos homo qui nisi temperi ad cenam meat,

advorsitores pol cum verberibus decet

dari, uti eum verberabundi adducant domum.

parata res faciam ut sit. egomet me moror.

atque id ne vos miremini, hominis servolos

potare, amare atque ad cenam condicere:

licet haec Athenis nobis. sed quom cogito,

potius quam invidiam inveniam, est etiam hic

ostium

aliud posticum nostrarum harunc aedium:<sup>1</sup>

450

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 450<sup>a</sup>:  
*posticam partem magis utuntur aedium.*

## STICHUS

*Stich.* Ah-h-h! Girl friend for me to-day!

*Epig.* Or ten—at your expense, though.

*Stich.* But, sir? This one thing more?

*Epig.* Well, what is the one thing? Explain.

*Stich.* Can I dine out, sir?

*Epig.* No doubt you can, if you're invited.

*Stich.* Oh, sir, this is grand! Asked or not, I don't care.

*Epig.* And where's your dinner to be?

*Stich.* This is my plan, sir. I have a sweetheart, sir, Stephanium, that lives next door here, your brother's maidservant, sir. I've got her booked for a dinner party there at her fellow slave's, Sangarinus the Syrian's, expenses shared. She's his sweetheart, too, sir; we're rivals.

*Epig.* Get busy, then, and bring these girls inside. I put this day at your disposal.

[EXIT INTO HIS HOUSE.]

*Stich.* (*calling after him*) And lay the blame on me, sir, if I don't raise hell with it in fine style. (*to himself*) Ho, hum! Now I'll go through the garden to my sweetheart and take possession for to-night. And I'll pay my share at the same time and order dinner to be cooked at Sangarinus'. Or else I'll go and provide the provisions myself. Sangarinus is sure to be here soon with his master. If a slave doesn't get to a dinner party in time, he ought to be given a cortège with whipcords, by gad, to escort him home. Well, I must see that everything's prepared. I'm delaying myself. (*to audience*) Yes, and you people needn't be surprised that we slavelings have our liquor and love affairs and dinner engagements: all that's permitted us in Athens. (*pauses*) On second thoughts, though, rather than incur ill will, this house of ours has still another door in the



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ea ibo opsonatum, eadem referam opsonium :  
 per hortum utroque commeatus continet.  
 ite hac secundum vos me. ego hunc lacero diem.

### III. 2.

*Gel.* Libros inspexi ; tam confido quam potis,  
 me meum optenturum regem ridiculis meis.  
 nunc interviso, iamne a portu advenerit,  
 ut eum advenientem meis dictis deleniam.

*Epig.* Hic quidem Gelasimus est parasitus, qui venit.

*Gel.* Auspicio hodie optumo exivi foras :  
 mustela murem abstulit praeter pedes ; 460  
 cum strena obscaevavit ; spectatum hoc mihi st.  
 nam ut illa vitam repperit hodie sibi,  
 item me spero facturum : augurium hac facit.  
 Epignomus hic quidem st qui astat. ibo atque  
 adloquar.

o Epignome, ut ego nunc te conspicio libens,  
 ut prae laetitia lacrimae prosiliunt mihi.  
 valuistin usque ?

*Epig.* Sustentatum st sedulo.

*Gel.* Propino tibi salutem plenis faucibus.

*Epig.* Bene atque amice dicis. di dent quae velis.

*Gel.* Cenem illi apud te, quoniam salvos advenis. 470

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<sup>1</sup> v. 450<sup>a</sup> : They use the back part of the place more.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Epig.* Locatast opera nunc quidem; tam gratiast.

*Gel.* Promitte.

*Epig.* Certumst.

*Gel.* Sic face inquam.

*Epig.* Certa res.

*Gel.* Lubente me hercle facies.

*Epig.* Idem ego istuc scio.

quando usus veniet, fiet.

*Gel.* Nunc ergo usus est.

*Epig.* Non edepol possum.

*Gel.* Quid gravare? censeas.

nescio quid vero habeo in mundo.

*Epig.* I modo,

alium convivam quaerito tibi in hunc diem.

*Gel.* Quin tu promittis?

*Epig.* Non graver, si possiem.

*Gel.* Vnum quidem berele certo promitto tibi:

libens accipiam certo, si promiseris.

*Epig.* Valeas.

*Gel.* Certumnest?

*Epig.* Certum. cenabo domi.<sup>1</sup>

*Gel.* Sed — quoniam nil processit hac, ego ivero

apertiore magis via; ita plane loquar:

vin ad te ad cenam veniam?

*Epig.* Si possim, velim;

verum hic apud me cenant alieni novem.

*Gel.* Hau postulo equidem me in lecto accumbere:

scis tu me esse unisubSELLI virum.

. <sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 483 :

*Gel.* Quando quidem tu ad me non vis promittere.





## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Epig.* At ei oratores sunt populi, summi viri; 490  
Ambracia veniunt huc legati publice.
- Gel.* Ergo oratores populi, summates viri,  
summi accubent, ego infimatis infimus.
- Epig.* Haud aequomst te inter oratores accipi.
- Gel.* Equidem hercle orator sum, sed procedit parum.
- Epig.* Cras de reliquiis nos volo. multum vale.
- Gel.* Perii berele vero plane, nihil obnoxie.  
uno Gelasimo minus est quam dudum fuit.  
certumst mustelae posthac numquam credere,  
nam incertiozem nullam novi bestiam; 500  
quaen eapse deciens in die mutat locum,  
ea ego auspicavi in re capitali mea?  
certumst amicos convocare, ut consulam  
qua lege nunc med essurare oporteat.

### ACTVS IV

- Ant.* Ita me di bene ament measque mihi<sup>1</sup> servassint  
filias,  
ut mihi volup est, Pamphilippe, quia vos in patriam  
domum  
rediisse video bene gesta re ambos, te et fratrem  
tuom.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *bene*.

## STICHUS

*Epig.* Ah, but my guests are public spokesmen, men of high place, they come here from Ambracia as their people's envoys.

*Gel.* Well then, these public spokesmen, these high placed men of yours, should be placed high at table, and lowmost me low.

*Epig.* It's incongruous for you to be received among the spokesmen.

*Gel.* Good Lord! I am one, I'm a spokesman—but I seem to speak in vain.

*Epig.* (*cryptic himself, going in*) We must have some left-overs to attend to to-morrow. A very good day to you.

[EXIT.

*Gel.* (*desperate*) Oh Lord, I'm dead, dead, beyond a doubt, without one human obligation! The world is smaller than before by one Gelasimus. I'll never trust a weasel after this, that's settled. Why, a more unsettled beast I never knew. A beast that shifts from place to place ten times a day—and I based my auspices on such a creature, I, with my life at stake? Well, one thing is settled—I'll summon my friends and consider the legal steps that I must take to starve to death.

[EXIT.

## ACT IV

ENTER *Antipho* AND *Pamphilippus*.

*Ant.* (*effusively*) Lord love me, bless me, and preserve my daughters for me, Pamphilippus, but I'm delighted to see you back in your own native land again, you and your brother, and both of you so prosperous!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pamph.* Satis abs te accipiam, nisi videam mihi te amicum esse, Antipho;  
nunc quia te amicum mihi experior esse, credetur tibi.

*Ant.* Vocem ego te ad me ad cenam, frater tuos ni dixisset mihi,  
te apud se cenaturum esse hodie, quom me ad se ad cenam vocat.  
et magis par fuerat me vobis dare cenam advenientibus,  
quam me ad illum promittere, nisi nollem ei advorsarier.

nunc me gratiam abs te inire verbis nil desidero:  
cras apud me eritis et tu et ille cum vostris uxoribus.

*Pamph.* At apud me perendie. nam ille heri me iam vocaverat  
in hunc diem. sed satin ego tecum pacificatus sum, Antipho?

*Ant.* Quando ita rem gessistis ut vos velle amicosque addecet,  
pax commersque est vobis mecum. nam hoc tu facito ut cogites:

ut cuique homini res paratast, perinde amicis utitur:  
si res firma, item firmi amici sunt; sin res laxelabat,

itidem amici conlabascunt: res amicos invenit.  
*Epig.* Iam redeo. nimaist voluptas, ubi diu afueris domo, domum ubi redieris, si tibi nullast aegritudo animo obviam.

nam ita me absente familiarem rem uxor curavit meam,  
omnium me exilem atque inanem fecit aegritudinum.

## STICHUS

*amph.* (*with a rather frigid smile*) I should want security from you, Antipho, if you didn't seem to be a friend of mine; as it is, now that I find you friendly, I'll take your word for that delight of yours.

*ant.* I'd invite you in to dinner, except for your dining to-day with your brother, as he told me when he gave me my own invitation. It really would have been more appropriate for me to dine you lads on your arrival than to accept his hospitality—only I didn't want to oppose him. It's not merely by words that I desire to gain your good will now: (*as if conferring millions*) to-morrow you and he, and your wives, shall come to my house.

*amph.* Then to mine the day after. He took occasion yesterday, you know, to invite me for to-day. Well, Antipho, so I've actually made my peace with you, eh?

*ant.* (*primly*) Since your financial affairs have gone as it behooves you and your friends to wish, there is peace and fellowness between us three. For mind you consider this fact: on anyone's financial standing hangs his status with his friends: if he is in a sound financial state, his friends are sound; but once that state begins wavering wildly, his friends co-waver likewise. Friends are matters of finance.

ENTER *Epignomus* INTO HIS DOORWAY.

*epig.* (*to those within*) I'll soon be back. (*soliloquizing*) Ah, it's a delight, when you've long been gone and get back home, if you fall foul of nothing to upset you. Why, the way my wife has managed my household affairs, in my absence, she has left me bare and destitute of everything—upsetting. (*seeing the others*) But there's my brother



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

sed cecum fratrem Pamphilippum. incedit cum  
socero suo.

*Pamph.* Quid agitur, Epignome?

*Epig.* Quid tu? quam dudum in portum venis?

*Pamph.* Hau longissime.

*Epig.* Postilla iam iste est tranquillus tibi?

*Ant.* Magis quam mare quo ambo estis vecti.

*Epig.* Facis ut alias res soles. 530  
bodiene exoneramus navem, frater?

*Pamph.* Clementer volo.  
nos potius oneremus nosmet vicissatim voluptatibus,  
quam mox coctast cena? inpransus ego sum.

*Epig.* Abi intro ad me et lava.

*Pamph.* Deos salutatum atque uxorem modo intro devortor  
domum;

haec si ita ut volo conficio, continuo ad te transeo.

*Epig.* Apud nos eccillam festinat cum sorore uxor tua.

*Pamph.* Optumest, iam istoc morai minus erit. iam ego  
apud te ero.

*Ant.* Prius quam abis, praesente ted huic apologum agere  
unum volo.

*Pamph.* Maxume.

*Ant.* Fuit olim, quasi ego sum, senex; ei filiae  
duae erant, quasi nunc meae sunt; eae erant  
duobus nuptae fratribus,  
quasi nunc meae sunt vobis. 540

*Epig.* Miror quo evasurust apologus.

*Ant.* Erant minori illi adulescenti fidicina et tibicina,



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

peregre advexerat, quasi nunc tu; sed ille erat  
caeleps senex,  
quasi ego nunc sum.

*Epig.* Perge porro. praesens hic quidem est apologus.  
*Ant.* Deinde senex ille illi dixit, cuius erat tibicina,  
quasi ego nunc tibi dico:

*Epig.* Ausculto atque animum advorto sedulo.  
*Ant.* “Ego tibi meam filiam, bene quicum cubitares,  
dedi:  
nunc mihi reddi ego aequom esse abs te quicum  
cubitem censeo.”

*Epig.* Quis istuc dicit? an ille quasi tu?  
*Ant.* Quasi ego nunc dico tibi.  
“Immo duas dabo,” inquit ille adulescens “una si  
parumst;

et si duarum paenitebit,” inquit “addentur duae.”  
*Epig.* Quis istuc quaeso? an ille quasi ego?

*Ant.* Is ipse quasi tu. tum senex  
ille quasi ego: “si vis,” inquit “quattuor sane  
dato,  
dum equidem hercle quod edint addas, meum ne  
contruncent cibum.”

*Epig.* Videlicet parcum illum fuisse senem, qui illi istace  
dixerit,

quom ille, illi qui pollicetur, eum cibum poposcerit.  
*Ant.* Videlicet non fuisse illum aequom adulescentem,  
qui ilico

ubi ille poscit denegavit dare se granum tritici.  
hercle qui aequom postulabat ille senex, quando  
quidem

filiae illac dederat dotem, accipere pro tibicina.

*Epig.* Hercle ille quidem certo adulescens docte vorsutus  
fuit,

qui seni illi concubinam dare dotatam noluit.

550

560

## STICHUS

girl that he had brought from abroad—(to *Epignomus*) the same as you have now. But that old man was wifeless—the same as I am now.

*pig.*

Proceed, proceed! (to *Pamphilippus*) This monodrama certainly comes pat!

*nt.*

Then that old man said to the brother that owned the flute-girl—the same as I'm saying now to you—

*pig.*

Absorbing! I'm all attention!

*nt.*

—"I gave you my daughter to pass your nights with pleasantly: and now I consider it a fair return for you to give me a girl to pass my nights with."

*pig.*

Who says that? The one the same as you?

*nt.*

Yes—the same as I'm now saying it to you.

"Better still," says that young man, "I'll give you two, if one is not enough. And if the two don't satisfy," says he, "you shall have two more."

*pig.*

Let's see—who says that? The one the same as I?

*nt.*

Exactly—the one the same as you. Then says the old man—the same as I: "Yes, give me four, by all means, if you like, that is, in case you pay their board to boot, by gad, so they won't lancinate my larder."

*pig.*

The idea of that old fellow being so close-fisted as to talk like that, and ask the chap who promised him the girls to furnish their food!

*nt.*

The idea of that young fellow being so unfair as to refuse as soon as he was asked, and say he'd not supply even one grain of wheat! My word! Why, that old man was making a fair request—having given his daughter a dowry, he should get one for his flute-girl.

*Epig.*

My word! Well, that young fellow certainly displayed trained acumen in declining to give that old man an endowed concubine.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ant.* Senex quidem voluit, si posset, indipisci de cibo ;  
 quia nequit, qua lege licuit velle dixit fieri.  
 “ fiat ” ille inquit adulescens. “ facis benigne ”  
 inquit senex.  
 “ babcon rem pactam ? ” inquit. “ faciam ita ”  
 inquit “ ut fieri voles.”  
 sed ego ibo intro et gratulabor vostrum adventum  
 filiis.  
 poste ibo lautum in pyelum, ibi fovebo senectutem  
 meam.  
 post ubi laverò, otiosus vos opperiar accubans.

*Pamph.* Graphicum mortalem Antiphonem, ut apologum  
 fecit quam fabre.

*Epig.* Etiam nunc scelestus se esse ducit pro adulescentulo.  
 dabitur homini amica, noctu quae in lecto occentet  
 senem ;  
 namque edepol aliud quidem illi quid amica opus sit  
 nescio.

*Pamph.* Sed quid agit parasitus noster Gelasimus? etiam  
 valet?

*Epig.* Vidi edepol hominem haud perdudum.

*Pamph.* Quid agit?

*Epig.* Quod famelicus.

*Pamph.* Quin vocavisti hominem ad cenam?

*Epig.* Ne quid adveniens perderem.  
 atque eccum tibi lupum in sermone: praesens  
 esuriens adest.

*Pamph.* Ludificemur hominem.

*Epig.* Capti consili memorem mones.

### IV. 2.

*Gel.* Sed ita ut ocepi narrare vobis: quom hic non adfui,  
 cum amicis deliberavi iam et cum cognatis meis.



Ant. Well, the old man wanted to gain his point about the food, if he could; failing that, he said he wanted to accept on any terms allowed. "Done," says that young man. "Thank you kindly," says the old one. "Can I call it a deal?" says he. "Count on me completely," says the other. (*turning toward Epignomus' house*) But I'll go in and congratulate my daughters on your arrival. Then I'll go take a bath in a *baignoire* and melt away my years there. Then after bathing I'll be on the dinner couch awaiting you at my ease.

[EXIT *Antipho* MERRILY.]

Pamph. Picturesque worthy, Antipho! That monodrama of his was a masterpiece.

Epig. Even now, the rascalion takes himself for a young blade. I'll give him a girl—to serenade the old codger at night in bed. For good Lord, I can't conceive what other use he has for one.

Pamph. But how goes it with our parasite Gelasimus? Still in good health?

Epig. Hm! I saw the fellow no longwhile ago.

Pamph. How's he getting on?

Epig. Hungrily.

Pamph. Why didn't you invite him to dinner?

Epig. For fear of coming home to go broke. (*glancing down the street*) Look! There you are—the wolf in the fable! Here in person, ravenous.

Pamph. Let's have some fun with him.

Epig. Suggestion superfluous—had it in mind myself. (*they stand back in the doorway*)

Scene 2.

ENTER *Gelasimus*.

Gel. (*to the audience*) But to continue what I was saying—since leaving here I have deliberated with my



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ita mi auctores fuere, ut egomet me hodie iugularem  
fame.

sed videone ego Pamphilippum cum fratre Epig-  
nomo? atque is est.

adgrediar hominem. o sperate Pamphilippe, o spes  
mea,

o mea vita, o mea voluptas, salve. salvom gaudeo  
peregre te in patriam rediisse.

*Pamph.* Salvo salve, Gelasime.

*Gel.* Valuistin bene?

*Pamph.* Sustentatumst sedulo.

*Gel.* Edepol gaudeo.

edepol ne ego nunc mihi medimnum mille esse  
argenti velim.

*Epig.* Quid eo tibi opust?

*Gel.* Hunc berele ad cenam ut vocem, te non vocem.

*Epig.* Advorsum te fabulare.

*Gel.* Illud quidem, ambos ut vocem;  
et equidem simitu hau maligne vos invitassem  
domum

ad me, sed mihi ipsi domi mcae nihil est. atque  
hoc scitis vos.

*Epig.* Edepol te vocem lubenter, si superfiat locus.

*Gel.* Quin tum stans obstrusero aliquid strenue.

*Epig.* Immo unum hoc potest.

*Gel.* Quid?

*Epig.* Vbi convivae abierint, tum venias.

*Gel.* Vae aetati tuae.

*Epig.* Vasa lautum, non ad cenam dico.

*Gel.* Di te perduint.

quid ais, Pamphilippe?

## STICHUS

friends and relatives, and it was their recommendation that I cut my throat to-day with a whetted appetite. But is that Pamphilippus I see with his brother Epignomus? Yes, it is. I'll up to him. (*rapturous*) Oh, Pamphilippus! So longed for! Oh, hope of my soul! Oh, breath of my life! Oh, joy of my being! (*seizes his hand*) Welcome! Ah, I'm glad you're home again from overseas, and well!

**Pamph.** And a well-wisher's welcome to you, Gelasimus.

**Gel.** You've been in first rate health?

**Pamph.** Fared finely as possible.

**Gel.** Jove, I'm glad! (*to Epignomus*) Jove, how I wish I had a thousand bushels of silver now!

**Epig.** What do you need it for?

**Gel.** So that I could invite him (*indicating Pamphilippus*) to dinner, by gad, and (*malevolently*) not you.

**Epig.** (*casually*) Such remarks don't help your case.

**Gel.** (*taking the hint*) Well, that is, so that I could invite you both. Really, I'm not mean, I'd have pressed you to come to my house together, but not one thing have I in that house of mine. And you know that yourselves.

**Epig.** Dear, dear, I'd invite you gladly, if there were only a place left.

**Gel.** Ah well, even standing, I do a fair job forcing a little something down.

**Epig.** No, but here's a possibility.

**Gel.** (*eagerly*) What?

**Epig.** When the guests are gone, then you come.

**Gel.** Curse you!

**Epig.** I don't mean to eat, but to wash the dishes.

**Gel.** Oh, go to hell! (*to Pamphilippus, wistfully*) Pamphilippus, what do you say?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Pamph.* Ad cenam hercle alio promisi foras.

*Gel.* Quid, foras?

*Pamph.* Foras hercle vero.

*Gel.* Qui malum tibi lasso libet  
foris cenare?

*Pamph.* Vtrum tu censes?

*Gel.* Iuben domi cenam coqui  
atque ad illum renuntiari?

*Pamph.* Solus cenabo domi?

*Gel.* Non enim solus: me vocato.

*Pamph.* At ille ne suscenseat, 600  
mea qui causa sumptum fecit.

*Gel.* Facile excusari potest.  
mihi modo ausculta, iube cenam domi coqui.

*Epig.* Non me quidem  
faciet auctore, hodie ut illum decipiat.

*Gel.* Non tu hinc abis?  
nisi me non perspicere censes quid agas. cave sis  
tu tibi,  
nam illic homo tuam hereditatem inhiat; quasi  
esuriens lupo.

non tu scis, quam efflicentur homines noctu hic in  
via?

*Pamph.* Tanto pluris qui defendant ire advorsum iussero.

*Epig.* Non it, non it, quia tanto opere suades ne ebitat.

*Gel.* Iube  
domi mi tibi que tuaeque uxori celeriter cenam coqui.  
si hercle faxis, non opinor dices deceptum fore. 610

*Pamph.* Per hanc tibi cenam incenato, Gelasime, esse hodie  
licet.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Gel.* Ibisne ad cenam foras?
- Pamph.* Apud fratrem ceno in proxumo.
- Gel.* Certumnest?
- Pamph.* Certum.
- Gel.* Edepol te hodie lapide percussum velim.
- Pamph.* Non metuo: per hortum transibo, non prodibo in publicum.
- Epig.* Quid ais, Gelasime?
- Gel.* Oratores tu accipis, habeas tibi.
- Epig.* Tua pol refert.
- Gel.* Enim, si quidem mea refert, opera utere.
- Epig.* Posse edepol tibi opinor etiam uni locum condi<sup>1</sup> ubi accubes.
- Pamph.* Sane faciundum censeo.
- Gel.* O lux oppidi.
- Epig.* Si arte poteris accubare.
- Gel.* Vel inter cuneos ferreos; tantillum loculi, ubi catellus cubet, id mi satis est loci.
- Epig.* Exorabo aliquo modo. veni.
- Gel.* Hucine?
- Epig.* Immo in carcerem; nam hic quidem genium meliorem tuom non facies. eamus, tu.
- Pamph.* Deos salutabo modo, poste ad te continuo transco.
- Gel.* Quid igitur?
- Epig.* Dixi equidem, in carcerem ires.
- Gel.* Quin si iusseris, eo quoque ibo.

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here: *propemodum* Schoell.

## STICHUS

- Gel.** You are going out to supper?
- Pamph.** Yes, with my brother next door.
- Gel.** That's settled?
- Pamph.** Settled.
- Gel.** By Jove, I only hope you get staved in with a stone this day!
- Pamph.** No fear, I'll cross over through the garden, and not appear in public.
- Epig.** (*encouragingly*) But I say, Gelasimus!
- Gel.** (*sour*) You have spokesmen guests—(*with a wave toward Pamphilippus*) keep 'em.
- Epig.** Ah, but this concerns you.
- Gel.** (*hopeful again*) Oh well, if it dōes concern me, accept my services.
- Epig.** The fact is, I believe room can still be made for one man like yourself to lie in.
- Pamph.** Yes, yes, I suppose it should be done.
- Gel.** Oh, you beacon of the commonwealth!
- Epig.** If you can lie compactly.
- Gel.** Between iron wedges, even! Just a wee wee bit of room, big enough to bed a puppy in—that's room enough for me.
- Epig.** I'll talk 'em into it somehow. Come along. (*leads Gelasimus down the street*)
- Gel.** (*as they pass Epignomus' door*) In here?
- Epig.** Oh no, to gaol. (*leaving him*) For you really won't increase your personal comfort in here. (*to Pamphilippus*) Come, let's go.
- Pamph.** (*entering his own house*) I'll just pay homage to the gods; then I'll come across at once and join you.
- [EXIT.
- Gel.** (*pleadingly*) What now?
- Epig.** Good Lord, I told you—go on to gaol.
- Gel.** (*humbly*) Well, if you say the word, I'll go there, too.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Epig.* Di immortales, hic quidem pol summam in crucem  
cena aut prandio perduci potest.

*Gel.* Ita ingenium meumst:  
quicumvis depugno multo facilius quam cum fame.

*Epig.* Dum parasitus mi atque fratri fuisti, rem con-  
fregimus.

*Gel.* Non nego ista apud te.

*Epig.* Satis spectatast mihi iam tua felicitas;  
nunc ego nolo ex Gelasimo mihi fieri te Catagelasi-  
mum.

630

*Gel.* Iamne abiisti? Gelasime, vide quid es capturus  
consili.

egone? tune. mihine? tibine. viden ut an-  
nonast gravis?

viden, benignitates hominum ut periere et prothy-  
miae?

viden ridiculos nihili fieri, atque ipsos parasitarier?  
numquam edepol me vivom quisquam in crastinum  
inspiciet diem;

nam mihi iam intus potione iunceae onerabo gulam,  
neque ego hoc committam, ut me esse homines  
mortuom dicant fame.

640

## ACTVS V

*Stich.* More hoc fit, atque stulte mea sententia:  
si quem hominem expectant, eum solent provisere;  
qui hercle illa causa ocius nihilo venit.

## STICHUS

*Epig.* Ye immortal gods! What a man! I do believe a dinner or lunch would induce him to take the highest place at a hanging.

*Gel.* This is how I'm constituted: there's nothing I find it nearly so damned hard to fight as hunger.

*Epig.* (*heartless*) When you were our parasite, my brother and I both went bankrupt.

*Gel.* (*penitent*) I don't deny it, sir.

*Epig.* I have already tested amply the sort of luck you bring. Now I want no Jollyassimus making a Sillyassimus out of me.

[EXIT INTO HIS HOUSE.

*Gel.* Gone already? (*in wry despair*)- Gelasimus, my friend, see what counsel you should take. I? You. For myself? For yourself. See you the heavy cost of food? See you how men's philanthropies and bonhomie have perished from the earth? See you how wits are held at naught and patrons themselves turn parasitical? Never, I vow, shall anyone behold me living on the morrow. For now within I'll load my gullet with a draught of hemp, and give no rise to allegations that I died of hunger.

[EXIT, HIS HEROISM DAMPED BY THE ODOURS  
FROM *Epignomus*' KITCHEN.

## . ACT V

ENTER *Stichus* VERY SLIGHTLY UNSTEADY. HE LOOKS DOWN THE STREET, THEN MANAGES TO PUT A TABLE AND BENCH IN FRONT OF *Pamphilippus*' HOUSE.

*Stich.* (*looking down the street again*) It's all silly and . . . stupid, in my opinion, this habit folks have of being on the look-out for somebody they're waiting for. Lord! He doesn't come a bit quicker for that.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

idem ego nunc facio, qui proviso Sagarinum,  
qui nihilo citius veniet tamen hac gratia.  
iam berele ego decumbam solus, si ille huc non venit.  
cadum modo hinc a me huc cum vino transferam,  
postidea accumbam. quasi nix tabescit dies.

V. 2.

*Sang.* Salvete, Athenae, quae nutrices Graeciae,  
sperata erilis patria, te video libens. 650  
sed amica mea et conserva quid agat Stephanium  
curaest, ut valeat. nam Sticho mandaveram,  
salutem ut nuntiaret atque ei ut diceret  
me hodie venturum, ut cenam coqueret temperi.  
sed Stichus est hic quidem.

*Stich.* Fecisti, ere, facetias,  
quom hoc donavisti dono tuom servom Stichum.  
pro di immortales, quot ego voluptates fero,  
quot risiones, quot iocos, quot savia,  
saltationes, blanditias, prothymias.

*Sang.* Stiche.

*Stich.* Hem.

*Sang.* Quid fit?

*Stich.* Euge Sangarine lepidissime. 660

fero convivam Dionysum mihi que et tibi.  
namque edepol cena cocta est, locus liber datust

## STICHUS

The very thing I'm doing now, on the look-out for Sagarinus, but he won't come a bit faster on that account. (*surveying his arrangements*) By Jupiter, I'll soon be . . . planting myself at table alone, if he doesn't come. That cask of wine—I'll just bring it over here from our house, and then I'll take my place. The day's oozing away like snow.

[EXIT.]

Scene 2.

ENTER *Sagarinus* JAUNTILY.

*Sag.* Greetings, Athens, thou nurse of Greece! Longed-for land of my master, gladly do I view thee. (*eyeing Pamphilippus' house amorously*) But Stephanium's on my mind, what my sweetheart and slave-mate's doing, how she's feeling. Why, I commissioned Stichus to greet her for me and tell her I was arriving to-day, so that she would have dinner cooked in season. (*as Epignomus' door opens*) Ah, but here is Stichus, I see.

ENTER *Stichus* CARRYING A CASK AND JUG.

*Stich.* (*to himself*) You did a . . . jolly neat job, master, presenting your servant Stichus with this present. Ye immortal gods! The joys I bring, the . . . laughing, the jokes, the loving kisses, and dancing and bliss and bonhomie! (*drinks*)

*Sag.* (*calling*) Stichus!

*Stich.* (*startled*) Ha!

*Sag.* How goes it?

*Stich.* (*seeing him*) Grand, Sagarinus, you . . . nicest man alive! I'm bringing you and me a guest . . . Bacchus. Yes, damme, and dinner's all cooked, and you and I've been given the run of your



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

mihi et tibi apud vos—nam apud nos est con-  
vivium,

ibi voster cenat cum uxore adeo et Antipho,  
ibidem erus est noster—hoc mihi dono datumst.

*Sang.* Quis somniavit aurum?

*Stich.* Quid id ad te attinet?

proin tu lavare propera.

*Sang.* Lautus sum.

*Stich.* Optime.<sup>1</sup>

volo eluamus hodie, peregrina omnia  
relinque, Athenas nunc colamus. sequere me.

*Sang.* Sequor, et domum redeunti principium placet.

bona scaeva strenaque obviam accessit mihi.

670

V. 3.

*Steph.* Mirum videri nemini vestrum volo, spectatores,  
quid ego hinc, quae illic habito, exeam: faciam vos  
certiores.

domo dudum huc accessita sum, nam quoniam  
nuntiatum est

istarum venturos viros, ibi festinamus omnes;  
lectis sternendis studuimus munditiisque apparan-  
dis.

inter illud tamen negotium meis curavi amicis,  
Sticho et conservo Sagarino meo, cena cocta ut  
esset.

680

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 668:  
*sequere ergo hac me intro.*

*Sang.*  
*Stich.*

*Ego vero sequor.*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

Stichus obsonatust, ceterum ego operam do : is adlegavit.

nunc ibo hinc et amicos meos curabo hic advenientes.

V. 4.

*Sang.* Agite ite foras : ferte pompam. cado te praeficio,  
Stiche.

omnibus modis temptare certumst nostrum hodie convivium.

ita me di ament, lepide accipimur quom hoc recipimur in loco.

quisquis praetereat, commissatum volo vocari.

*Stich.*

Convenit,

dum quidem berele quisque veniat, veniat cum vino suo.

nam hinc quidem hodie polluctura praeter nos dabitur nemini.<sup>1</sup>

nosmet inter nos ministremus monotropi.

*Sang.*

Hoc conviviumst

pro opibus nostris satis commodule nucibus, fabulis, ficulis,

olea in tryblio,<sup>2</sup> lupillo, comminuto crustulo.

*Stich.*

Sat est : servo homini modeste melius facere sumptum quam ampliter.

suom quemque decet : quibus divitiae domi sunt, scaphiis cantharis

batiocis bibunt, at nos nostro Samiolo poterio : .

tamen bibimus nos, tamen efficimus pro opibus nostra moenia.

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo) : *datur nemini* Lindsay.

<sup>2</sup> *olea in tryblio* Turnebus : *oleae interiplio* corrupt (Leo).

## STICHUS

marketing, and I'm managing the rest: he assigned jobs. Now I'll leave here and go attend to my darling home-comers.

[EXIT INTO *Pamphilippus*' HOUSE.]

Scene 4. ENTER *Sangarinus* AND *Stichus*, LADEN WITH EDIBLES, *Sangarinus* ALSO NOW A BIT ELEVATED.

*Sang.* (as if to a staff of servants) Come on, lads, out with you! Bring along the . . . supply train. *Stichus*, I appoint you Director of the Cask. I've made up my mind to put this banquet of ours to-day through all sorts of paces. (setting the table most punctiliously) Lord love me, but ain't we being treated nicely, being entertained here! I want everyone that goes by called over to help us . . . celebrate.

*Stich.* I agree, yes sir, I . . . agree, so long as all comers come with their own wine. For I'm telling you, not a soul besides us gets a . . . delicatoothful of this (tapping the cask) to-day. Now let's just serve ourselves *tout seuls*. (begins by serving another drink)

*Sang.* (appraising the viands happily) Smart enough little banquet, I call it, considering our . . . means. Nuts, little beans, little figlets, olives *dans écuelle*, lillupines, pieces of . . . pastry!

*Stich.* (virtuously) Enough is right. A slave had better be a careful spender, not . . . overdo it. Each according to his purse. (fondling the cask) People with piles of money can drink out of . . . embossed beakers and tankards and fancygoblets, while we drink out of our . . . Lilsamian jug. But we drink just the same, we perform our . . . functions, just the same, as our means allow. (they perform their functions again)



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Sang.* Age dice uter utrubi accumbamus.

*Stich.* Abi tu sane uerior.  
atque adeo, ut tu scire possis, pacto ego hoc tecum  
divido:

vide, utram tibi libet etiam nunc capere, cape  
provinciam.

*Sang.* Quid istuc est provinciae?

*Stich.* Vtrum Fontine an Libero  
imperium te inhibere mavis?

*Sang.* Nimio liquido Libero. 700

sed amica mea et tua dum cenat dumque se exornat,  
nos volo  
tamen ludere inter nos. strategum te facio huic  
convivio.

*Stich.* Nimium lepide in mentem venit: potius quam in  
subsello  
cynice hic accipimur quam in lectis.

*Sang.* Immo enim nimio hic dulcius.  
sed interim, stratege noster, cur hic cessat can-  
tharus?  
vide, quot cyathos bibimus.

*Stich.* Tot quot digiti tibi sunt in manu.  
canticum Graecum: ἢ πέντ' ἢ τρία πῖν' ἢ μὴ τέτταρα.

*Sang.* Tibi propino. decumam a fonte tibi tute inde, si  
sapis.

## STICHUS

ang.  
Stich.

Get at it! You say who's to lie where.

Go along, of course you take the top. And more than that, so you'll know, this is how I'll share with you. (*points to the table*) Look! You just take whichever . . . province you like to take now.

ang.  
Stich.

What d'ye mean . . . province?

(*with a wave toward the water and wine at opposite ends of the table*) Which do you prefer to exercise . . . authority over, Fons or Bacchus?

ang.

(*planting himself at the wine end*) Bacchus—clear choice! (*they fall upon the food heroically*) But while our . . . sweetie, yours and mine, is dining and dressing up, let you and me have some fun together, just the same. I elect you . . . Commandant of this banquet.

Stich.

(*stretching*) Something awfully clever just occurred to me: our treatment here is (*snickering*) . . . Cynic-doggish—we're . . . benched, not couched.

ang.

(*contentedly*) No, no! This is lots pleasanter. But meanwhile, *mon* . . . Commandant, why's this tankard so slow? (*prepares to remedy the matter*) Say how many cups we have to a drink.

Stich.

As many as the fingers on your hand. You know that . . . foreign ditty:

*Bois-en cinq ou . . . trois,  
Jamais quat' n'en bois.*

ang.

(*pouring and drinking*) Here's to your health! (*pouring again and passing it to Stichus*) Fill in a tenth from . . . old Fons there for yourself, if you know what's what. (*Stichus drinks to him; Sangarinus pours himself another; chants*)



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

bene vos, bene nos, bene te, bene me, bene nostram  
etiam Stephanium.<sup>1</sup>

*Stich.* Lepide hoc actum est. tibi propino cantharum.  
vinum tu habes. 710

*Sang.* Nimis vellem aliquid pulpamenti.

*Stich.* Si horum, quae adsunt, paenitet,  
nihil est. tene aquam.

*Sang.* Melius dicis; nil moror cuppedia.  
bibe, tibicen. age si quid agis, bibendum berele  
hoc est, ne nega.

quid hic fastidis quod faciundum vides esse tibi?  
quin bibis? <sup>2</sup>

accipe inquam. non hoc tuo fit sumptu: inpendet  
publicum.

haud tuom istuc est te vereri. eripe ex ore tibias.

*Stich.* Vbi illic biberit, vel servato meum modum vel tu  
dato.<sup>3</sup>

nolo ego nos prosum hoc ebibere.<sup>4</sup> nulli rei  
erimus postea;

namque edepol quam vis desubito vel cadus verti  
potest.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 710–711:

*Stich.* *Bibe si bibis.*

*Sang.*

*Non mora erit apud me.*

*Stich.*

*Edepol convivì sat est,*

*modo nostra huc amica accedat: id abest, aliud nil abest.*

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *age si quid agis.*

<sup>3</sup> *dato Ital.:* *dabo corrupt* (Leo).

<sup>4</sup> *prosum hoc ebibere* Mueller: *prosumo bibere corrupt*  
(Leo).

## STICHUS

Luck to thee and luck to me,  
Luck to us and luck to you, (*with a wave  
toward the audience*) .

And luck to our little Stephanium, too! <sup>1</sup>

**Stich.** (*after taking his turn*) Ah, this is a . . . grand success! Here's your tankard. You have the wine. (*the banquet proceeds*)

**Sang.** (*eating with less gusto*) How I . . . do wish we had a bit of tenderloin. (*pours*)

**Stich.** (*offended*) If you aren't . . . satisfied with what's here, it's just too bad. Take some water.

**Sang.** (*accepts and drinks*) Right you are. I've got no use for . . . dainties. (*pours again and jovially conveys it to stage musician*) Piper, have a drink. (*the piper shakes his head*) Down it, if you're . . . going to down it! By the Lord, you've got to drink it, no . . . saying no. Why so squeamish about doing what you . . . see you've got to do? Why don't you drink? Take it, I tell you. You don't pay: it's the . . . government. It's not your way to be backward. Pull those pipes out of your face.

**Stich.** (*gravely observing Sangarinus' ebullience*) When he's had his drink, you . . . stick to my pace or set it yourself. I don't want us to go straight ahead drinking this all up. We won't be good for . . . anything later on. Why, good Lord, it takes no time at all for even a cask to get . . . bottom up.

<sup>1</sup> Vv. 710-711 .

**Stich.** If you're drinking, drink.

**Sang.** I won't be behindhand.

**Stich.** By Jove, this party's complete, only let our sweetie show up. That's all that's . . . lacking, nothing else is lacking.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Sang.* Quid igitur? quamquam gravatus fuisti, non nocuit  
tamen.

720

age, tibicen, quando bibisti, refer ad labeas tibias,  
suffla celeriter tibi buccas quasi proserpens bestia.  
agedum, Stiche, uter demutassit, poculo multa-  
bitur.

*Stich.* Bonum ius dicis. impetrare oportet qui aequom  
postulat.

*Sang.* Age ergo observa. si pecassis, multam hic retinebo  
ilico.

*Stich.* Optimum atque aequissimum oras. em tibi hoc  
primum omnium ::

haec facetiast, amare inter se rivalis duos,  
uno cantharo potare, unum scortum ducere.

hoc memorabilest: ego tu sum, tu es ego, unianimi  
sumus,

unam amicam amamus ambo, mecum ubi est, tecum  
est tamen;

730

tecum ubi autem est, mecum ibi autemst: neuter  
neutri invidet.

*Sang.* Ohe, iam satis, nolo obtaedescat; alium ludum  
nunc volo.

*Stich.* Vin amicam huc evocemus? ea saltabit.

*Sang.* Censeo.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Stich.* Mea suavis, amabilis, amoena Stephanium, ad  
amores tuos  
foras egredere, satis mihi pulchra es.

*Sang.* At enim pulcherrima.

*Stich.* Fac nos hilares hilariores opera atque adventu tuo.

*Sang.* Peregre advenientes te expetimus, Stephaniscidium,  
mel meum,  
si amabilitas tibi nostra placet, si tibi ambo accepti  
sumus.

V. 5.

*Steph.* Morem vobis geram, mcae deliciae. nam ita me  
Venus amoena amet,  
ut ego huc iam dudum simitu exissem vobiscum  
foras, 740  
nisi me vobis exornarem. nam ita est ingenium  
muliebre:  
bene cum lauta est, tersa ornata ficta est, infecta est  
tamen;  
nimioque sibi mulier meretrix repperit odium ocius  
sua inmunditia, quam in perpetuom ut placeat mun-  
ditia sua.

*Stich.* Nimium lepide fabulata est.

*Sang.* Veneris mera est oratio,

*Stich.* Sangarine.

*Sang.* Quid est?

*Stich.* Totus doleo.

*Sang.* Totus? tanto miserior.

## STICHUS

**Stich.** (*shouting, as they help each other toward the door*) My own dear, sweet, adorable . . . delectable Stephanium, come on out to your . . . darlings! You're beautiful enough for me.

**Sang.** (*going closer*) He means beautiful . . . beyond compare.

**Stich.** (*closer still*) Make us frisky boys still . . . friskier by coming out and taking part.

**Sang.** (*sticking his head inside*) Here we are back from . . . abroad and pining for you, Stephanettikins, my honey dear, if you like our . . . winsome little ways and we're both welcome.

Scene 5.     **ENTER Stephanium, PUTTING THE LAST TOUCHES ON HER TOILET.**

**Steph.** (*as they escort her, amorously, to the table*) I'll do anything for you, you precious things. Why, so may lovely Venus love me, I'd have come out here long ago just when you did, except for wanting to look my nicest for you. This is the way a woman is, you know—after all her bathing and polishing and bedecking and beautifying, she still feels like a failure. It's a great deal easier for a girl with lovers to lose them by being dowdy than to hold them forever by being dainty.

**Stich.** Ah, it's wonderful the way she . . . puts things.  
(*sits down still fondling her*)

**Sang.** (*doing likewise*) Her words come . . . straight from Venus—

**Stich.** (*wriggling ecstatically*) Sangarinus!

**Sang.** What is it?

**Stich.** (*ogling her*) I just ache all over.

**Sang.** All over? That's just too bad.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Steph.* Vtrubi accumbo?

*Sang.* Vtrubis tu vis?

*Steph.* Cum ambobus volo, nam ambos amo.

*Stich.* Vapulat peculium, actum est.

*Sang.* Fugit hoc libertas caput.

*Steph.* Date mihi locum, ubi accumbam, amabo, siquidem  
placco.

*Stich.* Tun mihi?

*Steph.* Cupio cum utroque.

*Stich.* Ei mihi, bene ego dispereo. quid ais?

*Sang.* Quid est? 750

*Stich.* Ita me di ament, numquam enim fiet hodie, haec  
quin saltet tamen.

age, mulsa mea suavitudo, salta: saltabo ego simul.

*Sang.* Numquam edepol med istoc vinces, quin ego  
ibidem pruriam.

*Steph.* Siquidem mihi saltandum est, tum vos date bibat  
tibicini.

*Stich.* Et quidem nobis.

*Sang.* Tene, tibicen, primum; postidea loci  
si hoc eduxeris, proinde ut consuetu's antehac,  
celeriter  
lepidam et suavem cantionem aliquam occupito  
cinaedicam,  
ubi perpruriscamus usque ex unguiculis. inde huc  
aquam.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

V. 6.

tene tu hoc, educe. dudum placuit potio:  
nunc minus gravate iam accipit. tene tu.  
interim,

760

meus oculus, da mihi savium, dum illo bibit.

*Stich.*

Prostibilest tandem? stantem stanti savium  
dare amicum amicae? euge euge, sic furi  
datur.

*Sang.*

Age, iam infla huecas, nunciam aliquid suaviter.  
redde cantionem veteri pro vino novam.

V. 7.

qui Ionicus aut cinaedicust, qui hoc tale facere  
possiet?

*Stich.*

Si istoc me vorsu viceris, alio me provocato.

*Sang.*

Fac tu hoc modo.

*Stich.*

At tu hoc modo.

*Sang.*

Babae.

*Stich.*

Tatae.

*Sang.*

Papae.

*Stich.*

Pax.

## STICHUS

### Scene 6.

Here you! (*carrying it to the piper*) Take this!  
Down with it! (*the piper reaches for it eagerly*)  
He liked his last nip. This time he doesn't . . .  
boggle so at having one. Here, take it. (*returns to*  
*Stephanium*) Now then, light of my . . . life, give  
me a nice long . . . kiss while he's drinking.  
(*tries to get it*)

*Stich.* (*intervening*) Hey, you! Think she's an . . . alley  
strumpet? The idea of a man giving his girl a  
. . . nice long kiss, and both . . . standing up!  
(*upsets them on the bench together*) Hurray! Hurray!  
Serves a thief right! (*hilarious riot ensues*)

*Sang.* (*all aquiver, to the piper*) Come on now, puff out your  
. . . cheeks, and give us something . . . luscious  
now! Let's have a new . . . tune for old wine.  
(*the piper is inspired; Sangarinus and Stephanium*  
*dance, Sangarinus finally bursting into a solo of capers*  
*and undulations, the others applauding wildly*)

### Scene 7.

Who's the Ionian . . . artiste or . . . bawdy  
dancer could do this sort of . . . thing? (*ends with*  
*an amazing specialty; Stichus leaps into action,*  
*competes well till he falls*)

*Stich.* (*getting up, feverish*) If you beat me that round,  
dare me to . . . another!

*Sang.* (*rampant*) Then do . . . this one! (*excels himself,*  
*the music still more orgiastic*)

*Stich.* (*frenzied*) Well, you . . . do this one!

*Sang.* (*as his rival clearly breaks all records*) Whoopsie!

*Stich.* Doopsie!

*Sang.* Boopsie!

*Stich.* Pouf!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Sang.* Nunc pariter ambo. omnis voco cinaedos contra. ✱  
satis esse nobis non magis potis quam fungo imber. **770**

*Stich.* Intro hinc abeamus nunciam: saltatum satis pro  
vinost.  
vos, spectatores, plaudite atque ite ad vos comis-  
satum.



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**TRINVMVS**  
**OR**  
**THREE BOB DAY**



## ARGVMENTVM

Thensaurum abstrusum abiens peregre Charmides,  
Remque omnem amico Callicli mandat suo.  
Istoc absente male rem perdit filius;  
Nam et aedis vendit: has mercatur Callicles.  
Virgo indotata soror istius poscitur;  
Minus quo cum invidia ei det dotem Callicles,  
Mandat qui dicat aurum ferre se a patre.  
Vt venit ad aedis, hunc deludit Charmides  
Senex, ut rediit; quoius nubunt liberi.

## PERSONAE

LUXVRIA CUM INOPIA PROLOGUS  
MEGARONIDES SENEX  
CALLICLES SENEX  
LYSITELES ADULESCENS  
PHILTO SENEX  
LESBONICVS ADULESCENS  
STASIMVS SERVUS  
CHARMIDES SENEX  
SYCOPHANTA



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# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## PROLOGVS

### LVXVRIA CUM INOPIA

*Lux.* Sequere, hac me, gnata, ut munus fungaris tuom.

*Inop.* Sequor, sed finem fore quem dicam nescio.

*Lux.* Adest. em illac sunt aedes, i intro nunciam.

nunc, ne quis erret vostrum, paucis in viam  
deducam, si quidem operam dare promittitis.

nunc igitur primum quae ego sim et quae illaec siet,  
huc quae abiit intro, dicam, si animum advortitis.

primum mihi Plautus nomen Luxuriae indidit ;  
tum hanc mihi gnatam esse voluit Inopiam.

sed ea huc quid introierit impulsu meo

accipite et date vacivas aures dum eloquor.

adulescens quidam est, qui in hisce habitat aedibus ;  
is rem paternam me adiutrice perdidit.

quoniam ei, qui me aleret, nil video esse relicui,

## THREE BOB DAY

*Scene:—Athens. A street in which are the houses of Charmides and Megaronides, Philto's house is near. Between the houses is a lane from which one may enter a little annex back of Charmides' house: since selling his father's house to Callicles, Lesbonicus has lived in this annex, Callicles in the house itself.*

### PROLOGUE

ENTER *Luxury*, RICHLY DRESSED. BEHIND HER  
COMES *Want*, IN RAGS.

*Luxury* Follow me, this way, daughter mine, to perform your functions.

*Want* Follow I do, ignorant though I am of our destination.

*Luxury* (*halts, points to the residence of Lesbonicus*) It is reached. Look! That is the house. In with you, straightway.

[EXIT *Want*.

(*to the audience*) Now, that none of you may go astray, I shall put you on the right road with a few directions—(*waits for their noise to subside*) provided you agree to listen. Now then, who I am, and who she is, that went within here, this I shall first inform you (*waits again*) if you will accord me your attention. First, myself; Plautus has named me *Luxury*; as for her, 'twas his wish that she be my daughter, *Want*. But why she entered here at my insistence, this you must learn. so give vacant ear to what I tell you.

A certain youth there is who dwells in this abode. He, with me to help him, has squandered his father's substance. Seeing that naught is left him with



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

dedi ei meam gnatam, quicum aetatem exigat.  
sed de argumento ne exspectetis fabulae:  
senes qui huc venient, ei rem vobis aperient.  
huic Gracce nomen est Thensauro fabulae:  
Philemo scripsit, Plautus vertit barbare,  
nomen Trinummo fecit, nunc hoc vos rogat  
ut liceat possidere hanc nomen fabulam.  
tantum est. valete, adeste cum silentio.

20

### ACTVS I

*Meg.* Amicum castigare ob meritam noxiam  
immoene est facinus, verum in aetate utile  
et conducibile. nam ego amicum hodie meum  
concastigabo pro commerita noxia,  
invitus, ni id me invitet ut faciam fides.  
nam hic nimium morbus mores invasit bonos;  
ita plerique omnes iam sunt intermortui.  
sed dum illi aegrotant, interim mores mali  
quasi herba inrigua succrevere uberrime:  
eorum licet iam metere messem maxumam,  
neque quicquam hic nunc est vile nisi mores mali.  
nimioque hic pluris pauciorum gratiam  
faciunt pars hominum quam id quod prosint pluribus.  
ita vincunt illud conducibile gratiae,  
quae in rebus multis opstant odiosaeque sunt  
remoramque faciunt rei privatae et publicae.

30



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

I. 2.

*Call.* Larem corona nostrum decorari volo.  
uxor, venerare ut nobis haec habitatio  
bona fausta felix fortunataque evenat—  
teque ut quam primum possim videam emortuam.

40

*Meg.* Hic ille est, senecta aetate qui factus puer,  
qui admisit in se culpam castigabilem.  
adgrediar hominem.

*Call.* Quonia hic vox prope me sonat?

*Meg.* Tui benevolentis, si ita es ut ego te volo,  
sin aliter es, inimici atque irati tibi.

*Call.* O amice, salve, atque aequalis. ut vales,  
Megaronides?

*Meg.* Et tu edepol salve, Callicles.

*Call.* Valen? valuistin?

*Meg.* Valco, et valui rectius.

50

*Call.* Quid tua agit uxor? ut valet?

*Meg.* Plus quam ego volo.

*Call.* Bene hercle est illam tibi valere et vivere.

*Meg.* Credo hercle te gaudere, si quid mihi mali est.

*Call.* Omnibus amicis quod mihi est cupio esse idem.

*Meg.* Eho tu, tua uxor quid agit?

*Call.* Immortalis est,  
vivit victuraque est.

*Meg.* Bene berele nuntias,  
deosque oro ut vitae tuae superstes suppetat.

## THREE BOB DAY

Scene 2.                    ENTER *Callicles* INTO HIS DOORWAY.

*Call.*     (*to his wife within*) Our Household God must be honoured with a chaplet. Beseech him to bless this dwelling and make it propitious, pleasant and prosperous for us, my dear—(*aside, as he closes the door*) also to speed the day when I see you dead and buried.

*Meg.*     (*observing him*) Ah, there's the man that's turned juvenile in his old age and been such a castigatable young scamp. (*approaching*) I'll at him.

*Call.*     (*not seeing him at first*) Whose voice is that I hear near by?

*Meg.*     A well-wisher's, if you're the sort I wish you to be; but if you're otherwise, an enemy's, and an angry one.

*Call.*     (*genially, thinking he jokes*) Oho! Good morning, my dear old compeer! How are you feeling, Megaronides?

*Meg.*     (*stiffly*) And good morning to you, Callicles, Lord, yes!

*Call.*     (*noticing his manner*) Feeling well? Been well, have you?

*Meg.*     I feel well, and have been well enough.

*Call.*     How's your wife? Is she well?

*Meg.*     (*dryly*) Better than I like.

*Call.*     (*smiling*) By Jove, it's grand for you, having her alive and feeling fit.

*Meg.*     (*forgetting his ire*) And by Jove, I do believe you take pleasure in my misfortunes.

*Call.*     I long for all my friends to have what I have.

*Meg.*     Ha, you rascal! And how's your own wife?

*Call.*     Immortal. Alive, and always will be.

*Meg.*     By Jove, that is grand news! I pray Heaven for her success in being your survivor.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Call.* Dum quidem hercle tecum nupta sit, sane velim.

*Meg.* Vin commutemus, tuam ego ducam et tu meam?  
faxo haud tantillum dederis verborum mihi. 60

*Call.* Namque enim tu, credo, me imprudentem obrepseris.

*Meg.* Ne tu berele faxo haud nescias quam rem egeris.

*Call.* Habeas ut nanctu's: nota mala res optumast.  
nam ego nunc si ignotam capiam, quid agam  
nesciam.

*Meg.* Edepol proinde ut diu vivitur, bene vivitur.  
sed hoc animum advorte atque aufer ridicularia;  
nam ego dedita opera huc ad te advenio.

*Call.* Quid venis?

*Meg.* Malis te ut verbis multis multum obiurigem.

*Call.* Men?

*Meg.* Numquis est hic alius praeter me atque te?

*Call.* Nemost.

*Meg.* 70  
Quid tu igitur rogitas, tene obiurigem?

nisi tu me mihimet censes dicturum male.

nam si in te aegrotant artes antiquae tuae,<sup>1</sup>  
omnibus amicis morbum tu incuties gravem,  
ut te videre audireque aegroti sient.

*Call.* Qui in mentem venit tibi istaec dicta dicere?

*Meg.* Quia omnis bonos bonasque adcurare addecet,  
suspicionem et culpam ut ab se segregent.

*Call.* Non potest utrumque fieri.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 72<sup>a</sup>-74:  
*sin immutare vis ingenium moribus  
aut si demutant mores ingenium tuom  
neque eos antiquos servas, ast captas novos.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Vv. 72<sup>a</sup>-74: But if you wish to conform your character to modern ways, or if modern ways transform that character of yours, and it's off with the old and on with the new.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Meg.*  
*Call.*

Quapropter?

Rogas? 80

ne admittam culpam, ego meo sum promus pectori:  
suspicio est in pectore alieno sita.

nam nunc ego si te surrupuisse suspicer  
Iovi coronam de capite ex Capitolio,  
qui in columine astat summo: si id non feceris  
atque id tamen mihi lubeat suspicari,  
qui tu id prohibere me potes ne suspicer?  
sed istuc negoti cupio scire quid siet.

*Meg.*

Haben tu amicum aut familiarem quempiam,  
quoi pectus sapiat?

*Call.*

Edepol haud dicam dolo: 90

sunt quos scio esse amicos, sunt quos suspicor,  
sunt quorum ingenia atque animos nequeo noscere,  
ad amici partem an ad inimici perveniant;  
sed tu ex amicis mi es certis certissimus.

si quid scis me fecisse inscite aut improbe,  
<sup>1</sup> si id me non accusas, tute ipse obiurgandus es.

*Meg.*

Scio;

et, si alia huc causa ad te adveni, aequom postulas.

*Call.*

Expecto si quid dicas.

*Meg.*

Primumdum omnium,

male dictitatur tibi volgo in sermonibus:

turpilucricupidum te vocant cives tui;

tum autem sunt alii, qui te volturium vocant:

hostisne an civis comedis, parvi pendere.

haec cum audio in te dici, discrucior miser.

*Cal.*

Est atque non est mi in manu, Megaronides:

quin dicant, non est; merito ut ne dicant, id est.

*Meg.*

Fuitne hic tibi amicus Charmides?

100

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *si id non me accusas, tute obiurgandu's*  
Reiz, Bothe.



## THREE BOB DAY

How is that?

You ask? I keep the key to my own thoughts and can close them to guilt: suspicion is stored in the thoughts of others. Why, I may suspect you this minute of having stolen the crown from the head of Jove's Capitoline statue that stands on top of the temple: you might be innocent, yet if I still chose to suspect you of it, how can you stop my suspicions? But I'm eager to hear what's troubling you.

Have you a friend, or someone you know well, a man possessed of common sense?

Gad, to be quite candid—there are some I know to be friends, some I suspect of it, and some whose natures and feelings I can't see into well enough to say whether they're more inclined to be friends or foes. But of all my sure friends the very surest is yourself. So if you're aware of my having acted unwisely or unworthily, and don't bring me to book, you're the man that ought to get the rating.

I know it; and if I've come to you for any other reason, you have cause for complaint.

I'm awaiting what you have to say.

Well, in the first place, ugly things are being said about you, it's the common talk: your own fellow citizens are calling you Old Boodlegrabitinski. Yes, and others are calling you The Cormorant: foreigners or fellow citizens, you don't give a damn, but gobble 'em all. When I hear such things said of you it hurts, hurts like the devil.

This is a matter I can, and can't, control, Megaronides: what they say I can't; the justice of what they say, I can.

Charmides here (*pointing to his house*) was a friend of yours?



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Call.*

Est et fuit.

id ita esse ut credas, rem tibi auctorem dabo.  
nam postquam hic eius rem confregit filius  
videtque ipse ad paupertatem protractum esse se  
suamque filiam esse adultam virginem,  
simul eius matrem suamque uxorem mortuam,  
quoniam hinc iturust ipse in Seleuciam,  
mihi commendavit virginem gnatam suam  
et rem suam omnem et illum corruptum filium.  
haec, si mihi inimicus esset, credo haud crederet.

110

*Meg*

Quid tu, adolescentem, quem esse corruptum  
vides,

qui tuae mandatus est fide et fiduciae,  
quin eum restituis, quin ad frugem conrigis?  
ei rei operam dare te fuerat aliquanto aequius,  
si qui probiorem facere posses, non uti  
in candem tute accederes infamiam  
malumque ut eius cum tuo misceres malo.

120

*Call.*

Quid feci?

*Meg.*

Quod homo nequam.

*Call.*

Non istuc meumst.

*Meg.*

Emistin de adolescente has aedes—quid taces?  
ubi nunc tute habitas?

*Call.*

Emi atque argentum dedi,  
minas quadraginta, adolescenti ipsi in manum.

*Meg.*

Dedistin argentum?

*Call.*

Factum, neque facti piget.

*Meg.*

Edepol fide adolescentem mandatum malae.  
dedistine hoc facto ei gladium, qui se occideret?  
quid secus est aut quid interest dare te in manus  
argentum amanti homini adolescenti, animi impoti,  
qui exaedificaret suam incohatam ignaviam?

130

*Call.*

Non ego illi argentum redderem?



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Meg.* Non redderes,  
neque de illo quicquam neque emeris neque ven-  
deres,

nec qui deterior esset faceres copiam.  
inconciliastin eum qui mandatust tibi,  
ille qui mandavit, eum exturbasti ex aedibus?  
edepol mandatum pulchre et curatum probe;  
crede huic tutelam: suam melius rem gesserit.

*Call.* Subigis maledictis me tuis, Megaronides, 140  
novo modo adeo, ut quod meae concreditumst  
taciturnitati clam, fide et fiduciae,  
ne enuntiarem quoiquam neu facerem palam,  
ut mihi necesse sit iam id tibi concedere.

*Meg.* Mihi quod credideris sumes ubi posiveris.

*Call.* Circumspicedum te, ne quis adsit arbiter  
nobis, et quaeso identidem circumspice.

*Meg.* Ausculto si quid dicas.

*Call.* Si taceas, loquar.

quoniam hinc est profecturus peregre Charmides,  
thensaurum demonstravit mihi in bisce aedibus, 150  
hic in conclavi quodam—sed circumspice.

*Meg.* Nemost.

*Call.* Nummorum Philippeum ad tria milia.  
id solus solum per amicitiam et per fidem  
flens me obsecravit suo ne gnato crederem  
neu quoiquam unde ad eum id posset permanascere.  
nunc si ille huc salvos revenit, reddam suom sibi;  
si quid eo fuerit, certe illius filiae,  
quae mihi mandatast, habeo dotem unde dem,



## THREE BOB DAY

**Meg.** You should not; you should have bought nothing of him, sold nothing to him, supplied him with nothing to make him worse. You victimized a youth that was put in your keeping, and the man that put him there you bundled out of his own home. Didn't you? By the Lord! Pretty keeping he was put in! Wonderful care! Here's a guardian to trust—to feather his own nest!

**Call.** (*after a moment's meditation*) Megaronides, this onslaught of yours is so overpowering and unexpected that something entrusted to my discretion, to my good faith and fidelity, a secret I was to reveal to no one or allow to get out, I am now forced to entrust to you.

**Meg.** (*earnestly*) Anything you do trust to me you'll find intact where you left it.

**Call.** (*in a low tone*) Look about, then, and make sure no one's overhearing us, and please look again from time to time.

**Meg.** (*follows instructions ; eagerly, coming closer*) All right, all right, what is it?

**Call.** Quiet, and I'll tell you. (*comes still closer*) When Charmides was about to go abroad he showed me a (*glancing round again*) treasure hidden in this house, in a certain room here—but look about!

**Meg.** (*obeying*) There's no one.

**Call.** Some three thousand pounds in gold, it was. And there alone together, he wept as he implored me in the name of friendship and loyalty not to trust this secret to his son or to anyone from whom it might leak out to him. So now if he comes back here safe, I will give him back his money. If anything happens to him, I at least have the means of giving a dowry to his daughter who was put in



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ut eam in se dignam condicionem conlocem.

*Meg.* Pro di immortales, verbis paucis quam cito  
160  
alium fecisti me, alius ad te veneram.

sed ut occepisti, perge porro proloqui.

*Call.* Quid tibi ego dicam. qui illius sapientiam  
et meam fidelitatem et celata omnia  
paene ille ignavos funditus pessum dedit?

*Meg.* Quidum?

*Call.* Quia, ruri dum sum ego unos sex dies.  
me absente atque insciente, inconsultu meo,  
aedis venalis basce inscripsit litteris.

*Meg.* Adesurivit magis et inhiavit acrius  
lupus, observavit dum dormitarent canes:  
gregem universum voluit totum avortere.

*Call.* Fecisset edepol, ni haec praesensisset canes. 170

sed nunc rogare ego vicissim te volo:

quid fuit officium meum me facere? face sciam;  
utrum indicare me ei thensaurum aequom fuit,

adversum quam eius me opsecravisset pater,  
an ego alium dominum paterer fieri bisce aedibus?  
qui emisset, eius essetne ea pecunia?

emi egomet potius aedis, argentum dedi

thensauri causa, ut salvom amico traderem. 180

neque adeo basce emi mihi nec usurae mcae:

illi redemi rusum, a me argentum dedi.

haec sunt: si recte seu pervorse facta sunt,  
ego me fecisse confiteor, Megaronides.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

em mea malefacta, em meam avaritiam tibi;  
bascine propter res maledicas famas ferunt.

*Meg.* Παύσαι, vicisti castigatorem tuom:

occlusti linguam, nihil est quod respondeam.

*Call.* Nunc ego te quaeso ut me opera et consilio iuves  
communicesque hanc mecum meam provinciam.

*Meg.* Polliceor operam.

*Call.* Ergo ubi eris paulo post?

*Meg.* Domi.

*Call.* Numquid vis?

*Meg.* Cures tuam fidem.

*Call.* Fiet sedulo.

*Meg.* Sed quid ais?

*Call.* Quid vis?

*Meg.* Vbi nunc adulescens habet?

*Call.* Posticulum hoc recepit, quom aedis vendidit.

*Meg.* Istuc volebam scire. i sane nunciam.

sed quid ais? quid nunc virgo? nempe apud te  
est?

*Call.* Itast,  
iuxtaque eam curo cum mea.

*Meg.* Recte facis.

*Call.* Numquid, prius quam abeo, me rogaturu's?

*Meg.* Vale.

nihil est profecto stultius neque stolidius  
neque mendaciloquius neque argutum magis,  
neque confidentiloquius neque peiurius,  
quam urbani assidui cives, quos scurras vocant.  
atque egomet me adeo cum illis una ibidem trabo,  
qui illorum verbis falsis acceptor fui,



### THREE BOB DAY

There are my foul deeds, there is my rapacity!  
This is the basis of the scurrilous tales they spread!  
(*seizing his hand*) *Arrête!* Your castigator's beaten!  
You've stopped my tongue, I have no words to  
answer with!

Now I must ask for your aid and advice, and help  
in running this province of mine.

(*fervently*) My help's yours, I promise you.

Then where will you be a little later?

At home.

(*about to go*) There's nothing else?

(*with an apologetic smile*) Yes, take care you're  
trustworthy.

(*lightly*) I'll do my best. (*going*)

(*calling, still flurried by it all*) But I say!

What is it?

Where's the young fellow living now?

He reserved this annex (*pointing*) when he sold the  
house.

That's what I wanted to know. All right, go along  
now at once. (*calling again*) But I say! How  
about the girl now? With you, I suppose?

Yes indeed, she's receiving the same care as my  
own daughter.

Quite right.

(*quizzically*) Any other questions before I leave?

[EXIT.]

Good bye! (*thinks things over, then disgustedly*)  
There's certainly nothing more silly and stupid,  
more subdolous and voluble, more brassymouthed  
and perjured than these city busybodies called  
men about town. Yes, and I put myself in the  
very same category with 'em, swallowing as I did  
the falsehoods of fellows that affect to know every-



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

qui omnia se simulant scire neque quicquam sciunt.  
quod quisque in animo habet aut habiturust sciunt,  
sciunt id quod in aurem rex reginae dixerit,  
sciunt quod Iuno fabulatast cum Iove;  
quae neque futura neque sunt, tamen illi sciunt.  
falsos an vero laudent, culpent quem velint, 210  
non flocci faciunt, dum illud quod lubeat sciant.  
omnes mortales hunc aiebant Calliclem  
indignum civitate hac esse et vivere,  
bonis qui hunc adulescentem evortisset suis.  
ego de eorum verbis famigeratorum insciens  
prosilui amicum castigatum innoxium.  
quod si exquiratur usque ab stirpe auctoritas,  
unde quidquid auditum dicant, nisi id appareat,  
famigeratori res sit cum damno et malo,  
hoc ita si fiat, publico fiat bono, 220  
pauci sint faxim qui sciant quod nesciunt,  
occlusioremque habeant stultiloquentiam.

### ACTVS II

*Lys.* Multas res simitu in meo corde vorso,  
multum in cogitando dolorem indipiscor:  
egomet me coquo et macero et defetigo,  
magister mihi exercitor animus nunc est.  
sed hoc non liquet neque satis cogitatumst,  
118



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

utram potius harum mihi artem expetessam,  
utram aetati agundae arbitrer firmiorem:  
amoremne an rei opsequi potius par sit, 230  
utra in parte plus sit voluptatis vitae

ad aetatem agendam.

de hac re mihi satis haec liquet; nisi hoc sic faciam,  
opinor,

ut utramque rem simul exputem, iudex sim reusque  
ad eam rem.

ita faciam, ita placet; omnium primum  
Amoris artis eloquar quem ad modum expediant.

numquam Amor quemquam nisi cupidum  
hominem

postulat se in plagas conicere:

eos cupit, eos consectatur;

subdole<sup>1</sup> ab re consulit,

blandiloquentulus, harpago, mendax,  
cuppes, avarus, elegans, despoliator,

latebricolarum hominum corruptor,<sup>2</sup> 240<sup>a</sup>

inops celatum indagator.

nam qui amat quod amat quom extemplo  
saviis sagittatis percussus,

ilico res foras labitur, liquitur.

“da mihi hoc, mel meum, si me amas, si  
audes.”

ibi ille cuculus: “ocelle mi, fiat:

et istuc et si amplius vis dari, dabitur.”

ibi illa pendentem ferit: iam amplius orat;

non satis id est mali, ni amplius etiam,

quod ebibit, quod comest, quod facit sumpti.

nox datur: ducitur familia tota, 250

vestiplica, unctor, auri custos, flabelliferae, sandali-  
gerulae,

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *blanditur*.



## THREE BOB DAY

rather follow, which I'm to believe gives you firmer footing as you pass your days? Should I go in for love affairs or attend to business? Which should I find the better basis for enjoying existence through the years?

(*pacing back and forth*) No, the answer's not quite clear to me. (*halting*) The only thing to do, it seems, is examine 'em both together and serve as judge and advocate in the case. That's what I'll do, that's a good idea. I'll begin by exposing the arts of Love and their procedure.

(*as to a jury*) Love never hopes to have anyone come dashing into his nets except men of loose desires: it is those that he himself desires, those he dogs. He gives them sly, disastrous counsel, he is wheedle-tongued and predacious, lying, deliciating, grasping, luxurious; he is a despoiler, a corrupter of men into bawdyhousehaunters, and when out of funds he sniffs out secrets. The moment your lover is pierced by those barbed and blissful kisses of the one he loves, his property begins to slip and drip away. (*in tender tones*) "Do give me this, honey dear, if you love me, please do." "Of course, my precious pet," says our booby then, "you shall have it, and have more too, if you like." Then she gets him all strung up for flogging and lays it on: now she asks for more; and that's too little damage, without more still to drink, to eat, to spend. She grants him a night: moves in on him with her whole household—her wardrobe woman, masseur, cashier, her fan-bearettes and slipperbearelles, her songstresses and

---

<sup>3</sup> Leo brackets following *blandus*.



## TITUS MACCIUS· PLAUTUS

cantrices, cistellatrices, nuntii, renuntii,  
raptores panis et peni;  
fit ipse, dum illis comis est, inops amator.  
haec ego quom ago cum meo animo et recolo,  
ubi qui eget, quam preti sit parvi:  
apage te, Amor, non places nil te utor;  
quamquam illud est dulce, esse et bibere,  
Amor amara dat tamen, satis quod aegre sit:

fugit forum, fugitat suos cognatos,

260

fugat ipse se ab suo contutu,

neque eum sibi amicum volunt dici.

mille modis, Amor, ignorandu's,

procul abhibendu's atque abstandu's,

nam qui in amorem praecipitavit,

peius perit quasi saxo saliat:

apage te, Amor, tuas res tibi habeto,

Amor, mihi amicus ne fuas umquam;

sunt tamen quos miseros maleque habeas.

quos tibi obnoxios fecisti.

270

certumst ad frugem adplicare animum,

quamquam ibi labos grandis capitur.

boni sibi haec expetunt, rem, fidem, honorem,

gloriam et gratiam: hoc probis pretiumst.

eo mihi magis lubet cum probis potius

quam cum improbis vivere vanidicis.

II. 2.

*Phil.*

Quo illic homo foras se penetravit ex  
aedibus?

*Lys.*

Pater, adsum, impera quidvis,  
neque tibi ero in mora neque latebrose  
me abs tuo conspectu occultabo.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phil.*

Feceris par tuis ceteris factis,  
patrem tuom si percoles per pietatem.

280

nolo ego cum improbis te viris, gnate mi,  
neque in via, neque in foro necullum sermonem  
exsequi.

novi ego hoc saeculum moribus quibus siet:  
malus bonum malum esse volt, ut sit sui similis;  
turbant, miscent mores mali: rapax avarus invidus  
sacrum profanum, publicum privatum habent, hiulca  
gens.

haec ego doleo, haec sunt quae me excruciant,  
haec dies

noctesque tibi canto ut caveas.

quod manu non queunt tangere tantum fas habent  
quo manus abstineant,

290

cetera: rape trahe, fuge late—lacrumas

haec mihi quom video eliciunt,

quia ego ad hoc genus hominum duravi.

quin prius me ad plures penetravi?

nam hi mores maiorum laudant, eosdem lutitant quos  
conlaudant.

bisce ego de artibus gratiam facio, ne colas neve  
imbuas ingenium.

meo modo et moribus vivito antiquis,

quae ego tibi praecipio, ea faeito.

nihil ego istos moror faeceos mores, turbidos,  
quibus boni dedecorant se.

haec tibi si mea imperia capesses, multa bona in  
pectore consident.

300

*Lys.*

Semper ego usque ad hanc aetatem ab ineunte  
adulescentia

tuis servivi servitutum imperiis<sup>1</sup> praeceptis, pater.

pro ingenio ego me liberum esse ratus sum, pro  
imperio tuo



## THREE BOB DAY

*Phil.* (*starchy and self-righteous*) You will be living up to your life of the past, if you have respect and filial affection for your father. My boy, I wish you to hold no converse with reprobates, in the streets or in the forum, none whatever. I know this age and what its moral standards are: a bad man wants a good man to be bad, and so be like himself. These bad men muddle our standards, mix them up; that wide-maw tribe, the grasping, the mean, the envious, regard things sacred as profane, public as private. It gripes me, it torments me, it is what I harp on day and night that you are to guard against. The only thing they think it wrong to lay their hands on is something that is out of reach. As for the rest—nab it and bag it, clear out and lie low! Ugh! When I see all this it brings tears to my eyes that I have lasted till such a race was born. Why not have hied me hence before to join the great majority? Why, these men praise the standards of our sires, and then be-sully what they so bepraise. My boy, I can dispense with your adopting such practices and letting them contaminate your character. Live as I live, by the good old standards, and carry out the precepts that you get from me. I cannot stand those filthy, chaotic standards that disgrace good citizens. Take these injunctions of mine to heart, and many a blessing will you have within you.

*Lys.* (*very patient and dutiful*) Father, all along from early youth to my present age I have subjected myself to your injunctions and your precepts. I felt that, though I was free by birth, the filial bond made it

---

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *et.*



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

meum animum tibi servitatem servire aequom  
censui.

*Phil.* Qui homo cum animo inde ab ineunte aetate  
depugnat suo,  
utrum itane esse mavelit ut eum animus aequom  
censeat,

an ita potius ut parentes eum esse et cognati  
velint:

si animus hominem pepulit, actumst: animo servit  
non sibi;

si ipse animum pepulit, dum vivit victor victorum  
cluet.

tu si animum vicisti potius quam animus te, est  
quod gaudeas.

nimio satiust, ut opust te ita esse, quam ut animo  
lubet:

qui animum vincunt, quam quos animus, semper  
probiores cluent.

*Lys.* Istace ego mi semper babui aetati integumentum  
meae;

ne penetrarem me usquam ubi esset damni con-  
ciliabulum

neu noctu irem obambulatum neu suom adimerem  
alteri

neu tibi aegritudinem, pater, parerem, parsi sedulo:  
sarta tecta tua praecepta usque habui mea modestia.

*Phil.* Quid exprobras? bene quod fecisti tibi fecisti, non  
mihi;

mihi quidem aetas actast ferme: tua istuc refert  
maxime.

is probus est quem paenitet quam probus sit et frugi  
bonae;

quis ipse sibi satis placet, nec probus est nec frugi  
bonae:<sup>1</sup>

310

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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

bene facta bene factis aliis pertegito, ne perplu-  
ant.

*Lys.* Ob eam rem haec, pater, autumavi, quia res quae-  
damst quam volo  
ego me abs te exorare.

*Phil.* Quid id est? dare iam veniam gestio.

*Lys.* Adulescenti hinc genere summo, amico atque  
aequali meo,  
minus qui caute et cogitate suam rem tractavit,  
pater,  
bene volo ego illi facere, si ut non nevis.

*Phil.* Nempe de tuo?

*Lys.* De meo: nam quod tuomst meumst, omne meumst  
autem tuom.

*Phil.* Quid is? egetne?

*Lys.* Eget.

*Phil.* Habuitne rem?

*Lys.* Habuit.

*Phil.* Qui eam perdidit? 330

publicisne adfinis fuit an maritumis negotiis?  
mercaturan, an venales habuit ubi rem perdidit?

*Lys.* Nihil istorum.

*Phil.* Quid igitur?

*Lys.* Per comitatem edepol, pater;  
praeterea aliquantum animi causa in deliciis disper-  
didit.

*Phil.* Edepol hominem praemandatum ferme familiariter,  
qui quidem nusquam per virtutem rem confregit,  
atque eget;  
nil moror eum tibi esse amicum cum eius modi  
virtutibus.

*Lys.* Quia sine omni malitiast, tolerare eius egestatem  
volo.



## THREE BOB DAY

be roofed with more well-doing to keep the rain out.

*Lys.* (*less exalted*) My reason for stating this, father, is the fact that there's something I want you to agree to.

*Phil.* What is it? I am already eager to oblige you.

*Lys.* There's a young fellow here (*with a nod toward the city in general*) that comes of fine family, a friend of mine about my age, (*awkwardly*) and, father, he has managed his affairs incautiously and imprudently, and I want to do him a good turn, if you don't object.

*Phil.* (*mildly ironic*) From your own funds, I presume?

*Lys.* (*smiling faintly*) My own, yes: for what's yours is mine, and of course all mine is yours.

*Phil.* What about him? Badly off?

*Lys.* He is, sir.

*Phil.* And he once had money?

*Lys.* Once, sir.

*Phil.* (*brisk and suspicious*) How did he lose it? Tied up with state contracts, was he, or maritime ventures? Did he lose it in trade, or slave-dealing?

*Lys.* None of those ways, sir.

*Phil.* Then how?

*Lys.* (*after a pause*) I assure you, father, it was his—kind-heartedness. Besides, he—did waste some of it indulging his—inclinations.

*Phil.* (*sarcastic*) Bless my soul! How cordially the man is commended by that introduction! He wrecked his estate in no reputable way, and now he is poor, eh! I dislike seeing a man of such character on friendly terms with you.

*Lys.* He doesn't mean badly at all, father, so I want to relieve him in his poverty.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phil.* De mendico male meretur qui ei dat quod edit aut  
bibat;  
nam et illud quod dat perdit et illi prodit vitam ad  
miseriam.

340

non eo haec dico, quin quae tu vis ego velim et  
faciam lubens:

sed ego hoc verbum quom illi quoidam dico, prae-  
monstro tibi,

ut ita te aliorum miserescat, ne tis alios misereat.

*Lys.* Deserere illum et deiuvare in rebus advorsis pudet.

*Phil.* Pol pudere quam pigere praestat, totidem litteris.

*Lys.* Edepol, deum virtute dicam, pater, et maiorum et  
tua

multa bona bene parta habemus, bene si amico  
feceris

ne pigeat fecisse, ut potius pudeat si non feceris.

*Phil.* De magnis divitiis si quid demas, plus fit an minus?

*Lys.* Minus, pater; sed civi immuni scin quid cantari  
solet?

350

“quod habes ne habeas et illuc quod non habes  
habeas, malum,

quandoquidem nec tibi bene esse pote pati neque  
alteri.”

*Phil.* Scio equidem istuc ita solere fieri; verum, gnate mi,  
is est immunis, cui nihil est qui munus fungatur  
suom.

*Lys.* Deum virtute habemus et qui nosmet utamur, pater,  
et aliis qui comitati simus benevolentibus.

*Phil.* Non edepol tibi pernegare possum quicquam quod  
velis.

cui egestatem tolerari vis? eloquere audacter patri.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Lys.* Lesbonico huic adulescenti, Charmidai filio,  
qui illic habitat.
- Phil.* Quin comedit quod fuit, quod non fuit? 360
- Lys.* Ne opprobra, pater; multa eveniunt homini quae  
volt, quae nevolt.
- Phil.* Mentire edepol, gnate, atque id nunc facis haud  
consuetudine.  
nam sapiens quidem pol ipse fingit fortunam sibi:  
eo non multa quae nevolt eveniunt, nisi fictor  
malust.
- Lys.* Multa illi opera opust ficturae, qui se fictorem  
probum  
vitae agundae esse expetit: sed hic admodum adu-  
lescentulust.
- Phil.* Non aetate, verum ingenio apiscitur sapientia;  
sapienti aetas condimentum, sapiens aetati cibust.  
agedum eloquere, quid dare illi nunc vis?
- Lys.* Nil quicquam, pater;  
tu modo ne me prohibeas accipere, si quid det mihi. 370
- Phil.* An eo egestatem ei tolerabis, si quid ab illo ac-  
ceperis?
- Lys.* Eo, pater.
- Phil.* Pol ego istam volo me rationem edoceas.
- Lys.* Licet.  
scin tu illum quo genere natus sit?
- Phil.* Scio, adprime probo.
- Lys.* Soror illi est adulta virgo grandis: eam cupio, pater,  
ducere uxorem sine dote.
- Phil.* Sine dote uxorem?
- Lys.* Ita;  
tua re salva hoc pacto ab illo summam inibis  
gratiam,  
neque commodius ullo pacto ei poteris auxiliarier.
- Phil.* Egone indotatam te uxorem ut patiar?



### THREE BOB DAY

*Lys.* It's this young Lesbonicus, Charmides' son, who lives there. (*pointing*)

*Phil.* (*again indignant*) That waster who devoured all he had, and more too?

*Lys.* Don't be harsh, father; much happens to a man whether he wants it or not.

*Phil.* Hold on, my son! That's a lie, and lying is no habit of yours. For I tell you, a man, a wise man, moulds his own destiny: so not much happens to him that he does not want, unless he be a poor moulder.

*Lys.* He must be a moulder of much experience, father, if he aspires to mould a whole life well: but this young fellow is still very young.

*Phil.* 'Tis not by age, but character, that wisdom is acquired. Age merely spices wisdom; wisdom is the very sustenance of age. But come on, speak out. What do you wish to give him now?

*Lys.* Nothing at all, father; only don't you prevent my accepting, if he gives me something.

*Phil.* And you will relieve his poverty by doing that, by letting him give you something?

*Lys.* By doing that, father.

*Phil.* Gad! I should like instruction in your method.

*Lys.* Very well. You know what his family is?

*Phil.* I do, highly desirable.

*Lys.* He has a sister, grown-up, marriageable. Father, I'm eager to have her for my wife—without a dowry.

*Phil.* (*shocked*) A wife without a dowry?

*Lys.* Yes, sir. This way you'll earn his very warmest esteem, and there's no more fitting way for you to help him—and it costs you nothing.

*Phil.* (*weakening*) I to let you marry an undowered wife?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Lys.* Patiundumst, pater ;  
et eo pacto addideris nostrae lepidam famam  
familiae.

*Phil.* Multa ego possum docta dicta et quamvis facunde  
loqui,

historiam veterem atque antiquam haec mea  
senectus sustinet;

verum ego quando te et amicitiam et gratiam in  
nostram domum

video adlicere, etsi adversatus tibi fui, istac iudico :  
tibi permitto ; posee, duce.

*Lys.* Di te servassint mihi.  
sed adde ad istam gratiam unum.

*Phil.* Quid id est autem unum

*Lys.* Eloquar.

tute ad eum adeas, tute concilies, tute poseas.

*Phil.* Eccere.

*Lys.* Nimio citius transiges : firmum omne erit quod tu  
egeris.

gravius tuom erit unum verbum ad eam rem quam  
centum mea.

*Phil.* Ecce autem in benignitate hoc repperi, negotium.  
dabitur opera.

*Lys.* 390  
Lepidus vivis. haec sunt aedes, hic habet ;  
Lesbonico est nomen. age, rem cura. ego te  
opperiar domi.

### II. 3.

*Phil.* Non optuma haec sunt neque ut ego aequom  
censeo ;

verum meliora sunt quam quae deterruma.

sed hoc me unum consolatur atque animum  
meum,

quia qui nihil aliud nisi quod sibi soli placet .



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

consulit advorsum filium, nugas agit:  
miser ex animo fit, factius nihilo facit.  
suae senectuti is acriorem hiemem parat,  
quom illam importunam tempestatem conciet.  
sed aperiuntur aedes quo ibam: commodum 400  
ipse exit Lesbonicus cum servo foras.

II. 4.

*Lesb.*

Minus quindecim dies sunt, quom pro hisce  
aedibus

minas quadraginta accepisti a Callicle.  
estne hoc quod dico, Stasime?

*Stas.*

Quom considero,  
meminisse videor fieri.

*Lesb.*

Quid factumst eo?

*Stas.*

Comessum, expotum; exussum: elotum in  
balineis,

piscator, pistor apstulit, lanii, coqui,  
holitores, myropolae, aucupes: confit cito;  
non berele minus divorce distrahitur cito,  
quam si tu obicias formicis papaverem. 410

*Lesb.*

Minus hercle in istis rebus sumptumst sex  
minis.

*Stas.*

Quid quod dedisti scortis?

*Lesb.*

Ibidem una trabo.

*Stas.*

Quid quod ego defrudavi?

*Lesb.*

Em, istace ratio maxumast.

*Stas.*

Non tibi illud apparere, si sumas, potest;  
nisi tu immortale rere esse argentum tibi.

*Phil.*

Sero atque stulte, prius quod cautum oportuit,  
postquam comedit rem, post rationem putat.



## THREE BOB DAY

fool: he is embittered and things are entirely unbettered. He invites a harder winter for his own age by stirring up rough weather of that kind. (*stopping*) But there goes the door I was headed for! This is timely! Here comes Lesbonicus himself with his servant. (*draws back round the corner*)

Scene 4. ENTER *Lesbonicus* AND *Stasimus* INTO THEIR DOORWAY.

*Lesb.* (*sombrely*) It's hardly two weeks since you received two hundred pounds from Callicles for this house. Isn't that true, Stasimus?

*Stas.* (*flippantly*) On consideration, I seem to remember the incident.

*Lesb.* What's become of it?

*Stas.* Eaten up, drunk up; devoured by flames; drained down the baths, made away with by the fish man, the baker, butchers, cooks, greengrocers, perfumers, poultrymen. It was finished fast. Why, good Lord, it disappeared in all directions as fast as poppy seeds you throw to the ants.

*Lesb.* Good Lord! Why, less than thirty pounds was spent that way.

*Stas.* How about what you gave to harlots?

*Lesb.* I'm including that.

*Stas.* (*smirking*) How about what I filched?

*Lesb.* Aha! That's the biggest account.

*Stas.* Well, you can't see where money goes, if all you do is spend it; unless you fancy yours is the kind that lasts for ever.

*Phil.* (*aside, outraged*) A belated and brainless thing—a thing to be thought of earlier—to figure his accounts now after squandering his assets!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Lesb.* Nequaquam argenti ratio comparet tamen.  
*Stas.* Ratio quidem berele apparet : argentum *οἶχεται*.  
 minas quadraginta accepisti a Callicle; 420  
 et ille aedis mancipio abs te accepit?
- Lesb.* Admodum.  
*Phil.* Pol opino adfinis noster aedis vendidit;  
 pater quom peregre veniet, in portast locus,  
 nisi forte in ventrem filio conrepserit.
- Stas.* Trapezitae mille drachumarum Olympico,  
 quas de ratione dehibuisti, redditae?
- Lesb.* Nempe quas spopondi.  
*Stas.* Immo " quas dependi " inquito <sup>1</sup>  
 pro illo adulescente, quem tu esse aibas  
 divitem.
- Lesb.* Factum.  
*Stas.* Vt quidem illud perierit.  
*Lesb.* Factum id quoque est.  
 nam nunc eum vidi miserum et me eius miseri-  
 tumst. 430
- Stas.* Miseret te aliorum, tui nec miseret nec pudet.  
*Phil.* Tempust adeundi.  
*Lesb.* Estne hic Philto qui advenit?  
 is herclest ipsus.
- Stas.* Edepol ne ego istum velim  
 meum fieri servom cum suo peculio.
- Phil.* Erum atque servom plurumum Philto iubet  
 salvere, Lesbonicum et Stasimum.
- Lesb.* Di duint  
 tibi, Philto, quaequomque optes. quid agit  
 filius?

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes corruption and brackets following v., 427<sup>a</sup>:  
*qua sponsione pronuper tu exactus es.*

<sup>1</sup> v. 427<sup>a</sup>: Security that you just recently got dunned for.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Phil.* Bene volt tibi.
- Lesb.* Edepol mutuom mecum facit.
- Stas.* Nequam illud verbumst "bene volt," nisi qui bene facit.
- ego quoque volo esse liber: nequiquam volo; 440  
hic postulet frugi esse: nugas postulet.
- Phil.* Meus gnatus med ad te misit, inter te atque nos  
adfinitatem ut conciliarem et gratiam.  
tuam volt sororem ducere uxorem; et mihi  
sententia eademst et volo.
- Lesb.* Hau nosco tuom:  
bonis tuis rebus meas res inrides malas.
- Phil.* Homo ego sum, homo tu es: ita me amahit  
Iuppiter,  
neque te derisum advenio neque dignum  
puto.  
verum hoc quod dixi: meus me oravit filius,  
ut tuam sororem poscerem uxorem sibi. 450
- Lesb.* Mearum me rerum novisse aequomst ordinem.  
cum vostra nostra non est aequa factio.  
adfinitatem vobis aliam quaerite.
- Stas.* Satin tu es sanus mentis aut animi tui,  
qui condicionem hanc repudies? nam illum  
tibi  
ferentarium esse amicum inventum intellego.  
Abin hinc diirecte?
- Lesb.* Si hercle ire occipiam, votes.
- Stas.* Nisi quid me aliud vis, Philto, respondi tibi.
- Lesb.* Benigniore, Lesbouice, te mihi,  
*Phil.* quam nunc experior esse, confido fore; 460  
nam et stulte facere et stulte fabularier,  
utrumque, Lesbouice, in aetate hau bonumst.
- Stas.* Verum berele hic dicit.



## THREE BOB DAY

Full of good wishes for you.

I certainly reciprocate them.

*(muttering)* "Good wishes"! That's a useless phrase without good actions. I've got wishes myself to be free: it's no use wishing. He *(nodding toward his master)* might want to be a decent sort: he'd want in vain.

My son sent me to you for the purpose of uniting our families in the bonds of relationship and esteem. He wishes to marry your sister; and my feelings are the same, I wish it, too.

*(hurt)* This is unlike you, sir—fortunate yourself, to make fun of my misfortunes. —

*(still a bit pompous)* We are simply two men, you and I. I am not here to make fun of you, God bless my soul, no; I should think it quite unfitting. But the facts are as I said: my son has begged me to ask that your sister may be his wife.

*(stiffly)* It becomes me to recognize the position in which I am. Our standing is not equal to yours. Your family must seek some other connection.

*(aside to Lesbonicus)* Lost your wits, lost your mind, have you, rejecting such a match? Why, as I see it, you've found a friend, a friend in the supporting forces.

*(aside to him, savagely)* Get to the devil out of here! Gad! If I did try to go, you'd stop me.

*(to Philto, with finality)* If that is all, Philto, you have my answer. *(about to leave)*

I trust, Lesbonicus, that you will regard me with more favour than I find you do at present. Foolish tactics and foolish talk, both, are small help in this life of ours, Lesbonicus.

*(to his master)* By gad, and that's the truth!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Lesb.* Oculum ego excudiam tibi,  
si verbum addideris.

*Stas.* Hercle qui dicam tamen;  
nam si sic non licebit, luseus dixerō.

*Phil.* Ita tu nunc dicis, non esse aequiperabiles  
vostras cum nostris factiones atque opes?

*Lesb.* Dico.

*Phil.* Quid? nunc si in aedem ad cenam veneris  
atque ibi opulentus tibi par forte obvenerit—  
adposita cena sit, popularem quam vocant—  
si illi congestae sint epulae a clientibus:  
si quid tibi placcat quod illi congestum siet,  
edisne an incenatus cum opulento accubes?

470

*Lesb.* Edim, nisi si ille votet.

*Stas.* At pol ego etsi votet  
edim, atque ambabus malis expletis vorem,  
et quod illi placeat praeripiam potissimum,  
neque illi concedam quicquam de vita mea.  
verecundari neminem apud mensam decet,  
nam ibi de divinis atque humanis cernitur.

*Phil.* Rem fabulare.

*Stas.* Non tibi dicam dolo:

480

decedam ego illi de via, de semita,  
de honore populi; verum quod ad ventrem  
attinet,

non berele hoc longe, nisi me pugnīs vicerit.  
cena hac annona est sine sacris hereditas.

*Phil.* Semper tu hoc facito, Lesbonice, cogites,  
id optimum esse, tute uti sis optimum;  
si id nequeas, saltem ut optimis sis proximus.

nunc condicionem hanc, quam ego fero et quam  
abs te peto,



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

dare atque accipere, Lesbonice, te volo.  
 di divites sunt, deos decent opulentiae 490

et factiones, verum nos homunculi,  
 satillum animai qui quom extemplo emisimus,  
 aequo mendicus atque ille opulentissimus  
 censetur censu ad Acheruntem mortuos.

*Stas.* Mirum quin tu illo tecum divitias feras.  
 ubi mortuos sis, ita sis ut nomen cluet.

*Phil.* Nunc ut scias hic factiones atque opes  
 non esse neque nos tuam neglegere gratiam,  
 sine dote posco tuam sororem filio.  
 quae res bene vortat—habcon pactam? quid  
 taces? 500

*Stas.* Pro di immortales, condicionem quouis modi.

*Phil.* Quin fabulare “ di bene vortant, spondeo ”?

*Stas.* Eheu ubi usus nil erat dicto, spondeo  
 dicebat; nunc hic, quom opus est, non quit  
 dicere.

*Lesb.* Quom adfinitate vostra me arbitramini  
 dignum, habeo vobis, Philto, magnam gratiam.  
 sed si haec res graviter cecidit stultitia mea,  
 Philto, est ager sub urbe hic nobis: eum  
 dabo

dotem sorori; nam is de divitiis meis  
 solus superfit praeter vitam relicuos. 510

*Phil.* Profecto dotem nil moror.

*Lesb.* Certumst dare.

*Stas.* Nostramne, ere, vis nutricem, quae nos educat,



### THREE BOB DAY

and seek from you, Lesbonicus, I wish you to accept and consent to. The gods are really rich, real abundance and real standing are the right of gods, but we poor mannikins, once we have breathed out our little triflet of existence, are rated with an equal rating—beggar and lofty plutocrat alike—when we go dead to Acheron.

**Stas.** (*aside, uncharitably*) It's a wonder you wouldn't take your money there with you. When you're dead I hope you'll do credit to your condition.

**Phil.** Now to show you that family standing and means have no place in this matter, and that your regard is nothing we undervalue, I request you to give my son your sister without dowry. (*thinking this magnificence clinches it*) And heaven bless the match. (*noticing Lesbonicus' strange expression*) You betroth her, I take it? Why silent?

**Stas.** (*jubilant*) Ye immortal gods, what an offer!

**Phil.** (*as Lesbonicus broods*) Why not come out with a "God's blessing on it! Agreed"?

**Stas.** (*aside, Lesbonicus still brooding*) Oh damn! He said "Agreed" plenty of times when he shouldn't; and now he should, he can't!

**Lesb.** (*with mixed emotions*) I am very grateful to all of you, Philto, for considering me worthy of being connected with your family. Now despite the awful wreck my folly has made of things, we still have a farm near the city: that shall be my sister's dowry. For of all I had, that alone is left me, that and (*grimly*) life.

**Phil.** I certainly want no dowry.

**Lesb.** (*firmly*) I insist that she have one.

**Stas.** (*aside to Lesbonicus, appalled*) Hey, master, d'ye want to alienate the very foster-mother that



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

abalienare a nobis? cave sis feceris.  
quid edemus nosmet postea?

*Lesb.* Etiam tu taces?  
tibi ego rationem reddam?

*Stas.* Plane perimus,  
nisi quid ego comminiscor. Philto, te volo.

*Phil.* Si quid vis, Stasime.

*Stas.* Huc concede aliquantum.

*Phil.* Licet.

*Stas.* Arcano tibi ego hoc dico, ne ille ex te seiat  
neve alius quisquam.

*Phil.* Crede audacter quid lubet.

*Stas.* Per deos atque homines dico, ne tu illum agrum 520  
tuom siris umquam fieri neque gnati tui.  
ei rei argumenta dicam.

*Phil.* Audire edepol lubet.

*Stas.* Primum omnium olim terra cum proscinditur,  
in quinto quoque sulco moriuntur boves.

*Phil.* Apage, Acheruntis ostium in vobro agro.

*Stas.* Tum vinum prius quam coctumst pendet  
putidum.

*Lesb.* Consuadet homini, credo. etsi scelestus est,  
at mi infidelis non est.

*Stas.* Audi cetera.

post id, frumenti quom alibi messis maximast,  
tribus tantis illi minus redit quam opseveris.

530

*Phil.* Em istic oportet operari mores malos,  
si in operendo possint interfieri.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Stas.* Neque umquam quisquamst, quouis ille ager  
fuit,  
quin pessume ei res vorterit: quonium fuit,  
alii exulatum abierunt, alii emortui,  
alii se suspendere. em nunc hic quouis est,  
ut ad incitas redactust.

*Phil.* Apage a me istum agrum.

*Stas.* Magis apage dicas, si omnia ex me audiveris.  
nam fulguritae sunt alternae arbores;  
sues moriuntur angina acerrume; 540  
oves scabrae sunt, tam glabrae, em, quam haec  
est manus.

tum autem Surorum, genus quod patientis-  
sumumst  
hominum, nemo extat qui ibi sex menses  
vixerit:

ita cuncti solstitiali morbo decidunt.

*Phil.* Credo ego istuc, Stasime, ita esse; sed Campans  
genus

multo Surorum iam antidit patientia.

sed istest ager profecto, ut te audivi loqui,  
malos in quem omnes publice mitti decet,  
sicut fortunatorum memorant insulas,

quo cuncti qui aetatem egerint caste suam 550  
convenient; contra istoc detrudi maleficos  
aequom videtur, qui quidem istius sit modi.

*Stas.* Hospitium est calamitatis: quid verbis opust?  
quamvis malam rem quaeras, illo reperias.

*Phil.* At tu hercle et illi et alibi.

---

<sup>1</sup> Sunstroke, fever, or malaria.



## THREE BOB DAY

*Stas.* Why, sir, never a soul owned that farm without things turning out perfectly awful for him: some of its owners went into exile, others died off, others—hanged themselves. And just look at its present owner—swept right off the board!

*Phil.* Preserve me from a farm like that!

*Stas.* You'd say "preserve me" all the more, sir, if you heard the whole story. Yes sir, every other tree is struck by lightning; the swine all sicken and die from awful attacks of—quinsy; the sheep get mangy, they've no more wool on 'em than—look!—than this hand here. And besides that, the slaves—Syrians, the most enduring breed there is—not one of 'em that stayed there six months is alive to-day: that's how they're all carried off by the—midsummer complaint.<sup>1</sup>

*Phil.* (*gravely*) That is no doubt true, Stasimus; by now, however, the Campanian<sup>2</sup> breed far excels the Syrians in endurance. But from your description, that farm would obviously be an ideal public concentration-camp for evil-doers, something like those Isles of the Blest they tell of, where men whose lives on earth were pure all congregate. Conversely, it would seem fitting for malefactors to be packed off to that farm, it being, of course, the sort you say.

*Stas.* It's Calamity Headquarters, sir. Why say more? If it's trouble you look for—any kind—there's where to find it.

*Phil.* (*turning away*) Hm! Well, for yourself it might be there or elsewhere.

<sup>2</sup> Campanians had been sold as slaves by the Romans during the war with Hannibal, since many of them had sided with him.



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Stas.* Cave sis dixeris  
me tibi dixisse hoc.
- Phil.* Dixisti arcano satis.
- Stas.* Quin hic quidem cupit illum ab se abalienarier,  
si quem reperire possit cui os sublinat.
- Phil.* Meus quidem hercle numquam fiet.
- Stas.* Si sapiens quidem.  
lepide hercle de agro ego hunc senem deterrui; 560  
nam qui vivamus nihil est, si illum amiserit.
- Phil.* Redeo ad te, Lesbonice.
- Lesb.* Dic sodes mihi,  
quid hic est locutus tecum?
- Phil.* Quid censes? homost:  
volt fieri liber, verum quod det non habet.
- Lesb.* Et ego esse locuples, verum nequiquam volo.
- Stas.* Licitumst, si velles; nunc, quom nihil est, non  
licet.
- Lesb.* Quid tecum, Stasime?
- Stas.* De istoc quod dixti modo;  
si ante voluisses, esses; nunc sero cupis.
- Phil.* De dote mecum convenire nil potest:  
quid tibi lubet tute agito cum nato meo. 570  
nunc tuam sororem filio posco meo.  
quae res bene vortat. quid nunc? etiam con-  
sulis?
- Lesb.* Quid istic? quando ita vis: di bene vortant.  
spondeo.
- Stas.* Numquam edepol quoiquam tam expectatus  
filius  
natus quam illuc est spondeo natum mihi.  
di fortunabunt vostra consilia.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phil.* Ita volo.  
*Lesb.* Sed, Stasime, abi huc ad meam sororem ad  
 Calliclem,  
 dic hoc negoti quo modo actumst.

*Stas.* Ibitur.  
*Lesb.* Et gratulator meae sorori.  
*Stas.* Scilicet.  
*Phil.* I hac, Lesbonice, mecum, ut coram nuptiis 580  
 dies constituatur; eadem haec confirmabi-  
 mus.<sup>1</sup>

*Lesb.* Dic Callicli, me ut convenat.  
*Stas.* Quin tu i modo.  
*Lesb.* De dote ut videat quid opus sit facto.  
*Stas.* I modo.  
*Lesb.* Nam certumst sine dote haud dare.  
*Stas.* Quin tu i modo.  
*Lesb.* Neque enim illi damno umquam esse patiar—  
*Stas.* Abi modo.  
*Lesb.* Meam neglegentiam.  
*Stas.* I modo.  
*Lesb.* Nullo modo  
 aequom videtur quin quod peccarim—  
*Stas.* I modo.  
*Lesb.* Potissimum mi id obsit.  
*Stas.* I modo.  
*Lesb.* O pater,  
 enumquam aspiciam te?

*Stas.* I modo, i modo, i modo. 590  
 tandem impetravi abiret. di vestram fidem,  
 edepol re gesta pessume gestam probe,  
 si quidem ager nobis salvos est; etsi admodum

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 582 :

*Lesb.* Tu istuc cura quod iussi. ego iam hic ero.



## THREE BOB DAY

*Phil.* I hope so.

*Lesb.* But, Stasimus, go and see my sister there at Callicles', and tell her how we've arranged things.

*Stas.* Go I will!

*Lesb.* And congratulate my sister.

*Stas.* Of course.

*Phil.* Lesbonicus, come along with me, so that all of us together may fix the wedding day. At the same time we will confirm this agreement.<sup>1</sup>

*Lesb.* *(to Stasimus; still more tempestuous)* Tell Callicles  
[EXIT.  
to meet me.

*Stas.* Yes, yes, only you go now.

*Lesb.* So as to see what must be done about the dowry.

*Stas.* Only do go!

*Lesb.* For no dowry, no marriage, and that's final.

*Stas.* *(in great distress)* Yes, yes, only you go now!

*Lesb.* No indeed, I'll never let her lose by—

*Stas.* Only do be gone!

*Lesb.* —my own heedlessness.

*Stas.* Only do go!

*Lesb.* The only thing that seems fair is for my offences—

*Stas.* Only do go!

*Lesb.* —to fall hardest on my own head.

*Stas.* Only do go!

*Lesb.* *(almost breaking down)* Oh, father, shall I never see your face again?

*Stas.* Only do go! Only do go! Only do go!

[EXIT *Lesbonicus.*

*(with weary satisfaction)* At last I've got him to be gone! Lord love us! Ah, here's a happy ending to a bad beginning, that is, if the farm's saved for us!

<sup>1</sup> v. 582: *Lesb. (to Stasimus)* See you do what I ordered. I shall soon be back here.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

in ambiguo est etiam nunc quid ea re fuat.  
sed id si alienatur, actumst de collo meo,  
gestandust peregre clupeus, galea, sarcina:  
effugiet ex urbe, ubi erunt factae nuptiae,  
ibit istac, aliquo, in maximam malam crucem,  
latrocinatum, aut in Asiam aut in Ciliciam.  
ibo huc quo mi imperatumst, etsi odi hanc  
domum,  
postquam exturbavit hic nos ex nostris aedibus.

600

### ACTVS. III

*Call.* Quo modo tu istuc, Stasime, dixti?

*Stas.* Nostrum erilem filium  
Lesbonicum suam sororem despondisse. em hoc  
modo.

*Call.* Cui homini despondit?

*Stas.* Lysiteli Philtonis filio,  
sine dote.

*Call.* Sine dote ille illam in tantas divitias dabit?  
non credible dicis.

*Stas.* At tu edepol nullus creduas.  
sic hoc non credis, ego credidero—

*Call.* Quid?

*Stas.* Me nihili pendere.

*Call.* Quam dudum istuc aut ubi actumst?

*Stas.* Ilico hic ante ostium,  
tam modo, inquit Praenestinus.

*Call.* Tanton in re perdita,  
quam in re salva Lesbonicus factus est frugalior?

610



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## TITUS · MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Stas.* Atque equidem ipse ultro venit Philto oratum filio.  
*Call.* Flagitium quidem berele fiet, nisi dos dabitur  
virgini.

postremo edepol ego istam rem ad me attinere  
intellego.

ibo ad meum castigatorem atque ab eo consilium  
petam.

*Stas.* Propemodum quid illo festinet sentio et subolet  
mihi :

ut agro evortat Lesbonicum, quando evortit  
aedibus.

o ere Charmides, quam absenti hic tua res distrahi-  
tur tibi!

utinam te rediisse salvom videam, ut inimicos tuos  
ulciscare, ut mihi, ut erga te fui et sum, referas  
gratiam.

nimum difficilest reperiri amicum ita ut nomen  
cluet,

quod tuam quom rem credideris, sine omni cura  
dormias.

sed generum nostrum ire eccillum video cum  
adfini suo.

nescio quid non satis inter eos convenit : celeri gradu  
cunt uterque, ille reprehendit hunc priorem pallio.

haud ineuscheme astiterunt. huc aliquantum  
apscessero.

est libido orationem audire duorum adfinium.

### III. 2.

*Lys.* Sta ilico, noli avorsari neque te occultassis mihi.

*Lesb.* Potin ut me ire quo profectus sum sinas?

*Lys.* Si in rem tuam,  
Lesbonice, esse videatur, gloriae aut famae, sinam.



## THREE BOB DAY

*Stas.* And what's more, Philto came himself, of his own accord, to beg her for his son.

*Call.* (*half to himself*) Bless my soul! Not to give the girl a dowry will be perfectly scandalous. (*aside*) Heavens, yes! In short, I see I must take a hand in this. I'll go to that castigator of mine and call on him for advice.

[EXIT HURRIEDLY INTO *Megaronides'* HOUSE.]

*Stas.* (*glowering after him*) I've got a pretty good idea, a pretty good inkling of why he's gone tearing off—so as to do Lesbonicus out of the farm, now he's done him out of the house. Ah, poor master Charmides, the way your estate's being scrambled here in your absence! Oh, to see you safely back, so as to revenge yourself on your enemies, and (*smugly*) also to give my past and present loyalty its due reward! How hard it is to find a friend that lives up to the name, a man you can trust your interests to, then go to sleep without a single care. (*looking down the street*) Aha, though! Here comes our son-in-law with his new relative. Things aren't going too well between them somehow—both walking fast, master in front and Lysiteles clutching his cloak. Ha! They've stopped! That's not so un—*au fait!* I'll just step a bit aside here. (*retires*) I should love to hear the speechifying of these two relatives.

Scene 2.      ENTER *Lesbonicus, Lysiteles* CLINGING TO HIM.

*Lys.* Come, come, stand still! Don't turn away and hide your face from me.

*Lesb.* (*distraught*) Can't you let me go my way?

*Lys.* If your way seemed profitable to you, Lesbonicus, if it led to honour or repute, I'd let you.



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Lesb.* Quod est facillumum, facis.
- Lys.* Quid id est?
- Lesb.* Amico iniuriam. 630
- Lys.* Neque meumst neque facere didici.
- Lesb.* Indoctus quam docte facis.  
quid faceres, si quis docuisset te, ut sic odio esses  
mihi? <sup>1</sup>
- bene cum simulas facere mihi te, male facis, male  
consulis.
- Lys.* Egone?
- Lesb.* Tune.
- Lys.* Quid male facio?
- Lesb.* Quod ego nolo, id cum facis.
- Lys.* Tuae rei bene consulere cupio.
- Lesb.* Tu <sup>2</sup> es melior quam egomet mihi?  
sat sapio, satis in rem quae sint meam ego conspicio  
mihi.
- Lys.* An id est sapere, ut qui beneficium a benevolente  
repudies?
- Lesb.* Nullum beneficium esse duco id quod quoi facias  
non placet.  
scio ego et sentio ipse quid agam, neque mens  
officio migrat,  
nec tuis depellar dictis quin rumori serviam. 640
- Lys.* Quid ais? nam retineri nequeo quin dicam ea quae  
promeres:  
itan tandem hanc maiores famam tradiderunt tibi  
tui,  
ut virtute eorum anteparta per flagitium perderes?  
atque honori posterorum tuorum ut vindex fieres,  
tibi paterque avosque facilem fecit et planam  
viam  
ad quaerendum honorem: tu fecisti ut difficilis  
foret,



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

culpa maxume et desidia tuisque stultis moribus.  
praeoptavisti, amorem tuom uti virtuti praeponeres.  
nunc te hoc pacto credis posse optegere errata?

aha, non itast:

cape sis virtutem animo et corde expelle desidiam  
tuo:

650

in foro operam amicis da, ne in lecto amicae, ut  
solitus es.

atque ego istum agrum tibi relinqui ob eam rem  
enixe expeto,

ut tibi sit qui te corrigere possis, ne omnino inopiam  
cives obiectare possint tibi, quos tu inimicos habes.

*Lesb.* Omnia ego istace quae tu dixti scio, vel exsignavero,  
ut rem patriam et gloriam maiorum foedarim  
meum:

scibam ut esse me deceret, facere non quibam  
miser;

ita vi Veneris vinctus, otio captus in fraudem incidi.  
et tibi nunc, proinde ut merere, summas habeo  
gratias.

*Lys.* At operam perire meam sic et te haec dicta corde  
spernere<sup>1</sup>

660

perpeti nequeo, simul me piget parum pudere te;  
et postremo, nisi mi auscultas atque hoc ut dico  
facis,

tute pone te latebis facile, ne inveniat te Honor,  
in occulto iacebis cum te maxume clarum voles.

pernovi equidem, Lesbonice, ingenium tuom in-  
genuom admodum;

scio te sponte non tuapte errasse, sed amorem tibi  
pectus opscurasse; atque ipse Amoris tenco omnis  
vias.

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *corde* deleted (Camerarius).



### THREE BOB DAY

and easy for you. It's you yourself have made it hard with all your weakness and idling and asinine behaviour. You preferred to put your love affairs ahead of things worth while. And now you fancy you can cover up your tracks by this present proposal? Ah no, that won't do! Open your mind to these worth-while things, I beg you, and shake off that idling spirit: serve your men friends in the forum, not a woman friend in bed, as usual. Regarding that farm—the reason I implore you so insistently to keep it is that it'll give you a chance to recover without being subjected, as an absolute pauper, to the sneers of fellow citizens who dislike you.

*Lesb.* (so dejected as to seem composed) I'm aware of everything you've said, I'll even set my seal to it—yes, I've made a mess of my father's estate and the good name of my family. I know what sort I ought to be, but I couldn't be it, poor fool. Getting in Venus' grip, growing enslaved to ease, I've fallen on evil days. (turning to go) And as for you now, I am very grateful indeed, as you deserve.

*Lys.* (heading him off) But I can't stand your making my efforts so ineffective and feeling such contempt for my advice; along with that, I'm sorry you don't show more shame. And finally, unless you listen to me and do as I say, your better self can easily be sunk out of honour's reach, and you'll linger in obscurity when you most crave eminence. As a matter of fact, Lesbonicus, I'm quite familiar with your real nobility of nature; I know your mistakes weren't made willfully, but you let love cloud your reason; and I myself well understand Love's methods. Here's Love for you—a bolt from a



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ita est amor, ballista ut iacitur: nihil sic celere est  
neque volat;

atque is mores hominum moros et morosos efficit:  
minus placet magis quod suadetur, quod dissuadetur  
placet;

670

quom inopiast, cupias, quando eius copiast, tum non  
velis;<sup>1</sup>

insanum<sup>2</sup> malumst in hospitium devorti ad Cupidi-  
nem.

sed te moneo hoc etiam atque etiam, ut reputes quid  
facere expetas.

si istuc, ut conare, facis incendio<sup>3</sup> incendes genus;  
tum igitur tibi aquae erit cupido, genus qui restin-  
guas tuom,

atque si eris nactus, proinde ut corde amantes sunt  
cati—

ne scintillam quidem relinques, genus qui congliscat  
tuom.

*Lesb.* Facilest inventu; datur ignis, tametsi ab inimico  
petas.

sed tu obiurgans me a peccatis rapis deteriorem in  
viam.

680

meam<sup>4</sup> sororem tibi dem suades sine dote. aha,  
non convenit

me, qui abusus sum tantam rem patriam, porro in  
ditiis

esse agrumque habere, egere illam autem, ut me  
merito oderit.

numquam erit alienis gravis qui suis se concinnat  
levem.

sicut dixi, faciam; nolo te iactari diutius.

*Lys.* Tanto meliust te sororis causa egestatem exsequi.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 672:  
*ille qui aspellit is compellit, ille qui consuadet vetat.*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

atque eum agrum me habere, quam te, tua qui  
toleres moenia?

*Lesb.* Nolo ego mihi te tam prospicere, qui meam  
egestatem leves,  
sed ut inops infamis ne sim, ne mi hanc famam  
differant,

me germanam meam sororem in concubinatum tibi, 690  
si sine dote dem, dedisse magis quam in matrimo-  
nium.

quis me improbior perhibeatur esse? haec fami-  
geratio

te honestet, me conlutulentet, si sine dote duxeris:  
tibi sit emolumentum honoris, mihi quod obiectent  
siet.

*Lys.* Quid? te dictatorem censes fore, si aps te agrum  
acceperim?

*Lesb.* Neque volo neque postulo neque censeo, verum  
tamen  
is est bonos homini pudico, meminisse officium  
suom.

*Lys.* Seio equidem te animatus ut sis; video, subolet,  
sentio:

id agis, ut, ubi adfinitatem inter nos nostram  
adstrinxeris

atque eum agrum dederis nec quicquam hic tibi sit  
qui vitam colas, 700

effugias ex urbe inanis; profugus patriam deseres,  
cognatos, adfinitatem, amicos factis nuptiis:

mea opera hinc proterritum te meaque avaritia autu-  
ment.

id me commissurum ut patiar fieri, ne animum  
induxeris.

*Stas.* Non enim possum quin exclamem euge. euge,  
Lysiteles, πάλιν.



### THREE BOB DAY

take the farm, than for you to keep this means of meeting your civic obligations?

*Lesb.* I wish you wouldn't give so much thought to relieving my destitution, as to my not being a byword as well as beggared, with people passing word around how I gave you my own sister for a concubine, more than wife, in case I did give her to you without a dowry. Whose name would be put above mine as a rotter? And in case you did take her without a dowry, all this spread-the-word would glorify you and muddify me: you'd get the honour and glory, I'd get something for them to throw at me.

*Lys.* So? You assume you'd get the dictatorship, if I accepted the farm from you?

*Lesb.* I neither wish nor ask nor assume that; nevertheless, a (*emphatically*) shamefaced man finds some honour in remembering his duty.

*Lys.* I believe I know what's in your mind. I see it, I've an inkling, I understand: this is your object—after you've got our families tied together and you have given up this farm and nothing's left you here to keep going on, you'll flee the city penniless; you'll turn fugitive, once the wedding's over, and desert your country, relatives, kindred, friends. Then they'd all allege it was my doing, my avarice, that scared you off. Don't you imagine I'll act in such a way as to let a thing like this happen.

*Stas.* (*bursting in*) There now! I can't keep from yelling "Bravo"! Bravo, Lysiteles! Encore! You take



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

facile palmam habes: hic victust, vicit tua  
comoedia.

hic agit magis ex argumento et versus melioris facit.  
etiam ob stultitiam tuam ted auri<sup>1</sup> multabo mina.

*Lesb.* Quid tibi interpellatio aut in consilium huc accessio  
est?

*Stas.* Eodem pacto, quo huc accessi, apscessero.

*Lesb.* I hac mecum domum, 710'

Lysiteles, ibi de istis rebus plura fabulabimur.

*Lys.* Nil ego in occulto agere soleo. meus ut animust,  
eloquar:

si mihi tua soror, ut ego aequom censeo, ita nuptum  
datur,

sine dote, neque tu hinc abituru's, quod meum erit  
id erit tuom;

sin aliter animatus es, bene quod agas eveniat tibi,  
ego amicus numquam tibi ero alio pacto. sic sen-  
teutia est.

*Stas.* Abiit<sup>2</sup> ille quidem. ecquid audis, Lysiteles? ego te  
volo.

hic quoque hinc abiit. Stasime, restas solus. quid  
ego nunc agam,

nisi uti sarcinam constringam et clupeum ad dorsum  
accommodem,

fulmentas iubeam suppingi soccis? non sisti potest. 720  
video caculam militarem me futurum haud longius:  
ad aliquem regem in saginam erus sese coniciet  
meus;

credo ad summos bellatores acrem fugitorem fore  
et capturum spolia ibi illum qui<sup>3</sup> ero adversus  
venerit.

<sup>1</sup> *ted auri* Niemeyer: *te curis* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *hercle*.

<sup>3</sup> Leo brackets following *meo*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

egomet autem quom extemplo arcum<sup>1</sup> et pharetram  
et sagittas sumpsero.

cassidem in caput, dormibo placide in tabernaculo.  
ad forum ibo· nudius sextus quoi talentum  
mutuom  
dedi, reposcam, ut habeam, mecum quod feram,  
viaticum.

### III. 3.

*Meg.*

Vt mihi rem narras, Callicles, nullo modo  
potest fieri prosus quin dos detur virgini.

730

*Call.*

Namque berele honeste fieri ferme non potest,  
ut eam perpetiar ire in matrimonium  
sine dote, quom eius rem penes me habeam  
domi.

*Meg.*

Parata dos domist; nisi expectare vis,  
ut eam sine dote frater nuptum conlocet.  
post adeas tute Philtonem et dotem dare  
te ei dicas, facere id eius ob amicitiam patris.  
verum hoc ego vereor, ne istaec pollicitatio  
te in crimen populo ponat atque infamiam:  
non temere dicant te benignum virgini:  
datam tibi dotem, ei quam dares, eius a patre,  
ex ea largiri te illi, neque ita ut sit data  
columem te sistere illi, et detraxe autument.  
nunc si opperiri vis adventum Charmidi,  
perlongumst: huic ducendi interea abscesserit  
lubido; atque ea condicio huic vel primaria est.

740

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *mihi*.



## THREE BOB DAY

man'll take there—the man that encounters master! But as for myself, the moment I have bow in hand, quiver and arrows ready, and helmet on my head, I'll be off to—my tent for a quiet snooze. Well, now for the forum. Six days ago I lent a fellow (*nonchalantly*) three hundred pounds; I'll ask it back, so as to have a little something with me for travelling expenses.

[EXIT.]

Scene 3.                    ENTER *Megaronides* AND *Callicles*.

*Meg.* From what you tell me, Callicles, it is absolutely imperative, quite, that the girl be given a dowry.

*Call.* Of course she must. I can hardly in common decency permit her to marry without one, when I have (*looking about warily*) that money of hers in my possession at home.

*Meg.* Yes, there's her dowry at home—unless you want to wait till her brother puts the marriage through without it. Then you might go to Philto yourself and say you're giving her a dowry, doing so out of friendship for her father. (*pausing*) Yet there's this point—I fear that any such promise would expose you to public incrimination, and discredit; they'd say you were generous to the girl for a reason. There'd be allegations that her father had given you a dowry to give her, that that was the source of your bounty, and that you hadn't handed the whole amount over to her, either, but abstracted some. (*pauses again*) Still, if you wish to wait for Charmides to arrive, it's too long: the young fellow may lose his desire to marry—and it's such an extraordinarily fine match for her.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Call.* Nam hercle omnia istaec veniunt in mentem mihi.  
 vide si hoc utibile magis atque in rem deputas, ut adeam Lesbonicum, edoceam ut res se habet. sed ut ego nunc adulescenti thensaurum indicem 750  
 indomito, pleno amoris ac lasciviae?  
 minime, minime hercle vero. nam certo scio, locum quoque illum omnem, ubi situst, comederit;  
 quem fodere metuo, sonitum ne ille exaudiat neu rem ipsam indaget, dotem dare si dixerim.
- Meg.* Quo pacto ergo igitur clam dos depromi potest?  
*Call.* Dum occasio ei rei reperiatur, interim ab amico alicunde mutuom argentum rogem.  
*Meg.* Potin est ab amico alicunde exorari?  
*Call.* Potest.
- Meg.* Gerrae. ne tu illud verbum actutum inveneris: 760  
 "mihi quidem berele non est quod dem mutuom."
- Call.* Malim hercle ut verum dicas, quam ut des mutuom.
- Meg.* Sed vide consilium, si placet.  
*Call.* Quid consilist?  
*Meg.* Scitum, ut ego opinor, consilium inveni.  
*Call.* Quid est?  
*Meg.* Homo conducatur aliquis iam, quantum potest,<sup>1</sup> ignota facie, quae hic non visitata sit; mendacilocum aliquem<sup>2</sup> falsidicum, confidentem.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 766:  
*quasi sit peregrinus.*

*Call.* Quid is scit facere postea?

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following:

*Call.* Quid is scit facere postea?



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TITUS · MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Call.* Quid tum postea? 770

*Meg.* Is homo exornetur graphice in peregrinum modum;

quasi ad adulescentem a patre ex Seleucia veniat, salutem ei nuntiet verbis patris: illum bene gerere rem et valere et vivere, et eum rediturum actutum; ferat epistulas duas, eas nos consignemus, quasi sint a patre: det alteram illi, alteram dicat tibi dare sese velle.

*Call.* Perge porro dicere.

*Meg.* Seque aurum ferre virgini dotem a patre dicat patremque id iussisse aurum tibi dare. tenes iam?

*Call.* Propemodo, atque ausculto perlubens. 780

*Meg.* Tum tu igitur demum adulescenti aurum dabis, ubi erit locata virgo in matrimonium.

*Call.* Scite berele sane.

*Meg.* Hoc, ubi thensaurum effoderis, suspicionem ab adulescente amoveris: censebit aurum esse a patre allatum tibi, tu de thensauro sumes.

*Call.* Satis scite et probe; quamquam hoc me aetatis sycophantari pudet. sed epistulas quando opsignatas adferet,<sup>1</sup> nonne arbitraris eum adulescentem anuli paterni signum novisse?

*Meg.* Etiam tu taces? 790

sescentae ad eam rem causae possunt conligi:



### THREE BOB DAY

*Call.* And then what?

*Meg.* Get him fitted out realistically in foreign style; let him come to the young fellow as if from his father in Seleucia, with his father's greetings and a message to the effect that his business affairs are going well, that he's enjoying excellent health, and will be back shortly. And our man to bring two letters—which we'll compose and seal—as though from the father, and give one to him, and say he wants to give the other one to you. (*pauses*)

*Call.* (*eagerly*) Come on, continue!

*Meg.* He's to say he's bringing a sum of gold from the father for the girl's dowry and that the father ordered him to give this gold to you. Do you get the point now?

*Call.* Pretty much, and I'm mightily interested.

*Meg.* And then you'll finally give the gold to the young man after the girl is actually married.

*Call.* Well, that certainly is a clever scheme!

*Meg.* (*enjoying the praise*) This way, our lad won't have the least suspicion when you've dug up the treasure; he'll fancy the gold was brought you from his father, while you'll be taking it from there.

*Call.* Very clever! Capital—though I'm ashamed to turn to swindling at my time of life! But when he brings those letters all sealed,<sup>1</sup> don't you suppose the lad knows his father's signet ring?

*Meg.* (*now in command*) Oh, stop fussing? Hundreds of explanations can be evolved—he lost the one he

<sup>1</sup> v. 788<sup>a</sup>: But after he has brought those sealed letters.

---

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 788<sup>a</sup>:  
*sed quom opsignatas attulerit epistulas.*



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

illum quem habuit perdidit, alium post fecit  
novom.<sup>1</sup>

iam si opsignatas non feret, dici hoc potest,  
apud portitorem eas resignatas sibi  
inspectasque esse. in huius modi negotio  
diem sermone terere segnities merast:  
quam vis sermones possunt longi texier.  
abi ad thensaurum iam confestim clanculum,  
servos ancillas amove. atque audin?

*Call.*  
*Meg.*

Quid est?

Vxorem quoque eampse hanc rem uti celes  
face,  
nam pol tacere numquam quicquamst quod  
queat.

800

quid nunc stas? quin tu hinc amoves et te  
moves?

aperi, deprome inde auri ad hanc rem quod sat  
est,

continuo operito denuo; sed clanculum,  
sicut praecepi; cunctos exturba aedibus.

*Call.*  
*Meg.*

Ita faciam.

At enim nimis longo sermone utimur,  
diem conficimus quod iam properatost opus.  
nihil est de signo quod vereare; me vide:  
lepida est illa causa, ut commemoravi, di-  
cere

apud portitores esse inspectas. denique  
diei tempus non vides? quid illum putas,  
natura illa atque ingenio? iam dudum ebriust.  
quidvis probare poterit; tum, quod maxu-  
mumst,

810

adferre, non petere hinc se dicet.

*Call.*  
*Meg.*

Iam sat est.

Ego sycophantam iam conduco de foro



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

epistulasque iam consignabo duas,  
cumque huc ad adulescentem meditatam probe  
mittam.

*Call.* Eo ego igitur intro ad officium meum.  
tu istuc age.

*Meg.* Actum reddam nugacissime.

### ACTVS IV

*Charm.* Salsipotenti et mulsipotenti Iovis fratri et Nerei  
Neptuno 820  
laetus lubens laudes ago et grates gratiasque habeo  
et fluctibus salsis,  
quos penes mei fuit saepe potestas, bonis meis quid  
foret et mcae vitae,  
quom suis med ex locis in patriam suavissimam  
reducem faciunt.  
atque ego, Neptune, tibi ante alios deos gratias ago  
atque habeo summas ;  
nam te omnes saevomque severumque atque avidis  
moribus commemorant,  
spurcificum, immanem, intolerandum, vesanum :  
contra opera expertus,  
nam pol placido te et clementi meo usque modo, ut  
volui, usus sum in alto.  
atque hanc tuam gloriam iam ante auribus accepe-  
ram, et nobilest apud homines,  
pauperibus te parcere solitum, dites damnare atque  
domare.  
abi, laudo, scis ordine, ut aequomst, tractare  
homines ; hoc dis dignumst.<sup>1</sup> 830

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 831 :  
*semper mendicis modesti sint.*



## THREE BOB DAY

get the two letters ready, and send him here, well primed, to our young fellow.

*Call.* I'll go in, then, to my job. You manage that.

[EXIT.

*Meg.* (*calling blithely, as Callicles disappears*) I'll show you management of the tricksyest kind.

[EXIT.

## ACT IV

(*An hour has elapsed.*)

ENTER *Charmides*, IN HIGH SPIRITS.

*Charm.* (*rhapsodical*) Oh, Neptune, brother of Jove and Nereus, Lord of the saltful souseful main, heartily and happily I do thee homage and accord thee grateful gratitude—and the same to thy salty waves, in the power of which I was so often placed, those arbiters of my goods and of my life, since they have brought me back from their quarters safe to my own most gracious land. Aye, Neptune, to thee above all other gods do I offer and accord profoundest gratitude. Why, men declare that thou art savage and severe, rapacious in thy ways, affouling, abhorrent, unendurable, maniacal: quite otherwise thou wert to me, for on the deep I certainly found thee placid and benign, forever as I liked and wished. Aye, and long since had I heard how this was to thy glory—a creed much bruited among men—that thou wert wont to spare the poor, to ravage and reduce the rich. Not so! I give thee praise. Thou knowest how to treat men duly, as is just; this befits the gods.<sup>1</sup> I found

<sup>1</sup> v. 831: May they be ever merciful to beggars.



## TITUS MACCIUS· PLAUTUS

fidus fuisti: infidum esse iterant; nam apsq̄ foret  
te, sat scio in alto  
distraxissent disque tulissent satellites tui. me  
miserum foede  
bonaque omnia mea item una mecum passim  
caeruleos per campos:  
ita iam quasi canes, haud secus, circum stabant  
navem turbines venti,  
imbres fluctusque atque procellae infensae frangere  
malum,  
ruere antemnas, scindere vela, ni tua pax propitia  
foret praesto.  
apage a me sis, dehinc iam certumst otio dare me;  
satis partum habeo  
quibus aerumnis deluctavi, filio dum divitias quaero.  
sed quis hic est, qui in plateam ingreditur  
cum novo ornatu specieque simul?  
pol quamquam domi cupio, opperiar,  
quam hic rem agat animum advortam.

840

### IV. 2.

*Syc.*

Huic ego die nomen Trinummo faciam: nam ego  
operam meam  
tribus nummis hodie locavi ad artis nugatorias.  
advenio ex Seleucia, Macedonia, Asia atque Arabia,  
quas ego neque oculis nec pedibus umquam  
usurpavi meis.  
viden egestas quid negoti dat homini misero mah;  
quin ego nunc subigor trium nummum causa ut hasce  
epistulas  
dicam ab eo homine me accepisse, quem ego qui sit  
homo nescio  
neque novi, neque natus necne is fuerit, id solide  
scio.

850



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Charm.* Pol hic quidem fungino generest: capite se totum tegit.

*Syc.* Hilurica facies videtur hominis, eo ornatu advenit. Ille qui me conduxit, ubi conduxit, abduxit domum, quae voluit mihi dixit, docuit et praemonstravit prius, quo modo quicque agerem; nunc adeo si quid ego addidero amplius, eo conductor melius de me nugas conciliaverit. ut ille me exornavit, ita sum ornatus; argentum hoc facit.

ipse ornamenta a chorago haec sumpsit suo periculo.

nunc ego si potero ornamentis hominem circumducere,

dabo operam, ut me esse ipsum plane sycophantam sentiat.

*Charm.* Quam magis specto, minus placet mi haec hominis facies. mira sunt, ni illic homost aut dormitator aut sector zonarius. loca contemplant, circumspectat sese atque aedis noscitat.

credo edepol, quo mox furatum veniat speculatur loca.

magis lubidost opservare quid agat: ei rei operam dabo.

*Syc.* Has regiones demonstravit mi ille conductor meus; apud illas aedis sistendae mihi sunt sycophantiae. fores pultabo.

*Charm.* Ad nostras aedis hic quidem habet reetam viam. hercle opinor mi advenienti hac noctu agitandumst vigiliis.

*Syc.* Aperite hoc, aperite. heus, ecquis his foribus tutelam gerit?

860

870



## THREE BOB DAY

(*aside, observing his large hat*) Gad! He must belong to the *genus mushroomum*: he's all covered over with head. Seems to have an Illyrian look, appears in their get-up.

After engaging me, my employer took me home with him, told me what he wanted, gave instructions, and acquainted me in advance with the way I was to handle everything; accordingly now, if I add any frills of my own, I'll be giving my employer all the better bargain in craft-work. He fitted me out in this outfit; that's what money does. Got the fittings at a costumer's, guaranteed their return, he did. So now if I can diddle the old chap out of 'em, it'll help me to convince him that I need no one's aid to be a thoroughly competent swindler.

(*aside*) The more I observe him, the less I like his looks. It's a wonder if the fellow isn't a sleep-nabber<sup>1</sup> or cutpurse. He's surveying the neighbourhood, peering about and scanning the houses. By gad, I do believe he's spotting the place so as to come and rob us later. It makes me all the keener to observe what he does: I'll keep an eye on him.

This is the region which that employer of mine indicated; and that's the house (*pointing*) where I must set up my swindle-shop. I'll knock at the door. (*heads for it*)

(*aside*) If he isn't making straight for our house! Well, well! I shall have to stand watch the very night I arrive, it seems.

(*knocking*) Open up here, open up! Hey! Anyone in charge of this door?

<sup>1</sup> *Dormitator* of doubtful meaning. A night-thief? A sleepy fool?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Charm.* Quid, adulescens, quaeris? quid vis? quid istas pultas?

*Syc.* Heus senex,  
census cum sum, iuratori recte rationem dedi.<sup>1</sup>  
Lesbonicum hic adulescentem quaero in his regionibus  
ubi habitet, et item alterum ad istanc capitis albitudinem:

Calliclem aiebat vocari qui has dedit mi epistulas.

*Charm.* Meum gnatum hic quidem Lesbonicum quaerit et amicum meum,

cui ego liberosque bonaque commendavi, Calliclem.

*Syc.* Fac me, si scis, certiozem, bisce homines ubi habitent, pater.

*Charm.* Quid eos quaeris? aut quis es? aut unde es? aut unde advenis?

*Syc.* Multa simul rogitas, nescio quid expediam potissimum.

si unum quidquid singillatim et placide percontabere,

et meum nomen et mea facta et itinera ego faxo scias,

*Charm.* Faciam ita ut vis. agedum nomen tuom primum memora mihi.

*Syc.* Magnum facinus incipissis petere.

*Charm.* Quid ita?

*Syc.* Quia, pater,  
si ante lucem ire occipias a meo primo nomine,  
concupium sit noctis prius, quam ad postremum perveneris.

*Charm.* Opus factost viatico ad tuom nomen, ut tu praedicas.

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here: suggests

*Charm.* responde, monstrare tibi quos quaeris si possim.

*Syc.* eloquar.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Syc.* Est minusculum alterum, quasi vixillum vinarium.

*Charm.* Quid est tibi nomen, adulescens?

*Syc.* Pax, id est nomen mihi.

hoc cotidianumst.

*Charm.* Edepol nomen nugatorium,  
quasi dicas, si quid crediderim tibi, pax—periisse  
ilico.

890

hic homo solide sycophantast. quid ais tu,  
adulescens?

*Syc.* Quid est?

*Charm.* Eloquere, isti tibi quid homines debent, quos tu  
quaeritas?

*Syc.* Pater istius adulescentis dedit has duas mi epistulas,  
Lesbonici. is mi est amicus.

*Charm.* Teneo hunc manifestarium.  
me sibi epistulas dedisse dicit. ludam hominem  
probe.

*Syc.* Ita ut occepi, si animum advortas, dicam.

*Charm.* Dabo operam tibi.

*Syc.* Hanc me iussit Lesbonico suo gnato dare epistu-  
lam,  
et item hanc alteram suo amico Callicli iussit  
dare.

*Charm.* Mihi quoque edepol, quom hic nugatur, contra  
uugari lubet.<sup>1</sup>

900

Ab ipson istas accepisti?

*Syc.* E manibus dedit mi ipse in manus.

*Charm.* Qua facie est homo?

*Syc.* Sesquipede quiddamst quam tu longior.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 901  
*ubi ipse erat?*

*Syc.* *Bene rem gerebat.*

*Charm.* *Ergo ubi?*

*Syc.* *In Seleucia.*



## THREE BOB DAY

*Swindl.* I have another one, more compact, like a wee-ripper<sup>1</sup> wine fiask.

*Charm.* That name being what, young man?

*Swindl.* Phut. That is my name—my everyday one.

*Charm.* Well, well! What a cunning little name! It's like your saying "Phut!", if I entrust you with something. "Phut!" And instantly it disappears. (*aside*) The chap's a swindler pure and simple. (*aloud*) See here, young man.

*Swindl.* See what?

*Charm.* Tell me this, what's your business with those men you're looking for?

*Swindl.* The father of that young fellow, Lesbonicus, gave me these two letters. He is a friend of mine.

*Charm.* (*aside*) Now I've caught him in the act! Says he has letters I gave him! I'll trick him properly.

*Swindl.* (*loftily*) I will continue, if you will accord me your attention.

*Charm.* It is all yours.

*Swindl.* He bade me give this letter to his son Lesbonicus, and this other one here I was to give to his friend Callicles.

*Charm.* (*aside*) Yes, indeed, seeing he's a cheat, I think I'll take a hand at cheating too.<sup>2</sup> (*aloud*) So you received them from this friend himself?

*Swindl.* His own hand put them into mine.

*Charm.* What does your friend look like?

*Swindl.* Well, he is some foot and a half taller than you are.

<sup>1</sup> *Virillum* of doubtful meaning. Diminutive of *vix*?

<sup>2</sup> v. 901: And where was your friend?

*Swindler* He was getting on well.

*Charm.* Ah, but where?

*Swindler* In Seleucia.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Charm.* - Haeret haec res, siquidem ego absens sum quam  
praesens longior.  
novistin hominem?

*Syc.* Ridicule rogitas, quicum una cibum  
capere soleo.

*Charm.* Quid est ei nomen?

*Syc.* Quod edepol homini probo.

*Charm.* Labet audire.

*Syc.* Illi edepol—illi—illi—vae misero mihi.

*Charm.* Quid est negoti?

*Syc.* Devoravi nomen imprudens modo.

*Charm.* Non placet qui amicos intra dentes conclusos habet.

*Syc.* Atque etiam modo vorsabatur mi in labris primori-  
bus.

*Charm.* Temperi huic hodie anteveni.

*Syc.* Teneor manifesto miser.

*Charm.* Iam recommentatu's nomen?

*Syc.* Deum berele me atque hominum pudet.

*Charm.* Vide modo ut hominem noveris.

*Syc.* Tam quam me. fieri istuc solet,  
quod in manu teneas atque oculis videas, id  
desideres.

litteris recomminiscar. C est principium nomini.

*Charm.* Callias?

*Syc.* Non est.

*Charm.* Callippus?

*Syc.* Non est.

*Charm.* Callidemides?

*Syc.* Non est.

*Charm.* Callinicus?

*Syc.* Non est.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Charm.* Callimarchus?  
*Syc.* Nil agis.

neque adeo edepol flocci facio, quando egomet memini mihi.

*Charm.* At enim multi Lesbonici sunt hic: nisi nomen patris dices, non monstrare istos possum homines quos tu quaeritas.

quod ad exemplum est? coniectura si reperire possumus.

*Syc.* Ad hoc exemplum est—

*Charm.* An Chares? an Charmides?

*Syc.* Enim Charmides. em istic erit. qui istum di perdant. dixi ego iam dudum tibi—<sup>1</sup>

*Charm.* Te potius bene dicere aequomst homini amico, quam male.

*Syc.* Satin inter labra atque dentes latuit vir mimimi preti?

*Charm.* Ne male loquere apsentis amico.

*Syc.* Quid ergo ille ignavissimus mihi latitabat?

*Charm.* Si appellasses, respondisset, nomine. sed ipse ubi est?

*Syc.* Pol illum reliqui ad Rhadamantem in Cecropia insula.<sup>2</sup>

*Charm.* Quis homo est me insipientior, qui ipse, egomet ubi sim, quaeritem?

sed nil disconducit huic rei. quid ais? quid hoc quod te rogo?

quos locos adiisti?

*Syc.* Nimium mirimodis mirabiles.

*Charm.* Lubet audire, nisi molestumst.

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here: suggests *malus homo mihi uorsabatur in labris primoribus.*



## THREE BOB DAY

Callimarchus?

No use! (*nonchalantly*) After all, not a straw do I care, hang it, when my memory suffices for my own purposes, as it does.

Ah, but there are many Lesbonicuses here: unless you give his father's name, I can't direct you to those men you're looking for. What does it sound like? Maybe some guessing will help us hit on it.

It sounds like—this—

Is it Chares? Is it Charmides?

Right! Charmides! There! Charmides it is. And be damned to him! I told you a while ago—(*gravely*) It would be in good taste for you to speak well of your friend, rather than ill.

(*indignantly*) When he hid himself there between my lips and teeth, the worthless rascal?

Now, now! No ill words of an absent friend!

Then why did the lazy beggar keep hiding from me?

He'd have answered, if you had called him by name. But where is the fellow?

(*romancing readily*) I left him at the court of Rhadamas on Cecropian Isle.

(*aside*) Who's a sillier ass than I am—I myself inquiring into my own whereabouts? But nothing's disadapted to this affair. (*aloud*) I say. Answer me this question. What places have you been to?

Perfectly amazing ones, no end amazing. I'd like to hear, if you don't mind.

---

<sup>3</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *cecropio* B.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Syc.* Quin discupio dicere.  
omnium primum in Pontum advecti ad Arabiam  
terram sumus.
- Charm.* Eho an etiam Arabiast in Ponto?
- Syc.* Est: non illa ubi tus gignitur,  
sed ubi apsinthium fit atque cunila gallinacea.
- Charm.* Nimium graphicum hunc nugatorem. sed ego sum  
insipientior,  
qui egomet unde redeam hunc rogitem, quae ego  
sciam atque hic nesciat;  
nisi quia lubet experiri, quo evasurust denique.  
sed quid ais? quo inde isti porro?
- Syc.* Si animum advortes, eloquar.  
ad caput amnis, quod de caelo exoritur sub solio  
Iovis.
- Charm.* Sub solio Iovis?
- Syc.* Ita dico.
- Charm.* E caelo?
- Syc.* Atque e medio quidem.
- Charm.* Eho an etiam in caelum escendisti?
- Syc.* Immo horiola advecti sumus,  
usque aqua advorsa per amuem.
- Charm.* Eho an tu etiam vidisti Iovem?
- Syc.* Alii di isse ad villam aiebant servis depromptum  
cibum.  
deinde porro—
- Charm.* Deinde porro nolo quicquam praedices.
- Syc.* Sed—
- Charm.* Abeo hercle, si es molestus. nam pudicum  
neminem,  
Pax, referre oportet. qui aps terra ad caelum  
pervenerit.
- Syc.* Faciam ita ut te velle video. sed monstra hosce  
homines mihi,



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quos ego quaero, quibus me oportet has deferre  
epistulas.

*Charm.* Quid ais? tu nunc si forte eumpse Charmidem  
conspexeris,  
illum quem tibi istas dedisse commemoras epistulas,  
norisne hominem?

· 950

*Syc.* Ne tu me edepol arbitrare beluam,  
qui quidem non novisse possim quicum aetatem  
exegerim.

an ille tam esset stultus, qui mihi mille nummum  
crederet

Philippum, quod me aurum deferre iussit ad gnatum  
suom

atque ad amicum Calliclem, quoi rem aibat man-  
dasse hic suam?

mihi concrederet, nisi me ille et ego illum nossem  
approbe?

*Charm.* Enim vero ego nunc sycophantae huic sycophantari  
volo,

si hunc possum illo mille nummum Philippum cir-  
cumducere,

quod sibi me dedisse dixit, quem ego qui sit homo  
nescio

960

neque oculis ante hunc diem umquam vidi. eine  
aurum crederem,

quoi, si capitis res sit, nummum numquam credam  
plumbeum?

adgrediundust hic homo mi astu. heus, Pax, te  
tribus verbis volo.

*Syc.* Vel trecentis.

*Charm.* Haben tu id aurum quod accepisti a Charmide?

*Syc.* Atque etiam Philippum, numeratum illius in mensa  
manu,  
mille nummum.



## THREE BOB DAY

men I am looking for, the men I must deliver these letters to.

*Charm.* Look here. If you happened to catch sight now of this same Charmides, the fellow you refer to as having given you those letters, would you recognize him?

*Swindl.* Upon my soul, sir, you must take me for a mutton-head, to be unable to recognize a person I have spent my life with. Or could he have been such a dolt as to entrust to me a thousand pounds in gold, money he told me to deliver to his son and his friend Callicles, whom he said he had left in charge of his property here? Could I be so trusted by him, unless he had known me, and I him, to perfectionment?

*Charm.* (*aside*) Hanged if I haven't a mind to try some swindling on this swindler now, and see if I can relieve him of that thousand pounds in gold he said I'd given him—I, that don't know who the fellow is and never set eyes on him before to-day. Trust him with gold, when I'd never, for the life of me, trust him with a lead shilling? But I must be canny in approaching the chap. (*aloud, amicably*) Oh, I say, Phut, I want a few words with you.

*Swindl.* A few hundred, if you like.

*Charm.* You have this gold you got from Charmides?

*Swindl.* Yes, and good honest sovereigns, counted out at the banker's with his own hand, a thousand of them.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Charm.* Nempe ab ipso id accepisti Charmide?

*Syc.* Mirum quin ab avo eius aut proavo acciperem, qui sunt mortui.

*Charm.* Adulescens, cedo dum istuc aurum mi.

*Syc.* Quod ego aurum dem tibi?

*Charm.* Quod a me te accepisse fassu's.

*Syc.* Aps te accepisse?

*Charm.* Ita loquor.

*Syc.* Quis tu homo es?

*Charm.* Qui mille nummum tibi dedi ego sum Charmides. 970

*Syc.* Neque edepol tu is es neque hodie is umquam eris, auro huic quidem.

abi sis, nugator: uugari nugatori postulas.

*Charm.* Charmides ego sum.

*Syc.* Nequiquam hercle es, nam nihil auri fero.

nimis argute obrepisti in eapse occasiuncula:

postquam ego me aurum ferre dixi, post tu factu's Charmides;

prius tu non eras, quam auri feci mentionem. nihil agis;

proin tu te, itidem ut charmidatus es, rursus recharmida.

*Charm.* Quis ego sum igitur, siquidem is non sum qui sum?

*Syc.* Quid id ad me attinet?

dum ille ne sis quem ego esse nolo, sis mea causa qui lubet.

prius non is eras qui eras: nunc is factu's qui tum non eras.

*Charm.* Age si quid agis.

*Syc.* Quid ego agam?

*Charm.* Aurum redde.

*Syc.* Dormitas, senex.

*Charm.* Fassu's Charmidem dedisse aurum tibi.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Syc.* Scriptum quidem.

*Charm.* Properas an non properas ire actutum ab his regionibus, dormitator, prius quam ego hic te iubeo mulcari male?

*Syc.* Quam ob rem?

*Charm.* Quia illum quem ementitus es, ego sum ipse Charmides, quem tibi epistulas dedisse aiebas.

*Syc.* Eho, quaeso, an tu is es?

*Charm.* Is enim vero sum.

*Syc.* Ain tu tandem? is ipsusne es?

*Charm.* Aio.

*Syc.* Ipsus es?

*Charm.* Ipsus, inquam, Charmides sum.

*Syc.* Ergo ipsusne es?

*Charm.* Ipsissimus.

abin hinc ab oculis?

*Syc.* Enim vero serio, quoniam advenis—vapulabis meo arbitrato et novorum aedilium.

*Charm.* At etiam maledicis?

*Syc.* Immo, salvos quandoquidem advenis—di te perdant, si te flocci facio an periisses prius. ego ob hanc operam argentum accepi, te macto infortunio:

ceterum qui sis, qui non sis, floccum non interduim. ibo, ad illum renuntiabo qui mihi tris nummos dedit,

ut seiat se perdidisse. ego abeo. male vive et vale.

qui te di omnes advenientem peregre perdant, Charmides.

*Charm.* Postquam illic hinc abiit, post loquendi libere



### THREE BOB DAY

*Swindl.* (*grinning*) That is, on paper.

*Charm.* (*foiled, savagely*) Are you going to scuttle out of this neighbourhood at once, or not, you sleep-nabber, before I have you thoroughly trounced here?

*Swindl.* What for?

*Charm.* Because that man you have been romancing about—I am that very Charmides myself, who you said gave you letters.

*Swindl.* (*apparently perturbed*) Dear me! Can it be you're that man?

*Charm.* Indeed I am.

*Swindl.* You don't mean to say! You're that man yourself?

*Charm.* So I say.

*Swindl.* You yourself?

*Charm.* I myself am Charmides, I tell you.

*Swindl.* So then you are yourself?

*Charm.* My own selfissimo. Now get out of my sight!

*Swindl.* (*cordially*) Well, in sober earnest, we must honour your arrival with a—(*viciously*) flogging, at the pleasure of myself and the new police commissioners.

*Charm.* (*advancing on him*) Ha! Getting scurrilous, eh?

*Swindl.* (*backing off*) Oh no, your safe arrival leads me to say—God blast you, if it matters a straw to me whether you'd been blasted earlier. I have my money for this job, and you can have my curse. As to who you are, or aren't, that needn't trouble me a bit. I'll go and report to the chap that gave me the three bob, and let him know his money's wasted. I'm off. Hard luck and bad health to you! Seeing you're back from abroad, may you be blasted, Charmides, by all the powers above!

[EXIT.]

*Charm.* Now that fellow's gone away, time and oppor-



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

videtur tempus venisse atque occasio.  
iam dudum meum ille pectus pungit aculeus, 1000  
quid illi negoti fuerit ante aedis meas.  
nam epistula illa mihi concenturiat metum :  
in corde et illud mille nummum quam rem agat.  
numquam edepol temere tinnit tintinnabulum :  
nisi qui illud tractat aut movet, mutumst, tacet.  
sed quis hic est, qui huc in plateam cursuram  
incipit?  
lubet observare quid agat : huc concessero.

### IV. 3.

*Stas.* Stasime, fac te propere celerem, recipe te ad  
dominum domum,  
ne subito metus exoriatur scapulis stultitia tua.  
adde gradum, adpropera. iam dudum factumst,  
cum abiisti domo. 1010  
cave sis tibi, ne bubuli in te cottabi crebri crepent,  
si aberis ab eri quaestione. ne destiteris currere.  
ecce hominem te, Stasime, nihili : satin in thermi-  
polio  
condalium es oblitus, postquam thermopotasti  
gutturum?  
recipe te et recurre petere re recenti.

*Charm.* . Huic, quisquis est,  
gurgulios exercitor : is hunc hominem cursuram  
docet.

*Stas.* Quid, homo nihili, non pudet te? tribusne te  
poteris  
memoriam esse oblitum? an vero, quia cum frugi  
hominibus  
ibi bibisti, qui ab alieno facile cohiberent manus?



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

Truthus fuit, Cerconicus, Crinnus, Cercobulus,  
Collabus,

1020

oculicrepidae cruricrepidae, ferriteri mastigiae :  
inter cosne homines condalium te redipisci postulas ?  
quorum eorum unus surrupuit currenti cursori solum.

*Charm.* Ita me di ament, graphicum furem.

*Stas.* Quid ego quod perii petam ?  
nisi etiam laborem ad damnum apponam epithecam  
insuper.

quin tu quod perii periisse ducis ? cape vorsoriam,  
recipe te ad erum.

*Charm.* Non fugitivost hic homo, commeminit domi.

*Stas.* Vtinam veteres hominum mores, veteres parsimoniae  
potius in maiore honore hic essent quam mores mali.

*Charm.* Di immortales, basilica hic quidem facinora inceptat 1030  
loqui.

vetera quaerit, vetera amare hunc more maiorum  
scias.

*Stas.* Nam nunc mores nibili faciunt quod licet, nisi quod  
lubet :

ambitio iam more sanctast, liberast a legibus ;  
scuta iacere fugereque hostis more habent licentiam :  
petere honorem pro flagitio more fit.

*Charm.* Morem improbum.

*Stas.* Strenuiores praeterire more fit.

*Charm.* Nequam quidem.



### THREE BOB DAY

folks' property? There was . . . Fowlstein and Stickerbottom and Snitchbitz and Sternicker and . . . Suchacakeski, scoundrels so fetter-worn that they're nothing but . . . clankeyed clanklegs. And you expect to resecure your slave-ring from such a . . . gang? Why, any one of 'em can steal the . . . sole off a runner's shoe while he's running.

*Charm.* (*aside*) Lord love me! A paragon of thieves!

*Stas.* What's the use of my trying to get what's . . . gone? I'd just be piling work on top of loss as an added . . . bonus. Why don't you take what's gone for gone? 'Bout ship! (*turns again*) Back you go to master!

*Charm.* (*aside*) No fugitive slave, this; he bethinks himself of home.

*Stas.* How I wish the old-time . . . moral standards, the old-time thrift, were held in-greater . . . honour here instead of this cursed . . . "custom" of ours!

*Charm.* (*aside*) Ye immortal gods! He's actually beginning to pronounce on national problems. He wants the old-time ways, you can tell he loves 'em, just as his fine old forbears did.

*Stas.* Why, nowadays the "custom" is to disregard what's . . . proper and do what's . . . pleasing. And corruption is sanctioned now by "custom" and legal . . . loopholes. And "custom" now permits your dropping . . . shield and fleeing foe. It's become the "custom" to be a rotter and then . . . stand for office.

*Charm.* (*aside*) A villainous custom!

*Stas.* It's become the "custom" to pass over men of . . . action.

*Charm.* (*aside*) Indeed outrageous!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Stas.* Mores leges perduxerunt iam in potestatem suam,  
magisque is sunt obnoxiosae quam parentes liberis.  
eae miserae etiam ad parietem sunt fixae clavis  
ferreis,  
ubi malos mores adfigi nimio fuerat aequius. 1040
- Charm.* Lubet adire atque appellare hunc; verum ausculto  
perlubens  
et metuo, si compellabo, ne aliam rem occipiat loqui.
- Stas.* Neque istis quicquam lege sanctumst: leges mori  
serviunt,  
mores autem rapere properant qua sacrum qua  
publicum.
- Charm.* Hercle istis malam rem magnam moribus dignumst  
dari.
- Stas.* Nonne hoc publice animum advorti? nam id genus  
hominum omnibus  
univorsis est advorsum atque omni populo male facit:  
male fidem servando illis quoque abrogant etiam  
fidem,  
qui nil meriti; quippe eorum ex ingenio ingenium  
horum probant.  
hoc qui in mentem venerit mihi? re ipsa modo  
commonitus sum. 1050  
si quoi mutuom quid dederis, fit pro proprio perditum:  
quom repetas, inimicum amicum beneficio invenias  
tuo.  
si mage exigere occupias, duarum rerum exoritur  
optio:  
vel illud quod credideris perdas, vel illum amicum  
amiseris.
- Charm.* Meus est hic quidem Stasimus servos.
- Stas.* Nam ego talentum mutuom  
quoi dederam, talento inimicum mi emi, amicum  
vendidi.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

sed ego sum insipientior; qui rebus curem publicis  
potius quam, id quod proximumst, meo tergo tute-  
lam geram.

eo domum.

*Charm.* Heus tu, asta ilico. audi.

*Stas.* Heus tu, non sto.

*Charm.* Te volo.

*Stas.* Quid si ego me te velle nolo?

*Charm.* Aha nimium, Stasime, saeviter. 1060

*Stas.* Emere meliust cui imperes.

*Charm.* Pol ego emi atque argentum dedi;  
sed si non dicto audiens est, quid ago?

*Stas.* Da magnum malum.

*Charm.* Bene mones, ita facere certumst.

*Stas.* Nisi quidem es obnoxius.

*Charm.* Si bonus es, obnoxius sum; sin secus es, faciam ut  
iubes.

*Stas.* Quid id ad me attinet, bonisne servis tu utare an  
malis?

*Charm.* Quia boni malique in ea re pars tibi est.

*Stas.* Partem alteram  
tibi permitto; illam alteram apud me, quod bonist,  
apponito.

*Charm.* Si eris meritus, fiet. respice huc ad me. ego sum  
Charmides.

*Stas.* Hem quis est qui mentionem homo hominis fecit  
optumi?

*Charm.* Ipsus homo optumus.

*Stas.* Mare terra caelum, di vestram fidem, 1070  
satin ego oculis plane video? estne ipse an non est?  
is est,



## THREE BOB DAY

But what an ass I am to put my mind on public matters instead of being guardian of my own . . . back that's closest to me! I'm going home. (*turns into the lane*)

*Charm.* (*calling*) Hey, you! Stop where you are! Listen here!

*Stas.* (*not looking*) Hey, yourself! I won't stop.

*Charm.* (*behind him*) I want you!

*Stas.* (*not looking*) What if I don't want your . . . wanting me?

*Charm.* Huh! You're much too stuffy, Stasimus.

*Stas.* (*not looking*) Better buy a man to . . . order about.

*Charm.* Gad! I did buy one, and cash down; but if he pays no attention to me, what am I to do?

*Stas.* (*not looking*) Make it bad for his . . . backside.

*Charm.* A good suggestion, I'll certainly be about it.

*Stas.* (*not looking*) That is, unless he's got some . . . hold on you.

*Charm.* If you're a good sort, you have a hold on me; but if not, I'll do as you say.

*Stas.* (*not looking*) What's the odds to me whether your slaves prove good or . . . bad?

*Charm.* Well, it's something you share in, that good and bad.

*Stas.* (*still not looking*) I leave you my share of the . . . last, just set me down for the other share, the good one.

*Charm.* All right, if you deserve it. Come, look round here. I am Charmides.

*Stas.* (*turning with a start*) Eh? Eh? Who's the man that named the . . . best man living?

*Charm.* The best man living, himself.

*Stas.* Heavens and earth and sea! Ye gods above, can I believe my eyes? Is it really himself or not?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

certe is est, is est profecto. o mi ere exoptatissime,  
salve.

*Charm.* Salve, Stasime.

*Stas.* Salvom te—

*Charm.* Scio et credo tibi.  
sed omitto àlia, hoc mihi responde: liberi quid  
agunt mei,  
quos reliqui hic filium atque filiam?

*Stas.* Vivont, valent.

*Charm.* Nempe uterque?

*Stas.* Vterque.

*Charm.* Di me salvom et servatum volunt.  
cetera intus otiose percontabor quae volo.  
camus intro, sequere.

*Stas.* Quo tu te agis?

*Charm.* Quonam nisi domum?

*Stas.* Hicine nos habitare censes?

*Charm.* Vbinam ego alibi censeam?

*Stas.* Iam—

*Charm.* Quid iam?

*Stas.* Non sunt nostrae aedis istae.

*Charm.* Quid ego ex te audio? 1080

*Stas.* Vendidit tuos natus aedis.

*Charm.* Perii.

*Stas.* Praesentariis

argenti minis numeratis—

*Charm.* Quot?

*Stas.* Quadraginta.

*Charm.* Occidi.

quis eas emit?

*Stas.* Callicles, cui tuam rem commendaveras;  
is habitatum huc commigravit nosque exturbavit  
foras.

*Charm.* Vbi nunc filius meus habitat?



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Stas.* Hic in hoc posticulo.

*Charm.* Male disperii.

*Stas.* Credidi aegre tibi id, ubi audisses, fore.

*Charm.* Ego miserrumis periculis sum per maria maxuma  
vectus, capitali periculo per praedones plurimos  
me servavi, salvos redii: nunc hic disperii miser,  
propter eosdem quorum causa fui hac aetate  
exercitus. 1090

admit animam mi aegritudo. Stasime, tene me.

*Stas.* Visne aquam  
tibi petam?

*Charm.* Res quom animam agebat, tum esse  
offusam oportuit.

### IV. 4.

*Call.* Quid hoc hic clamoris audio ante aedis meas?

*Charm.* O Callices, o Callices, o Callices,  
qualine amico mea commendavi bona?

*Call.* Probo et fideli et fido et cum magna fide.  
et salve et salvom te advenisse gaudeo.

*Charm.* Credo, omnia istaec si ita sunt ut praedicas.  
sed quis iste est tuos ornatus?

*Call.* Ego dicam tibi.  
thensaurum effodiebam intus, dotem, filiae 1100



## THREE BOB DAY

*Stas.* Here in the annex, sir.

*Charm.* Good Lord, I'm ruined, ruined!

*Stas.* I fancied you'd take it . . . hard when you heard it, sir.

*Charm.* (*in extremities*) I risked and suffered everything, sailing endless seas! At mortal risk I made my way through multitudes of pirates, and got back home unharmed—and it's now and here I'm ruined, ruined miserably, all on account of the very ones I've worn out my poor old life for! (*swaying*) Ah, I can't breathe, it's such a bitter blow! Hold on to me, Stasimus!

*Stas.* (*obeying*) Want me to get some . . . water for you, sir?

*Charm.* (*recovering ; wryly*) It's my estate I wish they'd watered, when it was gasping for its breath.

Scene 4.     ENTER *Callicles*, IN WORKING CLOTHES, FROM HIS HOUSE.

*Call.* (*before he sees them*) What's all this hullabaloo I hear in front of my house?

*Charm.* (*rushing up to him*) Oh Callicles, Callicles, Callicles! What sort of friend did I leave in charge of my property?

*Call.* (*emphatically*) A sound one, and trustworthy, one you can trust and trust implicitly. (*whispers a few words ; then aloud*) So here you are! And it's glad I am to see you here in safety!

*Charm.* I believe it, if conditions are as you state. But what's that get-up of yours?

*Call.* I'll tell you. (*in a low tone*) I was digging up the treasure inside there to get a dowry for your



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

tuae quae daretur. sed intus narrabo tibi  
et hoc et alia. sequere.

*Charm.*

*Stasime.*

*Stas.*

*Hem.*

*Charm.*

*Strenue*

curre in Piraeum, atque unum curriculum face.  
videbis iam illo navem qua advecti sumus.  
iubeto Sangarionem quae imperaverim  
curare ut efferantur, et tu ito simul.  
solutumst portitori iam portorium;  
nihil est morae. i, i, ambula actutum redi.  
Illic sum atque hic sum.

*Stas.*

*Call.*

Sequere tu hac me intro.

*Charm.*

*Sequor.*

*Stas.*

Hic meo ero amicus solus firmus restitit,  
neque demutavit animum de firma fide,  
quamquam labores multos  
sed hic unus, ut ego suspicor, servat fidem.  
<sup>1</sup> ob rem laborem eum ego cepisse censeo.<sup>1</sup>

1110

## ACTVS V

*Lys.*

Hic homost omnium hominum praecipuos,  
voluptatibus gaudiisque antepotens:  
ita commoda quae cupio eveniunt,  
quod ago adsequitur, subest, subsequitur,  
ita gaudiis gaudium suppeditat.

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *quamquam labores multos ob rem et liberos  
apsentis mei eri eum ego cepisse censeo. sed hic e. q. v.*  
Ritschl.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

modo me Stasimus Lesbonicus servos convenit domi; 1120  
is mihi dixit, suum erum peregre huc advenisse  
Charmidem.

nunc mi is propere conveniundus, ut quae cum eius  
filio

egi, ei rei fundus pater sit potior. eo quantum  
potest.

sed fores hae sonitu suo mihi moram obiciunt in-  
commode.

V. 2.

*Charm.* Neque fuit neque erit neque esse quemquam  
hominem in terra arbitror,  
quod fides fidelitasque amicum erga aequiperet  
tuam;

nam exaedificavisset me ex his aedibus, absque te  
foret.

*Call.* Si quid amicum erga bene feci aut consului fideliter,  
non videor meruisse laudem, culpa caruisse arbitror.<sup>1</sup>

*Charm.* Est ita ut tu dicis. sed ego hoc nequeo mirari satis, 1132  
eum sororem despondisse suam in tam fortem  
familiam.

*Call.* Lysiteli quidem Philtonis filio.

*Lys.* Enim me nominat.

*Charm.* Familiam optumam occupavit.

*Lys.* Quid ego cesso hos conloqui?  
sed maneam etiam opinor, namque hoc commodum  
orditur loqui.

*Charm.* Vah.

*Call.* Quid est.

*Charm.* Oblitus intus dudum tibi sum dicere:

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 1130–1131 :

*nam beneficium, homini proprium quod datur, prosum perit,*<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> *prosum perit* Boxborn : *prosumperit* corrupt (Leo).  
*quod datum utendumst, id repetundi copias quando velit.*



## THREE BOB DAY

I'm looked up at home by Stasimus, Lesbonicus' slave, and told that his master Charmides is back from abroad! I must look him up at once, so as to get my arrangement with the son put on a firmer footing by the father. I'll go this instant. (*listening, then withdrawing*) There's a noise at his door, though, that'll mean delay, confound it!

Scene 2.                    ENTER *Charmides* AND *Callicles*.

*Charm.* (*fervently*) There never was or will be, or is now, anyone else on earth, I do believe, whose faithfulness and fidelity to a friend can equal yours. Why, but for you, he'd have unhoused me from this house.

*Call.* If I have served a friend at all or been faithful to his interests, it doesn't seem to call for praise, but only makes me feel I can't be censured.<sup>1</sup>

*Charm.* (*patting Callicles' shoulder*) Just as you say. But I can't marvel enough at this—that he has betrothed his sister into a family of such standing.

*Call.* Yes, to Philto's son, Lysiteles.

*Lys.* (*aside, pricking up his ears*) Ah, he mentions my name!

*Charm.* It's the finest sort of family he got into.

*Lys.* (*aside*) Why not step up and speak to them? No, I'd better wait a while, I think, for he's beginning on exactly the right topic.

*Charm.* Huh!

*Call.* What is it?

*Charm.* Something I forgot to tell you in there a moment

<sup>1</sup> Vv. 1130–1131: For what you give a man as an outright gift is gone for good; what you give as a loan can be reclaimed at will.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

modo mi adveniēti nugator quidam occēssit  
obviam,

nimis pergraphicus sycophanta; is mille nummum se  
aureum

meo datu tibi ferre et gnato Lesbonico aibat meo; 1140  
quem ego nec qui esset noram, neque eum ante  
usquam conspexi prius,  
sed quid rides?

*Call.* Meo adlegatu venit, quasi qui aurum mihi  
ferret aps te, quod darem tuae gnatae dotem, ut  
filius

tuos, quando illi a me darem, esse allatum id aps te  
crederet

neu qui rem ipsam posset intellegere,<sup>1</sup> thensaurum  
tuom

me esse penes, atque eum <sup>2</sup> me lege populi patrium  
posceret.

*Charm.* Scite edepol.

*Call.* Megaronides communis hoc meus et tuos  
benevolens commentust.

*Charm.* Quin conlaudo consilium et probo.

*Lys.* Quid ego ineptus, dum sermonem vereor inter-  
rumpere,  
solus sto nec quod conatus sum agere ago? hominis  
conloquar. 1150

*Charm.* Quis hic est, qui huc ad nos incedit?

*Lys.* Charmidem socerum suom  
Lysiteles salutat.

*Charm.* Di dent tibi, Lysiteles, quae velis.

*Call.* Non ego sum salute dignus?

*Lys.* Immo salve, Callicles;  
hunc priorem aequomst me habere: tunica propior  
palliost.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *et*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Call.* Deos volo consilia vostra vobis recte vortere.

*Charm.* Filiam meam tibi desponsam esse audio.

*Lys.* Nisi tu nevis.

*Charm.* Immo haud nolo.

*Lys.* Sponden ergo tuam gnatam uxorem mihi?

*Charm.* Spondeo, et mille auri Philippum dotis.

*Lys.* Dotem nil moror.

*Charm.* Si illa tibi placet, placenda dos quoque est quam dat tibi.

postremo quod vis non duces, nisi illud quod non vis feres.

1160

*Call.* Ius hic orat.

*Lys.* Impetrabit te advocato atque arbitro.  
istac lege filiam tuam sponden mi uxorem dari?

*Charm.* Spondeo.

*Call.* Et ego spondeo idem hoc.

*Lys.* Oh, salvete, adfines mei.

*Charm.* Atque edepol sunt res, quas propter tibi tamen suscensui.

*Lys.* Quid ego feci?

*Charm.* Meum corrumpi quia perpe'ssu's filium.

*Lys.* Si id mea voluntate factumst, est quod mihi suscenseas.

sed sine me hoc aps te impetrare quod volo.

*Charm.* Quid id est?

*Lys.* Scies.

si quid stulte fecit, ut ea missa facias omnia.  
quid quassas caput?

*Charm.* Cruciatur cor mi, et metuo.

*Lys.* Quidnam id est?



### THREE BOB DAY

*Call.* (*cordially, to them both*) May your plans have heaven's help and a happy outcome!

*Charm.* So my daughter is betrothed to you, I hear?

*Lys.* Unless you are unwilling, sir.

*Charm.* No, no, I'm not unwilling.

*Lys.* Then you do promise me your daughter?

*Charm.* I promise her—and a thousand pounds for a dowry.

*Lys.* I don't care about a dowry, sir.

*Charm.* (*laughing*) If you're pleased with her, you've got to be pleased with the dowry she gives you, too. In short, you shan't get what you want, unless you take what you don't want.

*Call.* (*to Lysiteles*) His plea is just.

*Lys.* (*buoyant*) He'll win his case, seeing it's defended and decided by you. (*to Charmides*) Then on those terms you promise me your daughter, sir?

*Charm.* I promise her.

*Call.* (*with a smile*) Yes, and I promise her, too.

*Lys.* (*rapturous*) Ah! God bless you, my dear kiusmen!

*Charm.* (*with sudden gravity*) And yet, by Jove, there are certain things that have made me incensed at you.

*Lys.* (*startled*) What have I done?

*Charm.* Well, you allowed my son to become a waster.

*Lys.* Why, sir, if that came about with my approval, you'd have reason to be incensed at me. (*sees Charmides was joking*) But, sir, let me prevail on you to do something I want.

*Charm.* What is it?

*Lys.* This, sir. If your son did act a bit foolishly, do overlook it all. Why shake your head?

*Charm.* (*seriously concerned*) I'm torn between distress and fear.

*Lys.* Why on earth is that?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Charm.* Quom ille itast ut esse nolo, id crucior; metuo, si  
tibi  
denegem quod me oras, ne te leviozem erga me  
putes.  
non gravabor. faciam ita ut vis. 1170
- Lys.* Probus es, eo, ut illum evocem.
- Charm.* Miserumst, male promerita, ut merita sunt, si ulcisci  
non licet.
- Lys.* Aperite hoc, aperite propere et Lesbonicum, si  
domist,<sup>1</sup>  
evocate: ita subitost propere quod eum conventum  
volo.
- Lesb.* Quis homo tam tumultuoso sonitu me excivit<sup>2</sup>  
foras?
- Lys.* Benevolens tuos atque amicus.
- Lesb.* Satine salve? dic mihi.
- Lys.* Recte. tuom patrem redisse salvom peregre  
gaudeo.
- Lesb.* Quis id ait?
- Lys.* Ego.
- Lesb.* Tun vidisti?
- Lys.* Et tute item videas licet.
- Lesb.* O pater, pater mi, salve.
- Charm.* Salve multum, guate mi. 1180
- Lesb.* Si quid tibi, pater, laboris—
- Charm.* Nihil evenit, ne time:  
bene re gesta salvos redeo—si tu modo frugi esse  
vis.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *foras*.

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *subito*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

haec tibi pactast Callicli huius filia.

*Lesb.* Ego ducam, pater,  
et eam et si quam aliam iubebis.

*Charm.* Quamquam tibi suscensui,  
miseria una uni quidem hominist adfatim.

*Call.* Immo huic parumst,  
nam si pro peccatis centum ducat uxores, parumst.

*Lesb.* At iam posthac temperabo.

*Charm.* Dicis, si facies modo.

*Lys.* Numquid causaest quin uxorem cras domum  
ducam?

*Charm.*<sup>1</sup> Licet.

tu in perendinum paratus sis ut ducas. ω. Plaudite.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *optimumst*.



## THREE BOB DAY

(*Lesbonicus clearly more than ready*) We've settled on a wife for you, the daughter of Callicles here.

I'll marry her, father—her and anyone else you say.

(*laughing*) Angry though I was at you, one affliction for one man is really quite sufficient.

(*dour*) Oh no! For *him* it's not enough. Why, if he married a hundred wives, for his sins, it's not enough.

But from now on, sir, I keep myself in hand.

Good words, my son, to live up to.

Is there any reason why I shouldn't marry tomorrow, sir?

None at all. (*to Lesbonicus*) And you make ready for your own marriage the day after.

*Stage Musician (stepping forward)*

Give us your applause.

[EXEUNT OMNES.]







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## ARGUMENTVM

Tres unam pereunt adulescentes mulierem.  
Rure unus, alter urbe, peregre tertius;  
Utque ista ingenti militem tangat bolo,  
Clam sibi supposuit clandestino editum.  
Vi magna servos est ac trucibus moribus,  
Lupae ni rapiant domini parsimoniam;  
Et is tamen mollitur. miles advenit  
Natique causa dat propensa munera.  
Tandem compressae pater cognoscit omnia,  
Utque illam ducat qui vitiarat convenit,  
Suomque is repetit a meretrice subditum.

## PERSONAE

DINIARCHVS ADVLESCENS  
ASTAPHIVM ANCILLA  
TRVCVLENTVS SERVVS  
PHRONESIVM MERETRIX  
STRATOPHANES MILES  
CYAMVS SERVVS  
STRABAX ADVLESCENS  
CALLICLES SENEX  
ANCILLAE



## ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY

Three young fellows are infatuated with the same woman; one a country youth, another a city man, the third a soldier from abroad. In order to nick the soldier for something really handsome, she smuggles in a baby of secret parentage and calls it hers. There is a slave who is exceedingly rough and gruff in trying to keep his master's savings from the clutch of jades; but even he is thawed out. The soldier arrives and "his son's" birth makes him prodigiously generous. Finally the father of the outraged girl learns everything, and it is agreed that the man who ravished her shall marry her, and this man then reclaims his child from the courtesan who posed as its mother.

## DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

DINIARCHUS, *a young Athenian.*

ASTAPHIUM, *Phronesium's maid.*

TRUCULENTUS, *slave in the family of Strabax.*

PHRONESIUM, *a courtesan.*

STRATOPHANES, *a soldier.*

CYAMUS, *slave of Diniarchus.*

STRABAX, *a country youth.*

CALLICLES, *an old gentleman of Athens.*

MAIDSERVANTS, *belonging to Phronesium and Callicles.*



# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## PROLOGVS

Perparvam partem postulat Plautus loci  
de vestris magnis atque amoenis moenibus,  
Athenas quo sine architectis conferat.  
quid nunc? daturin estis an non? adnuont.  
scio rem quidem urbis me ablaturum sine mora;  
quid si de vostro quippiam orem? abnuont.  
eu berele in vobis resident mores pristini,  
ad denegandum ut celeri lingua utamini.

sed hoc agamus qua huc ventumst gratia.  
Athenis mutabo ita ut hoc est proscaenium 10  
tantisper dum transigimus hanc comoediam.  
hic habitat mulier, nomen cui est Phronesium;  
haec huius saeculi mores in se possidet:  
numquam ab amatore<sup>1</sup> postulat id quod  
datumst,

sed relicuom dat operam ne sit relicuom,  
poscendo atque auferendo, ut mos est mulierum;  
nam omnes id faciunt, cum se amari intellegunt.<sup>2</sup>

ea se peperisse puerum simulat militi,  
quo citius rem ab eo averrat cum pulvisculo.  
quid multa? <sup>3</sup> 20

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *suo*.

<sup>2</sup> Leo notes lacuna here.

<sup>3</sup> Vv. 20–21 are hopelessly mutilated: *stuiç superet muliere hiscum anima ad eum habenti erce teritur*. Leo notes lacuna following.



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# TITUS . MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## ACTVS I

*Din.*

Non omnis aetas ad perdiscendum sat est  
amanti, dum id perdiscat, quot pereat modis;  
neque eam rationem eapse umquam educet

Venus,

quam penes amantum summa summarum redit,  
quot amans exemplis ludificetur, quot modis  
pereat quotque exoretur exorabilis:

quot illic blanditiae, quot illic iracundiae  
sunt, quot supplicia danda, di vostram fidem,  
hui,

quid perierandum est etiam, praeter munera: 30

primum dum merces annua, is primus bolust,  
ob eam tres noctes dantur; interea loci

aut aera<sup>1</sup> aut vinum aut oleum aut triticum,  
temptat benignusne an bonae frugi sies:

quasi in piscinam rete qui iaculum parat,

quando abiit rete pessum, adducit lineam;

si inierit rete piscis, ne effugiat cavet:

dum huc dum illic rete circumvortit, impedit  
piscis usque adeo donicum eduxit foras.

itidem si amator id quod oratur dedit 40

atque est benignus potius quam frugi bonae,<sup>2</sup>

si semel amoris poculum accepit meri

eaque intra pectus se penetravit potio,

<sup>1</sup> *aut aera Ital. : aut ara corrupt (Leo).*

<sup>2</sup> *Leo brackets following v., 42 :  
adduntur noctes, interim ille hamum vorat.*



# TRUCULENTUS

## ACT I

ENTER *Diniarchus*. HE SURVEYS *Phronesium's* HOUSE  
WITH A RUEFUL AIR.

*Din.* (*disgustedly*) A lover can spend his whole life learning, and yet not really learn, how many means are found to wreck him. And Venus herself, the mistress of all that lovers have and are, will never teach arithmetic of this sort—how many kinds of fool a lover's made, how many means are found to wreck him, how many wheedling ways are used to wheedle him. And how many blandishments there are, how many ireful moods, how many penitential gifts! God help us! Whew! And then the lying that one's let in for, besides the presents!

First of all, the yearly fee—that's her first haul, and for that you get three nights. Meanwhile she tries you with calls for cash or wine or oil or wheat to see if you're liberal or thrifty. It's like an expert that throws his casting net in a fish pond, and, when it's gone to the bottom, tightens up the rope. He takes good care no fish he may have netted gets away. He swirls his net now here, now there, keeping the fish entangled all the time until he lands them. A lover's in the same fix—let him give what's begged for and be liberal instead of thrifty,<sup>1</sup> let him once drain that cup of undiluted love and feel the draught deep down

<sup>1</sup> v. 42: More nights are added, he meanwhile swallowing the hook.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

extemplo et ipse perit et res et fides.  
si iratum scortumst forte amatori suo,  
bis perit amator, ab re atque ab animo simul;  
sin alter altri propitiust, idem perit:  
si raras noctes ducit, ab animo perit;  
sin crebras ducit, ipse gaudet, res perit. 50

ita agitur tecum in aedibus lenosis.<sup>1</sup>  
prius quam unum dederis, centum quae poscat  
parat:

aut perit aurum aut conscissa pallula est  
aut empta ancilla aut aliquod vasum argen-  
teum

aut vasum ahenum antiquom aut lectus  
sculptilis<sup>2</sup>

aut armariola Graeca, aut aliquid semper est  
quod praestet<sup>3</sup> debeatque amans scorto suo.

atque haec celamus nos clam magna industria,  
quom rem fidemque nosque nosmet perdimus,  
ne qui parentes neu cognati sentiant;  
quos cum celamus si faximus conscios, 60  
qui nostrae aetati tempestivo temperent,  
unde anteparta demus postpartoribus,  
faxim lenonum nec<sup>4</sup> scortorum plus siet  
et minus damnosorum hominum quam nunc  
sunt siet.

nam nunc lenonum et scortorum plus est fere,  
quam olim muscarum est cum caletur maxime.  
nam nusquam alibi si sunt, circum argentarias  
scorta et lenones qui sedent cottidie,  
ea nimia est ratio; quippe qui certo scio,  
ibi plus scortorum esse iam quam ponderum.

<sup>1</sup> *ita agitur tecum* Leo: *iteca in aedibus lenosis* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> *sculptilis* Kiessling: *laptiles* corrupt (Leo).



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quos quidem quam ad rem dicam in argentariis 70  
referre habere, nisi pro tabulis, nescio,

ubi aera perscribantur usuraria :

accepta dico; expensa ne qui censeat.

postremo id magno in populo multis<sup>1</sup> homi-  
nibus,

re placida atque otiosa victis hostibus :

amare oportet omnes qui quod dent habent.

nam mihi haec meretrix quae hic habet,

Phronesium,

suom nomen omne ex pectore exmovit meo,

phronesim, nam phronesis est sapientia.

nam me fuisse huic fateor summum atque

intumum,

quod amantis multo pessimum est pecuniae; 80

eadem postquam alium repperit qui plus daret,

damnosio rem meo<sup>2</sup> exinde immovit loco,

quem antehac odiosum sibi esse memorabat

mala,

Babyloniensem militem. is nunc dicitur

venturus peregre; eo nunc commenta est

dolum :

peperisse simulat esse, ut me extrudat foras

atque ut cum solo pergraecetur milite;

eum esse simulat militem puero patrem.

eum isti suppositum puerum opinor pessumae.

mihi verba retur dare se? an me censuit

celare se potesse, gravida si foret? 90

nam ego Lemno advenio Athenas nudius tertius,

legatus hinc quo cum publico imperio fui.

sed haec quidem eius Astaphium est ancillula;

cum ea quoque etiam mihi fuit commercium.

<sup>1</sup> *multis* Camerarius : *mulier corrupt* (Leo).



## TRUCULENTUS

earthly use harlots and pimps are at the bankers', I don't see, except to serve as account books for recording loans—loans made, that is; don't think I mean loans paid.

In short, this is how a great and teeming people occupies itself in time of peace and leisure, after its wars are won: all those that have the price must have amours.

Now here's my case—this courtesan that lives in there, (*pointing*) Phronesium, has expunged that name of hers entirely from my mind, expunged all phronesis, phronesis being wisdom. I used to hold—yes, I admit it—the highest, closest place with her, and that's the very damnedest place for a lover's purse. But as soon as she found another man she could get more out of, she thereupon in-ushered him, as a better prodigal, to my seat, despite her earlier talk of how she loathed him, blast her! He's a Babylonian soldier. It's said now he's arriving from abroad; so now she has a plot all ready: she's pretending she has had a baby, so as to crowd me out and live in style with just her soldier—this soldier being the baby's father, she pretends. Huh! This baby being the slut's by proxy only, in my opinion! Does she fancy she can gull me? Did she suppose she could hide it from me, if she'd been with child? It was just the day before yesterday I got back to Athens after that mission of mine to Lemnos in charge of those state affairs. (*as Phronesium's door opens*) Ah, but there's her little maid Astaphium! I've had dealings with that young lady, too. (*withdraws*)

---

<sup>2</sup> *meo* Lindsay: *mihi* corrupt (Leo).



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

I. 2.

*Ast.*

Ad fores auscultate atque adservate aedis,  
ne quis adventor gravior abaeat quam adveniat,  
neu, qui manus attulerit steriles intro ad nos,  
gravidas foras exportet. novi ego hominum  
mores;

ita nunc adulescentes morati sunt: quini  
aut seni adveniunt ad scorta congerrones,  
consulta sunt consilia: quando intro ad-  
venerunt,

100

oenus eorum aliqui osculum amicae usque oggerit,  
dum illi agant ceteri cleptae;

sin vident quempiam se adservare, obludiant qui  
custodem oblectent

per ioculum et ludum; de nostro saepe edunt:  
quod fartores, faciunt.

fit pol hoc, et pars spectatorum scitis pol haec vos  
me haud mentiri.

ibist ibus<sup>1</sup> pugnae et virtuti de praedonibus praedam  
capere.

at ecastor nos rursus lepide referimus gratiam  
furibus nostris:

110

nam ipsi vident cum eorum aggerimus bona atque  
etiam ultro ipsi aggerunt ad nos.

*Din.*

Me illis quidem haec verberat verbis.

nam ego huc bona mea degessi.

*Ast.*

Commemini, iam pol ego eumpse ad nos, si domi  
erit, mecum adducam.

*Din.*

Heus, mane dum, Astaphium, prius quam abis.

*Ast.*

Qui revocat?

*Din.*

Scies • respice huc.

*Ast.*

Quis est?

<sup>1</sup> *ibist ibus* Camerarius: *ibi sibus* corrupt (Leo).



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Din.* Vobis qui multa bona esse volt.  
*Ast.* Dato, si esse vis.  
*Din.* Faxo erunt. respice huc modo.  
*Ast.* Oh,  
 cnicas me miseram, quisquis es.  
*Din.* Pessuma, mane. 120  
*Ast.* Optume, odio es.  
 Diniarchusne illic est? atque is est.  
*Din.* Salva sis.  
*Ast.* Et tu.  
*Din.* Fer contra manum et pariter gradere.  
*Ast.* Tuis servio atque audiens sum imperiis.  
*Din.* Quid agis?  
*Ast.* Valeo et validum teneo.  
 peregre quoniam advenis, cena detur.  
*Din.* Bene dicis benigneque vocas, Astaphium.  
*Ast.* Amabo,  
 sine me ire, era quo iussit.  
*Din.* Eas.  
 sed quid ais?  
*Ast.* Quid vis?  
*Din.* Dic quo iter inceptas; quis est quem arcessis?  
*Ast.* Archilinem 130  
<sup>1</sup> obstetricem.  
*Din.* Mala tu femina es, oles unde es disciplinam.  
 manifesto mendaci, mala, teneo te.  
*Ast.* Quid iam, amabo?  
*Din.* Quia te adducturam huc dixeras eumpse, non  
 eampse;  
 nunc mulier facta est iam ex viro: mala es prae-  
 strigiatrix.  
 sed tandem eloquere, quis is homost, Astaphium?  
 novos amator?

<sup>1</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *tonstricem* Bergk.



## TRUCULENTUS

- Din.* A man that wishes you girls all sorts of good things,  
*Ast.* (*not turning*) If that's your wish, gratify it.  
*Din.* I will. Only do look back here.  
*Ast.* (*not turning*) Oh dear, you pester me to death, whoever you are. (*goes on*)  
*Din.* Wait, you little devil!  
*Ast.* You bore me, angel mine. (*turns*) Is that Diniarchus? Yes, it is.  
*Din.* (*steps toward her*) Greetings!  
*Ast.* (*indifferently, waiting for him*) And to you.  
*Din.* Out with your hand and do some walking yourself.  
*Ast.* (*advancing languidly*) I am your humble and obedient servant, sir.  
*Din.* (*as they shake hands*) How are you?  
*Ast.* Healthy, and holding the hand of a healthy man. Now you're back from abroad, a (*vaguely*) dinner party's due.  
*Din.* (*ironical*) Pleasant thought; nice of you to invite me, Astaphium. (*still holding her hand*)  
*Ast.* Come, my dear sir, let me go where mistress ordered.  
*Din.* (*releasing her*) Go along. (*suddenly*) But see here!  
*Ast.* What do you want?  
*Din.* Tell me where you're off to? Who is it you're fetching?  
*Ast.* Archilis the midwife.  
*Din.* You're a sly wench, you smell of your home training. I've caught you in a lie, clear as can be, slyboots.  
*Ast.* Why, my dear sir, how so?  
*Din.* Well, it was "him" you said you'd bring, not "her." Now your man has turned woman. You're a sly trickstress. But come, out with it, Astaphium. Who is this fellow? Some new lover?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Ast.* Nimis otiosum te arbitror hominem esse. .
- Din.* Qui arbitrare?
- Ast.* Quia tuo vestimento et cibo alienis rebus curas. .
- Din.* Vos mihi dedistis otium.
- Ast.* Qui, amabo?
- Din.* Ego expedibo.  
rem perdidisti apud vos, vos meum negotium ab-  
stulistis.
- Ast.* si rem servassem, fuit ubi negotiosus essem. 140
- Ast.* An tu te Veneris publicum aut Amoris alia lege  
habere posse postulas, quin otiosus fias?
- Din.* Illa, haud ego, habuit publicum: pervorse inter-  
pretaris;  
nam advorsum legem meam ob meam scripturam  
pecudem cepit.
- Ast.* Plerique idem quod tu facis faciunt rei male  
gerentes:  
ubi non est, scripturam unde dent, incusant  
publicanos.
- Din.* Male vertit res pecuaria mihi apud vos: nunc  
vicissim  
volo habere aratiunculam pro copia hic apud vos.
- Ast.* Non arvos hic, sed pascuost ager: si arationes  
habitu' s, qui arari solent, ad pueros ire meliust. 150  
huno nos habemus publicum, illi alii sunt publi-  
cani.
- Din.* Vtrosque pergnovi probe.
- Ast.* Em istoc pol tu otiosu' s,  
cum et illic et hic pervorsus es. sed utriscum rem  
esse mavis?
- Din.* Procaciores estis vos, sed illi periuriores;  
illis perit quidquid datur, neque ipsis apparet  
quicquam:



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

vos saltē si quid quaeritis, ecibitis et comestis.  
postremo illi sunt improbi, vos nequam et gloriosae.  
*Ast.* Male quae in nos vis, ea omnia tibi dicis, Diniarche,  
et nostram et illorum vicem.

*Din.*

Qui istuc?

*Ast.*

Rationem dicam:

quia qui alterum incusat probri, sumpse enitere  
oportet.

160

tu a nobis sapiens nihil habes, nos nequam abs te  
habemus.

*Din.*

O Astaphium, haud istoc modo solita es me ante  
appellare,  
sed blande, cum illuc, quod apud vos nunc est, apud  
me habebam.

*Ast.*

Dum vivit, hominem noveris: ubi mortuost, quies-  
cat.

te dum vivebas noveram.

*Din.*

An me mortuom arbitrare?

*Ast.*

Qui potis,<sup>1</sup> amabo, planius? qui antehac amator  
summus  
habitu's, nunc ad amicam venis querimoniam  
deferre.

*Din.*

Vestra hercle factum iniuria, quae properavistis  
olim:

rapere otiose oportuit, diu ut essem incolumis vobis.

*Ast.*

Amator similest oppidi hostilis.

*Din.*

Quo argumento?<sup>1</sup>

170

*Ast.*

Quam primum expugnari potis,<sup>1</sup> tam id optimum est  
amicae.

*Din.*

Ego fateor, sed longe aliter est amicus atque  
amator:

certe hercle quam veterrimus, tam homini optimust  
amicus.

*Ast.*

Si vivit.



## TRUCULENTUS

girls at least, on getting something, do drink it down and eat it up. In brief, they're no good, and you're conceited good-for-nothings.

*Ast.* All this abuse you mean for us you're piling on yourself, Diniarchus, instead of us and them.

*Din.* How so?

*Ast.* I'll tell you how: because "he who damns another's faults had best be paragon himself." You haven't profited by us, wise boy; we have by you, despite our good-for-nothingness.

*Din.* (*pleadingly*) Oh Astaphium, that's not the tone you used to take with me before! How fond you were when all that's now in your hands lay in mine!

*Ast.* (*frigidly*) While a man's alive you know him: when he's dead, let him rest in peace. Yourself now—while you lived I knew you.

*Din.* Eh? D'ye suppose I'm dead?

*Ast.* Why, bless your soul, how could one be more so? You, the lover that once stood supreme, now come and bring your sweetheart—wails.

*Din.* Good Lord! That's due to your own bad tactics; you girls were in too much of a rush. More leisurely marauding was the thing, so that I should last you longer.

*Ast.* A lover's like a hostile city.

*Din.* How do you mean?

*Ast.* The sooner he can be stormed and sacked, the better for his girl friend.

*Din.* I admit that, but a friend's far different from a lover. Heavens, yes! The older a friend is, the better you find him. That's sure.

*Ast.* If he's alive.

---

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *est*.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Din.* Non berele occidi, sunt mi etiam fundi et aedis.  
*Ast.* Cur, obsecro, ergo ante ostium pro ignoto alienoque  
 astas?

i intro, haud alienus tu quidem es; nam ecastor  
 neminem hodie  
 mage amat corde atque animo suo, si quidem habes  
 fundum atque aedis.

*Din.* In melle sunt linguae sitae vestrae atque orationes,  
 facta atque corda in felle sunt sita atque acerbo  
 aceto:

eo dicta lingua dulcia datis, corde amara facitis.<sup>1</sup>

180

*Ast.* Non istace, mea benignitas, decuit te fabulari,  
 sed istos qui cum geniis suis belligerant parcipromi.

*Din.* Mala es atque eadem quae soles inlecebra.

*Ast.* Vt expectatus  
 peregre advenisti, quam, obsecro, cupiebat te era  
 videre.

*Din.* Quid tandem?

*Ast.* Te unum ex omnibus amat.

*Din.* Euge, fundi et aedis,  
 per tempus subvenistis. sed quid ais, Astaphium?  
*Ast.* Quid vis?

*Din.* Estne intus nunc Phronesium?

*Ast.* Vtut aliis, tibi quidem intus.

*Din.* Valetne?

*Ast.* Immo edepol melius iam fore spero, te  
 ubi videbit.

*Din.* Hoc nobis vitium maximumst, cum amamus tum  
 hoc perimus:

190

si illud quod volumus dicitur, palam cum mentiuntur,  
 verum esse insciti credimus, ne ut iusta utamur ira.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 181:

*Ast.* *Amantes si qui non danunt, non didici fabulari.*<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *non didici fabulare* P.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Heia, haud itast res.

*Din.* Ain tu eam me amare?

*Ast.* Immo unice unum.

*Din.* Peperisse audivi.

*Ast.* Ah obsecro, tace, Diniarche.

*Din.* Quid iam?

*Ast.* Horresco misera, mentio quotiens fit partionis,  
ita paene nulla tibi fuit Phronesium. i intro, amabo,  
vise illam. atque opperimino: iam exhibit; nam  
lavabat.

*Din.* Quid ais tu? quae numquam fuit praegnas, qui  
parere potuit?

nam equidem illi uterum, quod sciam, numquam  
extumere sensi.

*Ast.* Celabat metuebatque te, ne tu sibi persuaderes,  
ut abortioni operam daret puerumque ut enicaret. 200

*Din.* Tum pol isti est puero pater Babylo niensis miles,  
quo ius nunc ista adventum expetit.

*Ast.* Immo ab eo ut nuntiatumst,  
iam hic adfuturum aiunt eum. nondum advenisse  
miror.

*Din.* Ibo igitur intro?

*Ast.* Quippini? tam audacter quam domum ad te;  
nam tu quidem edepol noster es etiam nunc,  
Diniarche.

*Din.* Quam mox te huc recipis?

*Ast.* Iam hic ero: propest, profecta quo sum.

*Din.* Redi vero actutum. ego interim hic apud vos  
opperibor.



## TRUCULENTUS

*Ast.* Now, now, now! That's not so.

*Din.* So you say she loves me?

*Ast.* Ah yes, you're all in all to her.

*Din.* I heard she's had a child.

*Ast.* (*apparently much upset*) Oh hush, for God's sake, Diniarchus!

*Din.* What's wrong?

*Ast.* Oh poor me! I shudder every time that childbirth's mentioned! Ah, how close you came to having no Phronesium! But go on in and see her, there's a dear. You'll have to wait, though. She'll soon be out. She was just bathing.

*Din.* Look here, you. How could she give birth to a child she never carried? Why, she certainly never showed any plumpening, to my knowledge.

*Ast.* She hid it from you, fearing you'd urge her to have an abortion, and be the death of her baby boy.

*Din.* Then by the Lord, that baby boy's father is the Babylonian soldier whom she's waiting for now so eagerly.

*Ast.* Yes, and according to a message from him, they say he'll be here shortly. I wonder he hasn't arrived already.

*Din.* (*doubtfully*) Am I to go in, then?

*Ast.* (*petting him*) Of course you are—as boldly as in your own house. Why, the idea, Diniarchus! You're still one of us, even now.

*Din.* (*trying to hold her*) How long before you're back?

*Ast.* Oh, I'll be here soon: it's near by, the place I'm bound for.

*Din.* Be sure you hurry back. I'll be waiting here at your place, meanwhile.

[EXIT.]



# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## ACTVS II

*Ast.*

Hahahae, requievi,

quia intro abiit odium meum.

210

tandem sola sum. nunc quidem meo arbitrato  
loquar libere quae volam et quae lubebit.

huic homini amanti mea era apud nos naeniam dixit  
domi,

nam fundi et aedis obligatae sunt ob Amoris prae-  
dium.

verum apud hunc mea era sua consilia summa  
eloquitur libere,

magisque adeo ei consiliarius hic amicust quam  
auxiliarius.

dum fuit, dedit; nunc nihil habet: quod habebat nos  
habemus,

iste id habet quod nos habuimus. humanum facinus  
factumst.

actutum fortunae solent mutari, varia vitast:

nos divitem istum meminimus atque iste pauperes  
nos:

220

verterunt sese memoriae; stultus sit qui id miretur.

si eget, necessest nos pati: amavit, aequom ei  
factum est.

piaculumst miserere nos hominum rei male geren-  
tum.<sup>1</sup>

meretricem sentis similem esse condecet,

quemquem hominem attigerit, profecto ei aut malum  
aut damnum dare.

numquam amatoris meretricem oportet causam  
noscere,



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quin, ubi nil det, pro infrequente eum mittat militia  
domum.

230

nec umquam erit probus quisquam amator nisi qui  
rei inimicust suae.

nugae sunt nisi, modo quom dederit, dare iam  
lubeat denuo;

is amatur hic apud nos, qui quod dedit id oblitust  
datum.

dum habeat, dum amet; ubi nil habeat, alium  
quaestum coepiat.

aequo animo, ipse si nihil habeat, aliis qui habent,  
det locum.<sup>1</sup>

at nos male agere praedicant viri solere secum,  
nosque esse avaras. qui sumus? quid male nos  
agimus tandem?

nam ecastor numquam satis dedit suae quisquam  
amicae amator,

neque pol nos satis accepimus neque umquam ulla  
satis poposcit.

240

nam quando sterilis est amator ab datis,  
si negat se habere quod det, soli credimus,  
nec satis accipimus, satis cum quod det non  
habet:

semper datores novos oportet quaerere,  
qui de thensauris integris demus danunt.  
velut hic agrestis est adulescens, qui hic habet,  
nimis pol mortalis lepidus nimisque probus  
dator.<sup>2</sup>

sed est huic unus servos violentissimus,  
qui ubi quamque nostrarum videt prope hasce  
aedis adgrediri,

250

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 236 :  
*probust amator, qui relictis rebus rem perdit suam.*



## TRUCULENTUS

cashiered for desertion. You won't ever find a high class lover that doesn't hate his bank account. He's no use, unless he enjoys following up new gifts with newer ones. The man who's loved at our house is the one who forgets the gift that's given. He can love while he can pay; when he can't, let him try another occupation. If he can't pay, himself, he should give place to those that can, and do it gracefully<sup>1</sup> Yet it's always our dreadful conduct, our greed, the men keep harping on. How ours? What dreadful conduct, pray? Why, good heavens, there was never a lover lived that provided his girl security enough, and God knows we haven't had security enough, and no girl ever asked enough. Why, when a lover's gifts run dry and he says he has nothing to give us, we accept his word alone and go without security when he has none to offer. Yes, we must always be on the look-out for new givers, that make their gifts from treasures still untouched. Just like this country lad that lives here. (*indicating the house of Strabax*) Ah, what a delightful soul he is, what a high class giver!<sup>2</sup> But he has a slave that's a perfect brute. The minute he spies any of us coming near this house, he scares us

<sup>1</sup> V. 236 : A high class lover's one that drops all else and then drops all his money.

<sup>2</sup> Vv 248-249: But only last night, without his father knowing it, he jumped over the garden wall there and joined us. He's the man I want a word with.

---

<sup>3</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 248-249 :  
*sed is clam patrem etiam hac nocte illac  
per hortum transiluit ad nos. eum volo convenire.*



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

item ut de frumento anseres, clamore absterret  
abigit;

ita est agrestis. sed fores, quidquid est futurum,  
feriam.

ecquis huic tutelam ianuae gerit? ecquis intus exit?

II. 2.

*Truc.* Quis illic est qui tam proterve nostras aedis arietat?

*Ast.* Ego sum, respice ad me.

*Truc.* Quid ego? nonne ego videor tibi?  
quid tibi ad hasce accessio aedis est prope aut  
pultatio?

*Ast.* Salve.

*Truc.* Sat mihi est tuae salutis. nil moror. non  
salveo?

aegrotare malim quam esse tua salute sanior.  
sed volo scire, quid debetur hic tibi nostrae domi?

*Ast.* Comprime sis eiram.

*Truc.* Eam quidem berele tu, quae solita es, comprime,  
impudens, quae per ridiculum rustico suades  
stuprum.

*Ast.* Eiram dixi: ut decepisti! dempsisti unam litteram.  
nimis quidem hic truculentust.

*Truc.* Pergin male loqui, mulier, mihi?

*Ast.* Quid tibi ego male dico?

*Truc.* Quia enim me truncum lentum nominas.  
nunc adeo, nisi abis actutum aut dicis quid quaeras  
cito,  
iam hercle ego hic te, mulier, quasi sus catulos  
pedibus proteram.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Truncum lentum* = a poor dull log.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Rus merum hoc quidemst.

*Truc.* Pudendumst vero clurinum pecus.

advenisti huc te ostentatum, cum exornatis ossibus, 270

quia tibi suaso infecisti propudiosa pallulam? <sup>1</sup>

*Ast.* Nunc places, cum mi inclementer dicis.

*Truc.* Quid hoc quod te rogo?

mancupion qui accipias, gestas tecum ahenos anulos?

pignus da ni lignae haec sunt quas habes Victorias.

*Ast.* Ne attigas me.

*Truc.* Egon te tangam? ita me amabit sarculum,

ut ego me ruri amplexari mavelim patulam bovem

cumque ea noctem in stramentis pernōctare

perpetem,

quam tuas centum cenatas noctes mihi dono dari.

rus tu mi opprobras? ut nanta es hominem quem

pudeat probri!

280

sed quid apud nostras negoti, mulier, est aedis tibi?

quid tu huc occursas, in urbem quotienscumque

advenimus?

*Ast.* Mulieres volo convenire vostras.

*Truc.* Quas tu mulieres

mihi narras, ubi musca nulla feminast in aedibus?

*Ast.* Nullan istic mulier habitat?

*Truc.* Rus, inquam, abierunt. abi.

*Ast.* Quid clamas, insane?

*Truc.* Abire hinc ni properas grandi gradu,

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 272 :  
*an eo bella es, quia accepisti armillas aeneas?*



## TRUCULENTUS

- Ast.* (in a low tone) If this isn't plain farmyard!
- Truc.* (overhearing) What's really to be abashed of is monkey stock. (surveying her with attempted disdain) Come here to show off, did you, with those bedizened bones, all because you've dipped that mantlet of yours in smoke-dye, strumpet?<sup>1</sup>
- Ast.* (softly) Now I like you, you're so nice and gruff to me.
- Truc.* (weakening, almost imperceptibly) What d'ye say to my question? (grabbing at her hand) Carry those brass rings about to claim property with, do you? (eyeing her earrings) Bet you those are wooden Victories you're wearing. (fingers them)
- Ast.* (coyly) Don't you touch me, sir.
- Truc.* (recovering) I touch you? So help me holy grub-hoe, I'd rather take me a broad-horned ox on the farm to cuddle, and stay beside it on the straw the whole night through, than get the gift of you for a hundred nights, freedinnered. Shaming me with the farm, eh? Huh! Haven't you hit on a man that's ashamed of such a scandal! But what's your call to come to our house, woman? What d'ye mean, running over here every time we come to town?
- Ast.* I want to see your women folks.
- Truc.* What's this talk of women folks, when there isn't a fly—female—at our house?
- Ast.* No woman's living there?
- Truc.* Gone off to the farm, I tell you. (almost ogling her, then bawling) Off with you!
- Ast.* Why yell so, you wild man?
- Truc.* You stir your stumps and hustle off, or by the

<sup>1</sup> v. 272: Pretty, ain't you, just because you got some brass bracelets?



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

iam hercle ego istos fictos compositos crispas  
cincinnos tuos  
unguentatos usque ex cerebro exvellam.

*Ast.* Quanam gratia?

*Truc.* Quia ad foris nostras unguentis uncta es ausa  
accedere

quiaque istas huecas tam belle purpurissatas habes. 290

*Ast.* Erubui mecastor misera propter clamorem tuom.

*Truc.* Itane? erubuisti? quasi vero corpori reliqueris  
tuo potestatem coloris ulli capiendi, mala.  
buccas rubrica, creta omne corpus intinxti tibi.  
pessumae estis.

*Ast.* Quid est quod vobis pessumae haec male fecerint?

*Truc.* Scio ego plus quam tu arbitrare scire me.

*Ast.* Quid id obsecrost  
quod scias?

*Truc.* Erilis noster filius apud vos Strabax,  
ut pereat, ut eum inliciat in malam fraudem et  
probrum.

*Ast.* Sanus si videare, dicam: dicis contumeliam.  
nemo homo hic solet perire apud nos: res perdunt  
suas;  
ubi res perdidere, abire hinc, si volunt, salvis  
licet.

ego istunc non novi adulescentem vostrum.

*Truc.* Veron serio?  
quid maceria illa ait, in horto quae est, quae in  
noctes singulas  
latere fit minor, qua istoc ad vos damni permensust  
viam?

*Ast.* Nil mirum—vetus est maceria—lateres si veteres  
ruont.

*Truc.* Ain tu vero veteres lateres ruere? numquam edepol  
mihi



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quisquam homo mortalis posthac duarum rerum  
creduit,

ni ego vostra ero maiori facta denarravero.

*Ast.* Estne item violentus ut tu?

*Truc.* Non enim ille meretriculis  
munerandis rem coegit, verum parsimonia  
duritiaque: quae nunc ad vos clam exportantur,  
pessumae;

310

ea vos estis exunguimini ebibitis. egone haec  
mussitem?

iam quidem berele ibo ad forum atque haec facta  
narrabo seni,

neque istuc in-segesti tergo coget examen mali.

*Ast.* Si ecastor hic homo sinapi victitet, non censeam  
tam esse tristem posse. at pol ero benevolens visust  
suo.

verum ego illum, quamquam violentust, spero  
inmutari pote

blandimentis, oramentis, ceteris meretriciis;

vidi equom ex indomito domitum fieri atque alias  
beluas.

nunc ad eram revidebo. sed eccum odium progre-  
ditur meum.

320

tristis exit. haud convenit etiam hic dum Phrone-  
sium.

### II. 3.

*Din.* Piscis ego credo, qui usque dum vivont lavant,  
minus diu lavare quam haec lavat Phronesium.  
si proinde amentur, mulieres diu quam lavant,  
omnes amantes balneatores sient.



## TRUCULENTUS

off? By Jupiter, may no living soul ever again believe me in the two<sup>1</sup> big things, if I don't set old master right about your goings on.

*Ast.* (*sweetly*) Is he the same ferocious sort you are?

*Truc.* Master? Huh! It wasn't by treating little trollops he laid up his money; it came of thrift and hard living—and now it's being smuggled off to your place, you awful creatures. That's what you gorge on and grease yourselves and guzzle on. And me keep it mum? Dashed if I don't off to the forum this minute, and let the old man hear these doings—I won't have my hide sprouting a mess of trouble I didn't go a-sowing.

[EXIT.]

*Ast.* Mercy me, I wouldn't think the man could be so snappish, if he lived on mustard. He certainly seemed a good friend to his master, though. (*after reflection*) Oh well, ferocious or not, I have my hopes that our alluring ways and wheedlements and the rest of our little arts can make a changed man of him. I've seen untamed horses tamed, yes, and other beasts. (*turning toward her house*) Now to see mistress again. (*the door opens*) Ah, but there's my pest appearing. He comes out glum. No meeting with Phronesium even yet.

Scene 3. ENTER *Diniarchus*, NERVOUS AND IRRITABLE.

*Din.* Even fish, that spend their whole lives bathing, don't bathe as long, I do believe, as this Phronesium here. If women would let you love 'em the length of time their baths last, lovers would all turn bathmen.

<sup>1</sup> Possibly things divine and human; possibly a corruption of *divinarum*



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Non quis parumper durare opperirier?  
*Din.* Quin hercle lassus iam sum durando miser:  
 mihi quoque prae lassitudine opus est ut lavem.  
 sed obsecro hercle, Astaphium, i intro ac  
 nuntia  
 me adesse, ut properet suade, iam ut satis  
 laverit.

330

*Ast.* Licet.  
*Din.* Audin etiam?

Quid vis?

*Ast.* Di me perduint,  
*Din.* qui te revocavi. non tibi dicebam "i" modo?  
*Ast.* Quidnam revocabas? improbu's nihilique  
 homo:

*Din.* tute tibi mille passum peperisti moram.  
 Sed quid haec hic autem tam diu ante aedis  
 stetit?

nescio quem praestolata est; credo, militem.  
 illum student iam; quasi volturii triduo  
 prius praedivinant, quo die esuri sient:  
 illum inhiant omnes, illi est animus omnibus;  
 me nemo magis respiciet, ubi is <sup>1</sup> huc venerit,  
 quasi abbinc ducentos annos fuerim mortuos.  
 ut rem servare suave est! vae misero mihi,  
 post factum flector, qui antepartum perdidit.  
 verum nunc si qua mi obtigerit hereditas  
 magna atque luculenta, nunc postquam scio  
 dulce atque amarum quid sit ex pecunia,  
 ita ego illam edepol servem itaque parce viet-  
 tem,  
 ut—nulla faxim cis dies paucos siet;  
 ego istos, qui nunc me culpant, confutaverim.

340

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *est*.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

sed aestuosas sentio aperiri fores,  
 quae obsorbent quidquid venit intra pessulos.

350

II. 4.

*Phron.* Num tibi nam, amabo, ianua est mordax mea,  
 quo intro ire metuas, mea voluptas?

*Din.* Ver vide,  
 ut tota floret, ut olet, ut nitide nitet.

*Phron.* Quid tam inficetu's, Lemno adveniens qui tuae  
 non des amicae, Diniarche, savium?

*Din.* Vah, vapulo hercle ego nunc, atque adeo male.

*Phron.* Quo te avortisti?

*Din.* Salva sis, Phronesium.

*Phron.* Salve. hicine hodie cenas, salvos cum advenis?

*Din.* Promisi.

*Phron.* Vbi cenabis?

*Din.* Vbi tu iusseris.

360

*Phron.* Hic me lubente facies.

*Din.* Edepol me magis.

nempe tu eris hodie mecum, mea Phronesium?

*Phron.* Velim, si fieri possit.

*Din.* Cedo soleas mihi,  
 properate, auferte mensam.

*Phron.* Amabo, sanun es?

*Din.* Non edepol bibere possum iam, ita animo malest.

*Phron.* Mane, aliquid fiet, ne abi.



## TRUCULENTUS

But there! There goes that seething door that gulps down anything that comes within its bolts!  
(retires a bit)

Scene 4.            ENTER *Phronesium*, ATTENDED BY MAIDS.

*Diniarchus* GLANCES AT HER, THEN LOOKS ELSEWHERE.

*Phron.* (seeing him, tenderly) Why, bless your heart, you don't think my door will bite you, darling, that you're afraid to enter?

*Din.* (aside, unwillingly rapturous) Behold her! Sweet spring, all flowering and fragrant, agleam and aglow!

*Phron.* Well, *Diniarchus*, why are you so unmannerly as to arrive from *Lemnos* and not give your sweetheart a loving kiss?

*Din.* (risking another quick glance) Oh, Lord help me! I'm in for a beating now, and a bad one, too!

*Phron.* Turned away? Where to?

*Din.* (stiffly) Good morning to you, *Phronesium*.

*Phron.* And to you. Won't you dine with us to-day, now that you're safely back?

*Din.* (struggling) I'm engaged.

*Phron.* (pathetically) Where are you dining?

*Din.* (succumbing) Wherever you say!

*Phron.* Here, if you want to please me.

*Din.* And please me more! You mean you'll stay with me to-day, *Phronesium* dear?

*Phron.* I'd like to, if I only could.

*Din.* (as if to dining room attendants, wildly) Here with my sandals! Quick! Remove the table!

*Phron.* (alarmed) My dear man! Are you sane?

*Din.* (staggering away) Drink I cannot now, God help me, I feel so faint!

*Phron.* Wait! We'll find some way! Don't go!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Din.* . . . Ah, aspersisti aquam.  
iam rediit animus. deme soleas, cedo bibam.

*Phron.* Idem es mecastor qui soles. sed dic mihi,  
benene ambulatumst?

*Din.* Huc quidem hercle ad te bene.  
quia tui videndi copia est.

*Phron.* Complectere. 370

*Din.* Lubens. heia, hoc est melle dulci dulcius.  
hoc tuis fortunis, Iuppiter, praestant meae.

*Phron.* Dan savium?

*Din.* Immo vel decem.

*Phron.* Em istoc pauper es:  
semper plus pollicere quam ego abs te postulo.

*Din.* Vtinam a principio rei item parsisses meae  
ut nunc reparcis saviis.

*Phron.* Si quid tibi  
compendi facere possim, factum edepol velim.

*Din.* Iam lauta es?

*Phron.* Iam pol mihi quidem atque oculis meis.  
num tibi sordere videor?

*Din.* Non pol mihi quidem ;  
verum tempestas, memini, quondam etiam fuit, 380  
cum inter nos sordebamus alter de altero.  
sed quid ego facinus audivi adveniens tuom,  
quod tu hic me absente novi negoti gesseris?

*Phron.* Quid id est?

*Din.* Primumdum, cum tu es aucta liberis  
cumque bene provenisti salva, gaudeo.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phron.* Concedite hinc vos intro atque operite ostium.  
tu nunc superstes solus sermoni meo es.  
tibi mea consilia summa semper credidi.  
equidem neque peperit puerum neque praegnas fui;  
verum adsimulavi me esse praegnatam: haud nego. 390

*Din.* Quem propter, o mea vita?

*Phron.* Propter militem  
Babyloniensem, qui quasi uxorem sibi  
me habebat anno, dum hic fuit.

*Din.* Ego senseram.  
sed quid istuc? cui rei te adsimulare retulit?

*Phron.* Vt esset aliquis laqueus et redimiculum,  
reversionem ut ad me faceret denuo.  
nunc huc remisit nuper ad me epistulam,  
sese experturum quanti sese penderem:  
si quod peperissem id non necarem ac tollerem.  
bona sua med habiturum omnia.<sup>1</sup>

*Din.* Ausculto lubens. 400.  
quid denique agitis?

*Phron.* Mater ancillas iubet,  
quoniam iam decimus mensis adventat prope,  
aliam aliorsum ire, praemandare et quaerere  
puerum aut puellam, qui supponatur mihi.  
quid multa verba faciam? tonstricem Suram  
novisti nostram, quae mercedem sese habet?<sup>2</sup>

*Din.* Novi.

*Phron.* Haec ut opera circumit, per familias,  
puerum vestigat; clanculum ad me detulit,  
datum sibi esse dixit.

*Din.* O mercis malae.  
eum nunc non illa peperit, quae peperit prior,  
sed tu posterior. 410

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *esse*.

<sup>2</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *mercede sese alit* Bugge.



## TRUCULENTUS

*Phron.* (to her maids) Step inside, girls, and shut the door.  
(to Diniarchus, after they have gone) Now we're all alone; no one's about but you to hear me. (*fondly*) And you're the man I've always trusted my most important plans to. (*coming closer*) The fact is, I've neither born a baby nor been with child; but I pretended to be. I don't deny that.

*Din.* Oh, my precious one! Because of whom?

*Phron.* That Babylonian soldier, who kept me like a wife the year he was here.

*Din.* I had guessed as much. But why did you do it? What return could such pretending reap you?

*Phron.* I wanted some noose to retrieve him with, some little love-knot to renew his interest. And now he just recently sent me back a letter saying he intends to test how much I think of him: if I let this child of ours live and brought it up, I was to have everything he owns.

*Din.* This is thrilling. And what is your plan?

*Phron.* Mother told the maids, now the tenth month's almost on us, to go looking here and there and bespeak some baby, boy or girl, that I could palm off as mine. But to cut it short—you know our hairdresser Syra that keeps herself by working for hire?

*Din.* I know her.

*Phron.* Well, with her jobs taking her among different families, a baby boy's tracked down; she brought him to me on the sly, saying he'd been given her.

*Din.* Ah, some wicked work! It seems this boy wasn't born of the mother that bore him first, but of you in a second birth.







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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phron.* Vt quando otium  
tibi sit ad me revisas, et valeas.

*Din.* Vale.  
pro di immortales, non amautis mulieris,  
sed sociae unanimantis, fidentis fuit  
officium facere quod modo haec fecit mihi,  
suppositionem pueri quae mihi credidit,  
germanae quod sorori non credit soror.  
ostendit sese iam mihi medullitus:

scio mi infidelem numquam, dum vivat, fore. 440  
egone illam ut non amem? egone illi ut non bene  
velim?

me potius non amabo quam huic desit amor.  
ego isti non munus mittam? iam<sup>1</sup> modo ex hoc  
loco

iubebo ad istam quinque deferri minas,  
praeterea obsonari una dumtaxat mina.  
multo illi potius bene erit quae bene volt  
mihi,  
quam mihi, qui mihimet omnia facio mala.

### II. 5.

*Phron.* Puero isti date mammam. ut miserae 450  
matres sollicitaeque ex animo sumus cruciamurque!  
edepol commentum male, cumque eam rem in corde  
agito.  
nimio—minus perhibemur malae quam sumus  
ingenio.  
ego prima de me, domo docta, dico.  
quanta est cura in animo, quantum corde capio  
dolorem—dolus ne occidat morte pueri:

<sup>1</sup> *Corrupt (Leo): iam ego Leo.*



## TRUCULENTUS

*Phron.* (*with a final caress*) Only to come over and see me when you find time, and take care of yourself.

[EXIT INTO HER HOUSE.]

*Din.* And you! (*in transports*) Ye immortal gods! She's more than my loving girl, she's my mutual-hearted, trustful little pal to treat me as she treated me just now and confide the substitution of that child to me, a thing no sister would confide to her own sister. Now she has opened up her very inmost thoughts to me. She'll never in all her life be faithless with me, I know that. Ah, and I, shouldn't I love her? Shouldn't I wish her everything that's good? I'll cease to love myself rather than fail in love for her. I not send her some present? I'll go this very instant and have twenty-five pounds brought over to her, yes, and at least another fiver's worth of edibles. I'd rather make things nice for a girl so nice to me, lots more than for myself that do myself nothing but damage.

[EXIT.]

Scene 5. ENTER *Phronesium*, IN NEGLIGÉE, ATTENDED BY MAIDS WHO PLACE A COUCH IN THE DOORWAY AND SPREAD IT.

*Phron.* (*to those within*) Girls, nurse that baby. (*with mock plaintiveness*) Ah, the strain that's put on us poor mothers, the torments we endure! (*as if repentant*) Dear, dear! This is a wicked trick, and when I stop to think it over, there's very much—(*merrily*) less wickedness scored up against us girls than we have in us. I speak for myself first and I'm a natural adept, I am. (*tristful again*) What anxiety of mind, what agony of heart I feel, for fear my little man may die and—kill off my little manoeuvre!



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

mater dicta quod sum, eo magis studeo vitae;  
quae ausa hunc sum, tantundem dolum nunc  
adgrediar.

lucris causa avara probrum sum exsecuta,  
alienos dolores mihi suppositi;  
sed nullam rem oportet dolose adgrediri,  
nisi astu totam accurateque exsequare.  
vosmet iam videtis, ut ornata incedo:

460

puerperio ego nunc me esse aegram adsimulo.  
male quod mulier facere incepit, nisi id efficere  
perpetrat,  
id illi morbo, id illi seniost, ea illi miserae miseriast;  
bene si facere incepit, eius rei nimis cito odium  
percipit.

nimis quam paucae sunt defessae, male quae facere  
occeperunt,  
nimisque paucae efficiunt, si quid facere occeperunt  
bene:

mulieri nimio male facere levius onus est quam  
bene.

470

ego quod mala sum, matris opera mala sum et meapte  
malitia,

quae me gravidam esse adsimulavi militi Babylonio:  
eam nunc malitiam accuratam miles inveniat volo.

is hic haud multo post, credo, aderit; nunc prius  
praecaveo sciens

sumque ornata ita ut aegra videar, quasi puerperio  
cubem.

date mi huc stactam atque ignem in aram, ut  
venerem Lucinam meam.

hic apponite atque abite ab oculis. eho, Pithecium,  
face ut accumbam, accede, adiuta. em sic decet  
puerperam.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

soleas mihi deduce, pallium inice in me huc,  
Archilis.

ubi es, Astaphium? fer huc verbenam mi intus et  
bellaria.

480

date aquam manibus. nunc ecastor adveniat miles  
velim.

### II. 6.

*Strat.* Ne expectetis, spectatores, meas pugnas dum  
praedicem:

manibus duella praedicare soleo, haud in sermonibus.  
scio ego multos memoravisse milites mendacium:  
et Homeronida et postilla mille memorari pote,  
qui et convicti et condemnati falsis de pugnis sient.  
non laudandus cui plus credit qui audit quam ille  
qui videt:<sup>1</sup>

pluris est oculatus testis unus quam auriti decem;  
qui audiunt audita dicunt, qui vident plane sciunt. 490  
non placet quem scurrae laudant, manipularis  
mussitant,

neque illi quorum lingua gladiatorum aciem prae-  
stringit domi.

strenui nimio plus prosunt populo quam arguti et  
cati:

facile sibi facunditatem virtus argutam invenit,  
sine virtute argutum civem mihi habeam pro prae-  
fica,

quae alios conlaudat, eapse sese vero non potest.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following v., 488:  
*non placet quem illi plus laudant qui audiunt, quam qui vident.*



## TRUCULENTUS

*placed*) There! That's the way to treat a new mother. And Archilis! Take off my sandals and throw a coverlet over me, here! Astaphium! Where are you? Bring me out some verbena and goodies for my sickroom. Give me some water for my hands. (*everything arranged, the maids, except Astaphium, go inside*) Ah-h! Now let my soldier boy appear!

Scene 6.        ENTER *Stratophanes*, STRUTTING MIGHTILY,  
FOLLOWED BY AN ORDERLY WITH TWO SLAVE GIRLS.

*Strat.* (*halting the parade; loftily*) Spectators, expect ye not from me announcement of my deeds of arms: 'tis with my hands, not with my tongue, that I am wont to announce my martial exploits. I know that many military men have been mendacious: one could mention Homeronides<sup>1</sup> and a thousand more who have been convicted and condemned for battles falsely fought. No praise belongs to him whose feats convince the hearer more than the observer.<sup>2</sup> One sharp-eyed witness outranks ten keen-eared. Hearers tell of what they hear, observers really know. I like not your warrior that gets applause from city fops and mutterings from his men, nor those whose tongues make blunt the edge of swords at home. Ah, 'tis men of action that avail a race far more than fluent, clever chaps. Valour easily finds its eloquence, its fluency. But lacking valour, your fluent citizen, methinks, is naught but female hired to mourn, loud in praise of others and fitly dumb about herself. (*giving his cloak a rakish hitch*) Ah

<sup>1</sup> *Homeronida* a fictitious name.

<sup>2</sup> v. 488: I like not him who wins more praise from hearers than observers.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

nunc ad amicam decimo mense post Athenas  
Atticas

viso, quam gravidam hic reliqui meo compressu,  
quid ea agat.

*Phron.* Vide quis loquitur tam propinque.

*Ast.* Miles, mea Phronesium,  
tibi adest Stratophanes. nunc tibi opust, aegram  
ut te adsimules.

*Phron.* Tace.

500

cui adhuc ego tam mala eram monetrix, me maleficio  
vinceres?

*Strat.* Peperit, mulier, ut ego opinor.

*Ast.* Vin adeam ad hominem?

*Phron.* Volo.

*Strat.* Euge, Astaphium eccam it mi advorsum.

*Ast.* Salve ecastor, Stratophanes.

<sup>1</sup> salvom te—

*Strat.* Scio. sed peperitne, opsecro, Phronesium?

*Ast.* Peperit puerum nimium lepidum.

*Strat.* Ehem, ecquid mei similest?

*Ast.* Rogas?

quin ubi natust machaeram et clupeum poscebat  
sibi?

*Strat.* Meus est, scio iam de argumentis.

*Ast.* Nimium tui similest.

*Strat.* Papac,  
iam magnust? iamne ut ad legionem? ecquae spolia  
rettulit?

*Ast.* Heia, nudius quintus natus ille quidem est.

*Strat.* Quid postea?  
inter tot dies quidem hercle iam aliquid actum  
oportuit.

510

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets preceding *venire*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quid illi ex utero exitiost prius quam poterat ire in  
proelium?

*Ast.* Consequere atque illam saluta et gratulare illi.

*Strat.* Sequor.

*Phron.* Vbi illa; obsecro, est quae me hic reliquit, eapse  
abiit? ubist?

*Ast.* Adsum, adduco tibi exoptatum Stratophanem.

*Phron.* Vbi is est, obsecro?

*Strat.* Mars peregre adveniens salutatur Nerienem uxorem  
suam.

quom tu recte provenisti quomque es aueta liberis,  
gratulor, quom mihi tibi que magnum peperisti  
decus.

*Phron.* Salve, qui me interfecisti paene vita et lumine  
quique mihi magni doloris per voluptatem tuam  
condidisti in corpus, quo nunc etiam morbo misera  
sum.

*Strat.* Heia, haud ab re, mea voluptas, tibi istic obvenit  
labos:

filium peperisti, qui aedis spoliis opplebit tuas.

*Phron.* Multo ecastor magis oppletis tritici opust granariis;  
ne, ille prius quam spolia capiat, hic nos extinxit  
fames.

*Strat.* Habe bonum animum.

*Phron.* Savium pete hinc sis. ah, nequeo caput  
tollere, ita dolet itaque aegre moveo<sup>1</sup> neque etiam  
queo  
pedibus mea sponte ambulare.

*Strat.* Si hercle me ex medio mari

<sup>1</sup> *aegre moveo* Seyffert: *ego medulo corrupt* (Leo).



## TRUCULENTUS

What business had he faring from the womb ere he could take the field?

*Ast.* Do come along, sir, and greet her and offer her congratulations.

*Strat.* (*following*) I come.

*Phron.* (*faintly*) Oh dear, oh dear! Where is that girl that left me here and went away herself? Where is she?

*Ast.* Beside you, ma'am, and bringing you the Strato-phanes you've yearned for.

*Phron.* Where is he, oh, where is he?

*Strat.* (*transcendental*) Mars, arriving from abroad, doth greet his spouse, his Neriene. Congratulations on recovering thus finely, on adding to the family, and on contributing to me, and to yourself, a real distinction.

*Phron.* (*with resentment sufficiently fond*) And welcome to you that almost ended life and the light of day for me, you that for your own gratification packed my poor body with the anguish that still leaves me racked and wretched.

*Strat.* Tut, tut, my darling, that labour will prove for you no labour lost! A son you've borne, one who will stock your house with booty.

*Phron.* Ah yes, but there's much more need of our store-rooms being stocked with wheat, or before he gets his booty our whole household will expire of hunger.

*Strat.* Have no fear.

*Phron.* (*sighing*) Kiss me—please come here and get it. Ah! I can't lift my head, it pains so, it hurts so to move, and I haven't the strength to walk alone yet.

*Strat.* (*accepts the invitation; Phronesium does sufficiently thorough work*) By heaven, if you summoned me from



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

savium petere tuom iubeas, petere hau pigeat,<sup>1</sup> mel  
meum.

id ita esse experta es: nunc experiere, mea  
Phronesium,

me te amare. adduxi ancillas tibi eccas ex Suria  
duas,

is te dono. adduce hoc tu istas. sed istae reginae  
domi

suae fuerunt ambae, carum patriam ego excidi  
manu.

his te dono.

*Phron.* Paenitetne te quot ancillas alam,  
quin examen super adducas, quae mihi comedint  
cibum?

*Strat.* Hoc quidem herclest ingratum donum. cedo tu mi  
istam purpuram.

mea voluptas, attuli cccam pallulam ex Phrygia tibi.  
tene tibi.

*Phron.* Hocine mi ob labores tantos tantillum dari?

*Strat.* Perii hercle ego miser. iam mi auro contra  
constat filius:

etiam nihili<sup>2</sup> pendit addi purpuram. ex Arabia  
tibi

attuli tus, Ponto amomum. tene tibi, voluptas mea.

*Phron.* Accipe hoc, Astaphium, abduce hasce hinc e con-  
spectu Suras.

*Strat.* Ecquid amas me?

*Phron.* Nihil ecastor, neque meres.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *me*.

<sup>2</sup> *nihili Ital.: addi Lindsay: etiam num mali pendit addit corrupt (Leo).*



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Strat.*

Nilne huic sāt est?

ne bonum verbum quidem unum dixit. viginti  
minis

venire illaec posse credo dona quae ei dono dedi.

vehementer nunc mi est irata, sentio atque in-  
tellego;

verum abibo. quid ais? nunc tu num nevis me,  
voluptas mea,

quo vocatus sum ire ad cenam? mox huc cubitum  
venero.

quid taces? planissime edepol perii. sed quid illuc  
novi est?

quis hic homost, qui ducit pompam tantam?  
certumst quo ferant

observare. huic credo fertur. verum iam scibo  
magis.

550

II. 7.

*Cyam.*

Ite ite hac simul, mulieri damnigeruli,  
foras egerones, bonorum exagogae.

satin, si quis amat, nequit quin nihili sit atque imp  
probis se artibus expoliat?

nam hoc qui sciam, ne quis id quaerat ex me,

domist qui facit improba facta amator,

qui bona sua pro stercore habet, foras iuhet  
ferri, metuit

ne apud nos non mundissimum sit;

puras sibi esse volt aedis: domi quidquid  
habet, eicitur  $\epsilon\xi\omega$ .

quandoquidem ipsus perditum se it, secreto hercle  
equidem eum adiutabo,

neque mea quidem opera umquā hīlo minus pro-  
pere quam pote peribit.

nam iam de hoc obsonio de mina deminui una modo

560



## TRUCULENTUS

*Strat.* (*aside*) Is nothing enough for her? Not even one kind word has she said to me. Why, I do believe those gifts I gave her would sell for a hundred pounds. She's in an awful rage at me now, that's plain, that's unmistakable. Well, I'll be off. (*to Phronesium, humbly*) I say, my darling, you wouldn't mind now if I went to a dinner party I've been asked to? I'll be back later for the night. (*pauses*) Why don't you speak? (*aside, going*) Damnation! It's perfectly clear I'm done for! (*looking down the street*) But that's odd! What is it? Who's the man with such a train in tow? I'll watch where that stuff's going, I certainly will. I do believe it goes to her! I'll soon know more, though. (*halts, with his orderly, at a distance*)

Scene 7. ENTER *Cyamus*, FOLLOWED BY SLAVES LADEN WITH PROVISIONS.

*Cyam.* (*to slaves, roughly*) Come, come along with you, this way, you wreckus-porters for a wench, you lugitouters, you export-wares-men! (*to audience, disgustedly*) Can't a chap in love keep from being a worthless booby, a finished student of all that's vile? Just to save anyone's asking me how I know this, we've got a lover at home, and the vile things he does do! He takes his own property for dung, has it carried off outside, dreads our being the least bit defiled by it. He wants his house to be pure—so all he has in it is tossed *dehors*. Seeing he means to go to smash, I'll certainly give him a little unobtrusive (*grinning*) help, by Jove, and never do the slightest thing to prevent his making the fastest possible progress to his—finish. Now out of this five quid catering account (*with a wave toward*



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

quinque nummos: mihi detraxi partem Herculaneam.

nam hoc adsimile est quasi de fluvio qui aquam derivat sibi:

nisi derivetur, tamen omnis ea aqua abeat in mare; nam hoc in mare abit misereque perit sine bona omni gratia.

haec cum video fieri, suffuror suppilo,  
de praeda praedam capio.

meretricem ego item esse reor, mare ut est:  
quod des devorat nec datis umquam abundat.  
hoc saltem: rem servat nec ulli ubi sit  
apparet:

des quantumvis, nusquam apparet, neque datori  
neque acceptricem.

velut haec meretrix meum erum miserum sua  
blanditia

paene intulit in pauperiem:

privabit bonis, luce, honore atque amicis.

attat, eccam adest propinque. credo audisse haec  
me loqui:

pallida est, ut peperit puerum. adloquar quasi  
nesciam.

iubeo vos salvere.

*Phron.*

Noster Cyame, quid agis? ut vales?

*Cyam.*

Valeo, et venio ad minus valentem, et melius qui  
valeat fero.

erus meus, ocellus tuos, ad te ferre me haec iussit  
tibi

dona quae vides illos ferre, et has quinque argenti  
minas.

*Phron.*

Pol haud perit quod illum tantum amo.

*Cyam.*

Iussit orare, ut haec grata haberes tibi.

570

580



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Phron.* Grata acceperatque ecastor habeo. iube vasa auferri  
intro, i Cyame.

*Ast.* Ecquid auditis, haec quae iam Cyamo imperat?

*Cyam.* Vasa nolo auferant: desiccari iube.

*Ast.* Impudens mecastor, Cyame, es.

*Cyam.* Egone?

*Ast.* Tu.

*Cyam.* Bona fide?

tune ais me impudentem esse, ipsa quae sis stahulum flagiti?

*Phron.* Dic, amabo te, ubi est Diniarchus?

*Cyam.* Domi.

*Phron.* Dic ob haec dona, quae ad me hodie miserit, me illum amare plurimum omnium hominum merito,

meque honorem illi habere omnium maxumum, atque ut huc veniat ad me obsecrare.

*Cyam.* Ilicet.

sed quisnam illic homost, qui ipse se comest, tristis, oculis malis?

animo berele homost suo miser, quisquis est.

*Phron.* Dignust mecastor. nequam est. non nosti, obsecro,

militem, hic apud me qui erat? huius pater pueri illic est.

usque abegi, aspuli, iussi abiret; tamen mansit: auscultat, observat quam rem agam.

*Cyam.* Novi hominem nihili.

illicinest?

*Phron.* Illic est.

*Cyam.* Me intuetur gemens;

traxit ex intimo ventre suspirium.

hoc vide, dentibus frendit, icit femur;

590

600



## TRUCULENTUS

*Phron.* Indeed I am pleased and accept them gladly. *(sinking back on her couch)* Go, Cyamus, have their things taken off inside.

*Ast.* *(to the porters, sharply)* Do you hear her orders to Cyamus?

*Cyam.* *(to Astaphium, as the porters obey)* I don't want their things taken off: have 'em emptied out.

*Ast.* Why, Cyamus, the impudence of you!

*Cyam.* Me?

*Ast.* You.

*Cyam.* Oh, really now? So you say I'm impudent? That from a store of iniquity like yourself?

*Phron.* Tell me, my good lad, where is Diniarchus?

*Cyam.* At home, ma'am.

*Phron.* *(very distinctly)* Tell him these presents he has sent me to-day make me love him more than any man in all the world, as he deserves, and that he has my very, very highest regard, and that I'm eager for him to come over and see me.

*Cyam.* At once, ma'am. *(noticing the soldier)* But who on earth's the man that's eating himself there, ma'am, looking so grim and evil-eyed? Gad! He's low in his mind, whoever he is.

*Phron.* Yes, and it serves him right. He's worthless. You surely must know the soldier that used to live with me? He's the father of this child of mine. I've driven him off, packed him off, ordered him off—everything; yet still he stands there, listening, observing all I do.

*Cyam.* I know the good-for-nothing. So that's the man?

*Phron.* It is.

*Cyam.* *(loud and derisive)* He moans and glares at me. He heaved that sigh from away down in his belly. Look there, he's grinding his teeth and whacking



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

num obsecro nam hariolust, qui ipse se verberat?

*Strat.* Nunc ego meos animos violentos meamque iram expectore iam promam:  
loquere: unde es? cuius es? cur ausu's mi inclementer dicere?

*Cyam.* Lubitumst.

*Strat.* Istucine mihi respondes?

*Cyam.* Hoc. non ego te flocci facio.

*Strat.* Quid tu? cur ausa es alium te dicere amare hominem?

*Phron.* Lubitumst.

*Strat.* Ain tandem? istuc primum experiar. tun tantilli doni causa,  
bolerum atque escarum et poscarum, moechum malacum, cincinnatum,  
umbraticulum, tympanotribam amas, hominem non nauci?

*Cyam.* Quae haec res?

meone,<sup>1</sup> improbe tu, male dicere ero audes, fons viti et peiuri?

*Strat.* Verbum unum adde istoc: iam hercle ego te hic hac offatim conficiam.

*Cyam.* Tange modo, iam ego te hic agnum faciam et medium distruncabo.  
si tu in legione bellator clues, at ego in culina clueo.

*Phron.* Si aequom facias, adventores meos non incuses, quorum mihi dona accepta et grata habeo, tuaque ingrata, quae abs te accepi.

*Strat.* Tum pol ego et donis privatus sum et perü.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *ero tu*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Phron.* Plane istuc est.
- Cyam.* Quid nunc ergo hic odiosu's, confessus omnino reus?
- Strat.* Perii berele hodie, nisi hunc a te abigo.
- Cyam.* Accede huc modo, adi huc modo. 620
- Strat.* Etiam, scelus viri, minitare? quem ego<sup>1</sup> iam iam concipilabo.
- quid tibi huc ventio est? quid tibi hanc aditio est?
- quid tibi hanc notio est, inquam, amicam meam?
- emoriere oeius, ni manu viceris.
- Cyam.* Quid, manu vicerim?
- Strat.* Fac quod iussi, mane.
- iam ego te hic offatim conficiam, sic occidi te optimum est.
- Cyam.* Captiost: istam machaeram longiorem habes quam haec est.
- sed verum me sine dum petere: siquidem belligerandum est tecum.
- adereo, dum ego tecum, bellator, arbitrum aequom ceperim.
- sed ego cesso hinc me amoliri, ventre dum salvo licet? 630

### II. 8.

- Phron.* Datin soleas? atque me intro actutum ducite, nam mihi de vento miserae condoluit caput.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *offatim iam*.



## TRUCULENTUS

*Phron.* (*icily*) No doubt about it.

*Cyam.* (*to Stratophanes, solicitously*) Well then, why stay and bore us, your case being a complete and admitted failure?

*Strat.* (*to Phronesium*) Undone I am this day, by heaven, an I not rid thee of this catiff!

*Cyam.* (*drawing his knife*) Just you come over here, just you come here!

*Strat.* Ha, scoundrel! Threats? One moment more and I shall reave thee! What meanest thou by venturing here? What meanest thou by approaching her? What meanest thou, I say, by thrusting thy acquaintance on my mistress? (*drawing his sword*) Thy life is o'er this instant, unless thou master me at arms!

*Cyam.* (*thoughtfully comparing reapons*) Master you at arms, eh? (*backs away, on guard*)

*Strat.* Do as I bade thee, wait! Now will I hew thee into gobbets here! That death befits thee best! (*advances, not too fast*)

*Cyam.* (*retreating, still on guard*) There's a catch in this. That sabre you have is longer than this thing of mine. But only let me go and get my spit: if I've really got to fight a war with you, I'll be there, once I get hold of the right referee (*eyeing his knife disgustedly*) with you, warrior. (*aside*) But how about decamping promptly while my belly's still intact?

[EXIT WITH UNPLEASANT GESTURES, FOLLOWED BY THE PORTERS. *Stratophanes* PURSUES HIM CAUTIOUSLY,

THEN SWAGGERS BACK.

### Scene 8.

*Phron.* (*calling to maids within*) My sandals, girls! (*they are put on; she rises*) And now take me inside at once, for I've got a horrible headache from all this wind.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Strat.*

Quid mihi futurum est, cui duae ancillae dolent,  
quibus te donavi? iamne abiisti? em sic  
datur.

quo pacto excludi, quaeso, potui planius,  
quam exclusus nunc sum? pulcre ludificor.  
sine.

quantillo mi opere nunc persuaderi potest,  
ut ego his suffringam talos totis aedibus.

num quippiam tam immutat mores mulierum?  
postquam filiolum peperit, animos sustulit.

640

nunc quasi mi dicat: nec te iubeo neque voto  
intro ire in aedis. at ego nolo, non eo.

ego faxo dicat me in diebus pauculis

crudum virum esse. sequere me hac. verbum  
sat est.

## ACTVS III

*Strab.*

Rus mane dudum hinc ire me iussit pater,  
ut bubus glandem prandio depromerem.

post illoc quam veni, advenit, si dis placet,  
ad villam argentum meo qui debebat patri,  
qui ovis Tarentinas erat mercatus de patre.

quaerit patrem. dico esse in urbe. interrogo,  
quid eum velit.<sup>1</sup>

650

homo cruminam sibi de collo detrahit,  
minas viginti mihi dat. accipio libens,

condo in cruminam. ille abit. ego propere minas

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here. *concredat mihi si quid velit*  
Schoell.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

ovis in crumina hac in urbem detuli.  
fuit edepol Mars meo periratus patri,  
nam oves illius hau longe absunt a lupis.  
nunc ego istos mundulos urbanos amasios  
hoc ictu exponam atque omnis eiciam foras.  
eradicarest certum cumprimis patrem,  
post id locorum matrem. nunc hoc deferam  
argentum ad hanc, quam mage amo quam matrem  
meam.

660

tat, ecquis intust? ecquis hoc aperit ostium?

*Ast.* Quid istuc? alienun es, amabo, mi Strabax,  
qui non extemplo intro ieris?

*Strab.* Anne oportuit?

*Ast.* Ita te quidem, qui es familiaris.

*Strab.* Ibitur,  
ne me morari censeas.

*Ast.* Lepide facis.

### III. 2.

*Truc.* Mirum videtur, rure erilem filium  
Strabacem non rediisse; nisi si clanculum  
conlapsus est hic in corruptelam suam.

670

*Ast.* Iam pol illo inclamabit me si aspexerit.

*Truc.* Nimio minus saevos iam sum, Astaphium quam fui,  
iam non ego sum truculentus, noli metuere.



## TRUCULENTUS

this (*tittering*) hundred pound sack of sheep. Lord, but Mars must have been awfully angry at father, for his sheep aren't far from the (*contentedly ogling Phronesium's house*) wolves! Now I'll eject those dandified city beaus with a jolt from this (*swinging his sack*) and send the whole crowd packing. My mind's made up—I'll root out father first, and mother next. I'll do it now, I'll take this money to my girl here that I love more than mother. (*knocks timidly*) Oo-hoo! Anyone coming? Anyone opening up here?

ENTER *Astaphium* INTO DOORWAY.

*Ast.* (*observing the sack*) How's this? Why, my dear Strabax, are you a stranger, not to have come right in?

*Strab.* Should I have?

*Ast.* Yes indeed, an intimate friend like you.

*Strab.* Here goes, then, to show you I'm not slow!

*Ast.* That's a nice boy.

[EXIT INTO HOUSE.

Scene 2. ENTER *Truculentus* INTO HIS DOORWAY.

HE LOOKS WORRIED, AND WISTFUL.

*Truc.* (*thinking himself alone*) Seems queer the young master Strabax ain't back from the farm—if so be he's not sneaked into this place (*indicating Phronesium's house*) that'll take him plumb to perdition.

*Ast.* (*aside, seeing him*) Goodness, how he'll bellow now, if he sets eyes on me! (*tries to hide*)

*Truc.* (*sees her, hesitates, leers, approaches sheepishly*) I ain't near as savage now as I was, Astaphium. I ain't irascible now, don't be scared.



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Quid vis? quid metuam? tuam expecto trucidantiam.

*Truc.* Dic impera mihi quid libet quo vis modo. novos omnis mores habeo, veteres perdidisti. vel amare possum vel iam scortum ducere.

*Ast.* Lepide mecastor nuntias. sed dic mihi, habent—

*Truc.* Marsipum te fortasse dicere? 680

*Ast.* Intellexisti lepide quid ego dicerem.

*Truc.* Heus tu, iam postquam in urbem crebro comiteo, dicax sum factus. iam sum caullator probus.

*Ast.* Quid id est, amabo? istae ridiculariae, cavillationes, vis opinor dicere?

*Truc.* Istud paucillum differt a cavillibus.

*Ast.* Sequere intro,<sup>1</sup> amabo, mea voluptas.

*Truc.* Tene hoc tibi: racionem habeto, ut mecum hanc noctem sies.

*Ast.* Perii, racionem? quam esse dicam hanc beluam? quin tu arracionem dicis?

*Truc.* “ A ” facio lucri, 690  
ut Praenestinis conia est ciconia.

*Ast.* Sequere, obsecro.

*Truc.* Strabacem hic opperiar modo, si rure veniat.

*Ast.* Is quidem hic apud nos est Strabax, modo rure venit.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *me*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Truc.* Priusne quam ad matrem suam?  
eu edepol hominem nihili.

*Ast.* Iamne autem ut soles?

*Truc.* Iamne nihil dico?

*Ast.* I intro, amabo, cedo manum.

*Truc.* Tene. in tabernam ducor devorsoriam,  
ubi male accipiar mea mihi pecunia.

### ACTVS IV

*Din.* Neque gnatust neque progignetur neque potest  
reperirier  
cui ego nunc aut dictum aut factum melius quam  
Veneri velim.

di magni,<sup>1</sup> ut ego laetus sum et laetitia differor.  
ita ad me magna nuntiavit Cyamus hodie gaudia:  
mea dona deamata acceptaque habita esse apud  
Phronesium;  
quom hoc iam volup est, tum illuc nimium magnae  
mellinae mihi,  
militis odiosa ingrataque habita. totus gaudeo.  
mea pila est: si repudiatur miles, mulier mecum  
erit.

salvos sum, quia pereo; si non peream, plane  
perierim.

nunc speculabor quid ibi agatur, quis eat intro, qui  
foras  
veniat; procul hinc observabo, meis quid fortunis  
fuat.

quia nil habeo, nam amovi<sup>2</sup> mi hic omnia, agam  
precario.

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here: *laete laetus* Spengel.

<sup>2</sup> *nil habeo, nam amovi* Lindsay: *nihil habeo unum animos movi corrupt* (Leo).



## TRUCULENTUS

*Truc.* (*outraged*) Without seeing his mother first? Fine doings! That boy's no good!

*Ast.* (*petting him*) There, there! Back to your old ways now?

*Truc.* (*subsiding*) Ain't I saying nothing now?

*Ast.* Go on inside, there's a dear. Let's have your hand.

*Truc.* (*giving up*) Here 'tis. (*muttering*) I'm being got into a tavern where I'll have bad entertainment for my money.

[EXEUNT.]

## ACT IV

ENTER *Diniarchus*, BLISSFUL.

*Din.* Ah, there's no one born, or yet to be, or possible to find, that I'd wish better spoken of or done by now than Venus! Ye gods above! Such happiness! I'm so happy that I'm bursting! Oh, the grand and glorious news that Cyamus has brought me this day—Phronesium's glad to get my presents and thinks they're just adorable! Ah, that's wonderful, and on top of that, it's so superlatively sweet to hear that the soldier's gifts are hateful and unwelcome to her! My joy's complete! I've got the ball! If that soldier's given the go-by, I'll have my girl! (*pauses, then wryly*) I'm saved because I'm lost, yet if I'm not lost, I'm lost lots worse. (*eyeing Phronesium's house*) Now I'll spy on operations there and see who enters and comes out. (*withdrawing*) From a distance here I'll keep watch and find what my fate's to be. Now that I have nothing, have transferred everything to her, I shall be at her mercy.



# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## IV. 2.

*Ast.* Lepide efficiam meum ego officium: vide intus modo ut tu tuom item efficias.

ama, id quod decet, rem tuam: istum exinani. nunc dum isti lubet, dum habet, tempus ei rei secundumst.<sup>1</sup>

prome venustatem amanti tuam, ut gaudeat cum perdis.

ego hic interim restitans praesidebo, istic dum sic faciat domum ad te exagogam; nec quemquam interim istoc ad vos, qui sit odio,

intro mittam: tu perge, ut lubet, ludo in istoc.

*Din.* Quis istest, Astaphium, indica, qui perit?

*Ast.* Amabo, hicin tu eras?

*Din.* Molestusne sum.

*Ast.* Nunc magis quam fuisti,

nam si quid nobis usust nobis molestus.<sup>2</sup>

sed obsecro, da mi operam, ut narrem quae volo.

*Din.* Nam quid est? num mea refert?

*Ast.* Non mussito.

intus bolos quos dat!

*Din.* Quid? amator novos quispiam?

*Ast.* Integrum et plenum adortast thensaurum.

*Din.* Quis est?

*Ast.* Eloquar, sed tu taceto. nostin tu hunc Strabacem?

*Din.* Quidni?

*Ast.* Solus summam nunc habet hic apud nos, nunc is est fundus nobis.

animo bono male rem gerit.

<sup>1</sup> *secundumst* Geppert: *secundas* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> *molestu's* Lindsay: *molestus* corrupt (Leo).



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Din.* Perit hercle, ego idem <sup>1</sup>  
bona perdididi, mala repperi, factus sum extimus a  
vobis.
- Ast.* Stultus es, qui facta infecta facere verbis postules. 730  
Thetis quoque etiam lamentando pausam fecit filio.
- Din.* Non ego nunc intro ad vos mittar?
- Ast.* Quidum quam miles magis?
- Din.* Quia enim plus dedi.
- Ast.* Plus enim es intro missus, quom dabas:  
sine vicissim qui dant <sup>2</sup> ob illud quod dant operis  
utier.
- Din.* litteras didicisti: quando scis, sine alios discere.  
Discant, dum mihi commentari liceat, ni oblitus  
siem.
- Ast.* Quid erit interea magistrae, dum tu commentabere?  
volt <sup>3</sup> illa itidem commentari.
- Din.* Quid?
- Ast.* Rem accipere identidem.
- Din.* Dedi equidem hodie: iussi ei quinque argenti  
deferri minas,  
praeterea una mina obsonatum.
- Ast.* Idem istuc delatum scio. 740  
de eo nunc bene sunt tua virtute.
- Din.* Ei, meanè <sup>4</sup> inimici mei  
bona istic caedent? mortuom herele me quam ut  
id patiar mavelim.
- Ast.* Stultu's.<sup>5</sup>
- Din.* Quid est? aperi rem. quid iam, Astaphium?

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here: *itidem* Geppert. Leo notes following line: *hic reposuit Langenus.*

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *operam.*

<sup>3</sup> Leo brackets following *interim.*

<sup>4</sup> Leo brackets following *ut.*

<sup>5</sup> *Stultu's.* *Din.* *Quid est? Aperi rem. quid iam,*



## TRUCULENTUS

*Din.* (*bitterly*) Ruined he is, and I too, that sank my own good money for such bad returns, when all you do is shut me out.

*Ast.* You're silly to hope that words will do to undo what's done. Thetis herself, even, did make an end of sorrowing for her son.

*Din.* I'm not to be admitted to your house now?

*Ast.* And why you more than the soldier?

*Din.* Well, because I gave her more.

*Ast.* Well, you were admitted more while you did the giving. Now, in turn, let those that do give get the services their gifts are paying for. You've learned your letters: seeing you know them, let others learn.

*Din.* I will, if I can only repeat my lessons at school, so as not to forget.

*Ast.* What'll become of teacher meantime, while you repeat them? She wants to repeat things, too.

*Din.* What?

*Ast.* Receipt of tuition fees from time to time.

*Din.* I've certainly paid mine to-day. I gave orders to send her twenty-five pounds, besides five pounds' worth of provisions.

*Ast.* Which same I know arrived. (*maliciously*) Thanks to your kind help, everyone's doing nicely now.

*Din.* Damnation! Are enemies to do away in there with what belongs to me? Good Lord! I'd rather die than stand that!

*Ast.* (*encouragingly*) You're silly.

*Din.* (*hopefully*) How so? Explain. How's that, Astaphium?

---

*Astaphium?* Lindsay: *stultus quid est aperire.* *Din. Quid iam?* corrupt (Leo).



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Quia pōl mavelim  
mihi inimicos invidere, quam med inimicis meis;  
nam invidere alii bene esse, tibi male esse, miseria  
est.

qui invident egent; illis quibus invidetur, i rem  
habent.

*Din.* Non mei licet obsoni me participem fieri?

*Ast.* Si volebas participari, auferres dimidium domum.  
nam item ut Acherunti hic apud nos ratio accepti  
scribitur:

intro accipitur; quando acceptumst, non potest  
ferri foras.

bene vale.

750

*Din.* Resiste.

*Ast.* Omitte.

*Din.* A, mitte intro.

*Ast.* Ad te quidem.

*Din.* Immo istoc ad vos volo ire.

*Ast.* Non potest, nimium petis.

*Din.* Experiri<sup>1</sup>—

*Ast.* Immo opperire. vis est experirier.

*Din.* Dic me adesse.

*Ast.* Abi, occupatast. res itast, ne frustra sis.

*Din.* Redin an non redis?

*Ast.* Vocat me quae in me potest plus quam potes.

*Din.* Vuo verbo—

*Ast.* Eloquere.

*Din.* Mittin me intro?

*Ast.* Mendax es, abi.  
unum aiebas, tria iam dixti verba, atque ea men-  
dacia.

*Din.* Abiit intro, exclusit. egon ut haec mihi patiar fieri?

Leo brackets following *sine*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

iam berele ego tibi, inlecebra, ludos faciam clamore  
in via,

quae adversum legem accepisti a plurimis pecuniam; 760  
iam hercle apud novos omnis magistratus faxo erit  
nomen tuom,

post id ego te manum iniciam quadrupuli, venefica,  
suppostrix puerum. ego edepol iam tua probra  
aperibo omnia.

nihil me prohibet, perdidi omne quod fuit: fio  
impudens,

nec mi adeost tantillum pensi iam, quos capiam  
calceos.

sed quid ego hic clamo? quid si me iubeat intro-  
mittier?

conceptis me non facturum verbis iurem, si velit.

nugae sunt. si stimulos pugnis caedis, manibus  
plus dolet.

de nihilo nihil est irasci, quae te non flocci facit.

sed quid hoc est? pro di immortales, Calliclem  
video senem, 770

meus qui adfinis fuit, ancillas duas constrictas  
ducere,

alteram tonstricem huius, alteram ancillam suam.

pertimui: postquam una cura cor meum movit modo,  
timeo ne male facta antiqua mea sint inventa omnia.

### IV. 3.

*Call.* Egon tibi male dicam tibi que aut male velim? ut  
animus meust,

---

<sup>1</sup> *quos capiam calceos*: what unbecoming thing I do.



## TRUCULENTUS

By the Lord, I'll make things merry for you now, by yelling in the street, you seductress, with your illegal money-getting from man after man! By the Lord, I'll soon bring your name before all the new police commissioners, and after that I'll have you in court to pay quadruple damages, you sorceress, you child changeress! I'll soon expose all your villainies, by heaven, I will! There's nothing to prevent me; all there was I've parted with! No shame is left me! Not a pennyworth do I care now what shoes I wear!<sup>1</sup> (*pauses, then helplessly*) Yet why do I keep bawling here? What if she told them to let me in? Then I would take my formal oath to hold my tongue, if she so wished. Oh, it's no use! Beat a stick with your fists, and it's your hands that suffer. There's nothing in raging at nothing, when a girl doesn't give a damn for you. (*looks down the street*) But what's this? Ye immortal gods! There's old Callicles, who was to have been my father-in-law, leading along two servant maids in bonds! One of 'em is Phronesium's hairdresser, the other's a slave girl of his own! (*withdraws*) Lord, I'm scared! Here I was all worked up over one worry, and now I'm afraid my former sins, the whole of 'em, have been found out!

Scene 3. ENTER *Callicles*, FOLLOWED BY SLAVES IN CHARGE OF THE GIRLS. *Callicles* IDENTIFIES *Phronesium's* HOUSE AND HALTS.

*Call.* (*to his own maid, with savage irony*) Now am I a man to speak hard words to you, (*to the other*) and you, or to hold hard wishes? I should judge that you



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

propemodum expertae estis, quam ego sim mitis  
· tranquillusque homo.

rogitavi ego vos verberatas ambas pendentis simul;  
commemini, quo quicque pacto sitis confessae scio;  
hic nunc volo scire eodem pacto sine malo fate-  
amini.

quamquam vos colubrino ingenio ambae estis, edico  
prius,  
ne duplicis habeatis linguas, ne ego bilinguis vos  
necem,

nisi si ad tintinnaculos voltis vos educi viros.

*Anc.* Vis subigit verum fateri, ita lora laedunt bracchia.

*Call.* At si verum mi eritis fassae, vinclis exsolvemini.

*Din.* Etiamnum quid sit negoti, falsus incertusque sum,  
nisi quia timeo tamen, egomet quia quod peccavi  
scio.

*Call.* Ommium primum diversae state—em' sic, istuc  
volo;  
neve inter vos significetis, ego ero paries. loquere  
tu.

*Anc.* Quid loquar?

*Call.* Quid puero factumst, mea quam peperit filia,  
meo nepote? capita rerum ede expedite.

*Anc.* Istae dedi. 790

*Call.* Iam tace. accepistin puerum tu ab hac?

*Ton.* Accepi.

*Call.* Tace.

nil moror praeterea. satis es fassa.

*Ton.* Infitias non eo.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Call.* Iam livorem verbo scapulis istoc concinnas tuis.  
conveniunt adhuc utriusque verba.

*Din.* Vae misero mihi,  
mea nunc facinora aperiuntur, clam quae speravi  
fore.

*Call.* Loquere tu. qui dare te huic puerum iussit?

*Anc.* Era maior mea.<sup>1</sup>

*Call.* Loquere tu. quid eo fecisti puero?

*Ton.* Ad meam eram detuli.

*Call.* Quid eo puero tua era fecit?

*Ton.* Erae meae extemplo dedit. 800

*Call.* Quoi, malum, erae?

*Anc.* Duae sunt istae.

*Call.* Cave tu nisi quod te rogo.

ex te exquiro.

*Ton.* Mater, inquam, filiae dono dedit.

*Call.* Plus quam dudum <sup>2</sup> loquere.

*Ton.* Plus tu rogitas.

*Call.* Responde ocius

quid illa cui donatus puer est?

*Ton.* Supposivit.

*Call.* Cui?

*Ton.* Sibi.

*Call.* Pro filiolon?

*Ton.* Pro filiolo.

*Call.* Di, obsecro vostram fidem,  
ut facilius alia quam alia eundem puerum unum  
parit:

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following vv., 797-798:

*Call.* Quid tu, cur eum accepisti?

*Ton.* Era med oravit minor,  
puer ut sibi ferretur eaque ut celarentur omnia.

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *inquam*.



## TRUCULENTUS

**Call.** That one admission's enough to give your shoulder-blades a darker colour scheme. (*half to himself*)  
The statements of both agree so far.

**Din.** (*aside*) Oh, this is awful, awful! What I did is coming out, all I hoped to keep hushed up!

**Call.** (*to his own maid*) Your turn to speak. Who told you to give the child to her?

**Maid** Mistress, sir—my older one.<sup>1</sup>

**Call.** (*to the other*) Now you speak. What did you do with this child?

**Hair.** I fetched him to my mistress, sir.

**Call.** And what did your mistress do with him?

**Hair.** Gave him to my mistress, right off, sir.

**Call.** What mistress, curse you?

**Maid** She has two, sir.

**Call.** (*turning on her fiercely*) Nothing from you but what I ask you! (*to the other*) It's you I'm questioning.

**Hair.** The daughter got him as a gift from the mother, I say, sir.

**Call.** Hm! You talk more than you did a while ago.

**Hair.** You ask more, sir.

**Call.** Quick now, answer me this: the girl who received the child, what did she do?

**Hair.** Palmed it off, sir.

**Call.** On whom?

**Hair.** On herself, sir.

**Call.** As her own youngster?

**Hair.** As her own, sir.

**Call.** God preserve us! How much easier it is for one woman than another to give birth to the same

<sup>1</sup> Vv. 797-798 :

**Call.** And you? Why did you take him?

**Hair.** My younger mistress asked me, sir, to have the child brought to her and everything kept secret.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

haec labore alieno puerum peperit sine doloribus.  
puer quidem beatust: matres duas habet et avias  
duas:

iam metuo, patres quot fuerint. vide sis facinus  
muliebre.

*Anc.* Magis pol haec malitia pertinet ad viros quam ad  
mulieres:

vir illam, non mulier praegnatem fecit.

*Call.* Idem ego istuc scio.  
tu bona ei custos fuisti.

*Anc.* Plus potest qui plus valet.  
vir erat, plus valebat: vicit, quod petebat abstulit.

*Call.* Et tibi quidem hercle idem attulit magnum malum.

*Anc.* Idem istuc ipsa, etsi tu taccas, reapse experta  
intellego.

*Call.* Numquam te facere hodie quivi, ut is quis esset  
diceres.

*Anc.* Tacui adhuc: nunc non tacebo, quando adest nec se  
indicat.

*Din.* Lapideus sum, commovere me miser non audeo.  
res palam omnis est, meo illic nunc sunt capiti  
comitia.

meum illuc facinus, mea stultita est. timeo, quam  
mox nominer.

*Call.* Loquere, filiam meam quis integram stupraverit.

*Anc.* Video ego te, propter male facta qui es patronus  
parieti.

*Din.* Neque vivos neque mortuos sum, neque quid nunc  
faciam scio,



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

neque ut hinc abeam neque ut hunc adeam scio,  
timore torpeo.

*Call.* Dicin an non?

*Anc.* Diniarchus, quoi illam prius desponderas.

*Call.* Vbi is homost quem dicis?

*Din.* Adsum, Callicles. per tua obsecro  
genua te, ut istuc insipienter factum sapienter feras,  
mihique ignoscas quod animi impos vini vitio  
fecerim.

*Call.* Non placet qui in mutum culpam confert, qui non  
quit loqui.

nam vinum si fabulari possit, se defenderet.

830

non vinum viris moderari, sed viri vino solent,  
qui quidem probi sunt; verum qui improbust si quasi  
bibit

sive adeo caret temeto, tamen ab ingenio improbust.

*Din.* Scio equidem quae nolo multa mi audienda ob  
noxiam.

ego tibi me obnoxium esse fateor culpae compotem.

*Anc.* Callicles, vide in quaestione ne facias iniuriam:

reus solutus causam dicit, testis vinctos attines.

*Call.* Solvite istas. agite, abite tu domum et tu autem  
domum.

eloquere haec erae tu: puerum reddat, si quis eum  
petat.

camus tu in ius.

*Din.* Quid vis in ius me ire? tu es praetor mihi.

840

verum te obsecro, ut tuam gnatam des mi uxorem,

Callicles.

*Call.* Eundem pol te iudicasse qui admisti eam rem  
intellego.



## TRUCULENTUS

out of here or go up to him, either! I'm scared stiff!

*Call.* Will you name him or not?

*Maid* Diniarchus—the one you once betrothed her to.

*Call.* Where is this man you name?

*Din.* (*stumbles up, prostrates himself at Callicles' feet*)

Here I am, Callicles! I beseech you, sir, by these knees of yours, bear with a madman's act as a wise man should and forgive me for a thing I did when bereft of reason by that cursed wine!

*Call.* (*grim*) Fine business, laying the blame on a dumb accomplice that has no tongue! Why, if the wine could speak, it would defend itself. It is not the way of wine to control men, but men wine—men of any worth. A worthless man, however—call him drinker, yes, or abstainer—is worthless still by nature.

*Din.* Indeed, sir, I know I must listen to much that I hate to hear, because I'm guilty. I admit I've been to blame, sir, and I'm at your mercy.

*Maid* Callicles, sir, don't you think this trial is all wrong? The defendant's free while he pleads his case; the witnesses you keep tied up.

*Call.* (*to slaves*) Release them. (*to girls, loosed*) Get along, go on home, (*to his own maid*) you, (*to the other*) yes, and home with you, too! Make this clear to your mistress: she is to return the child on demand.

[EXEUNT MAIDS.]

(*to Diniarchus* Come now, you, off to court!

*Din.* Why do you want me to go to court, sir? You yourself are my judge. But I do beseech you, Callicles, let me marry your daughter.

*Call.* (*somewhat mollified*) Bless my soul! I perceive you have both committed the deed and decided the



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

nam haud mansisti, dum ego darem illam: tute  
sumpsisti tibi.

nunc habeas ut nactu's. verum hoc ego te multabo  
bolo:

sex talenta magna dotis demam pro ista inscitia.

*Din.* Bene agis mecum.

*Call.* Filium istinc tuom te meliust repetere.

ceterum uxorem quam primum potest abduce ex  
aedibus.

ego abeo. iam illi remittam nuntium adfini meo,  
dicam ut aliam condicionem filio inveniat suo.

*Din.* At ego ab hac puerum reposcam, ne mox infitias eat; 850

nihil est, nam eapse ultro ut factumst fecit omnem  
rem palam.

sed nimium pol opportune cccam eapse egreditur  
foras.

ne ista stimulum longum habet, quae usque illinc  
cor pungit meum.

### IV. 4.

*Phron.* Blitea et luteast meretrix nisi quae sapit in vino  
ad rem suam;

si alia membra vino madeant, cor sit saltem sobrium.

nam mihi dividiaest,<sup>1</sup> tonstricem meam sic con-  
victam male.

ea dixit, eum Diniarchi puerum inventum filium.

ubi id audivi, quam ego propere potui egressa huc  
sum foras.

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *in*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Din.* Lubet adire quam penes est mea omnis res et liberi.
- Phron.* Video eccum qui suis tutorem meo optavit liberis.
- Din.* Mulier, ad te sum profectus.
- Phron.* Quid agitur, voluptas mea? 860
- Din.* Non voluptas, aufer nugas, nil ego nunc de istac re ago.
- Phron.* Scio mecastor quid velis et quid postules et quid petas:  
me videre vis,<sup>1</sup> te a me ire postulas, puerum petis.
- Din.* Di immortales, ut planiloqua est, paucis ut rem ipsam attigit.
- Phron.* Scio equidem sponsam tibi esse et filium ex sponsa tua et tibi uxorem ducendam,<sup>2</sup> esse alibi iam animum tuum et me quasi pro derelicta: scio, abiturus. sed tamen cogitato, mus pusillus quam sit sapiens bestia, aetatem qui non cubili uni umquam committit suam, quin, si unum obsideatur, aliud iam perfugium elegerit. 870
- Din.* Otium ubi erit, de istis rebus tum amplius tecum loquar.  
nunc puerum redde.
- Phron.* Immo amabo ut hos dies aliquos sinas eum esse apud me.
- Din.* Minime.
- Phron.* Amabo.
- Din.* Quid opus est?
- Phron.* In rem meam est.  
triduum hoc saltem, dum aliquo miles circumducitur,

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *et me*.

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *iam*.



## TRUCULENTUS

*Din.* (*aside, stepping forward*) Now for the wench that has her grip on all my property and children.

*Phron.* (*aside*) Ah, there's the man that chose me as his children's guardian.

*Din.* (*resolutely*) I was on my way to you, madam.

*Phron.* (*all sweetness and light*) How are things with you, darling mine?

*Din.* Don't darling me! No nonsense! I'm not concerned with things of that sort now.

*Phron.* Bless your heart, I know what you wish, what you claim, and what you come for: you wish to see me, claim we must part, come for the child.

*Din.* (*aside, admiringly*) Ye immortal gods! That's putting it plainly, that's hitting the point concisely!

*Phron.* Of course I know that you have a fiancée and a son by your fiancée, and a wife to marry, and that your mind is elsewhere now and I'm only a poor forsaken girl. I know, you'll leave me. (*softly*) But just the same, consider the wee mouse and what a canny little beastie he is. He doesn't ever entrust his welfare to a single cubbyhole, but has another refuge all picked and ready, if one is blocked.

*Din.* (*not so resolute*) When I'm at leisure we'll talk those matters over further. But now return the child.

*Phron.* Oh no, do let him stay with me, there's a dear, just for the next few days. (*fondles him*)

*Din.* By no means.

*Phron.* There's a dear!

*Din.* (*weakening*) What's the use of it?

*Phron.* It'll be a help to me. Do let me have him for the next three days, anyway, while I string the soldier



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

sine me habere: siquidem habebo, tibi quoque  
etiam proderit;  
si auferes,<sup>1</sup> a milite omnis<sup>2</sup> mihi spes animam  
efflaverit.

*Din.* Factum cupio, nam nefacere si velim, non est locus;  
nunc puero utere et procura, quando quor cures  
habes.

*Phron.* Multum amo te ob istam rem mecastor. ubi domi  
metues malum,  
fugito huc ad me: saltem amicus mi esto manu-  
biarius.<sup>3</sup>

*Din.* Bene vale, Phronesium.

*Phron.* An non etiam tuom oculum vocas?

*Din.* Id quoque interim<sup>4</sup> futatim nomen commemora-  
bitur.

numquid vis?

*Phron.* Fac valeas.

*Din.* Operae ubi mi erit, ad te venero.

*Phron.* Ille quidem hinc abiit, abscessit. dicere hic quidvis  
lieet.

verum est verbum quod memoratur: ubi amici  
ibidem sunt opes.

propter hunc spes etiamst hodie tactuiri<sup>5</sup> militem;  
quem ego ecastor mage amo quam me, dum id quod  
cupio inde aufero.

quae cum multum abstulimus, hau multum eius  
apparet quod datum est:

ita sunt gloriae meretricum.

*Ast.* Aha tace.

*Phron.* Quid est, obsecro?

<sup>1</sup> Leo brackets following *puerum*.

<sup>2</sup> Leo brackets following *tum*.

<sup>3</sup> *manubiarius* Camerarius: *manubinarius* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>4</sup> Corrupt (Leo): *interatim furtim* Lindsay.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Ast.* Pater adest pueri.

*Phron.* Sine eumpse adire huc. sine, si is est modo. 890

*Ast.* Ipsus est.

*Phron.* Sine eumpse adire, ut cupit, ad me.

*Ast.* Reetam tenet.

*Phron.* Ne istum ecastor hodie aspiciam confectum fallaciis.

### ACTVS V

*Strat.* Ego minam auri fero supplicium<sup>1</sup> damnis ad amicam meam:

ut illud acceptum sit, prius quod perdidi, hoc addam insuper.

sed quid video? eram atque ancillam ante aedis. adeundae haec mihi.

quid hic vos agitis?

*Phron.* Ne me appella quaeso.

*Strat.* Aha nimium saeviter.

*Phron.* Potine ut mihi molestus ne sis?

*Strat.* Ecquid, Astaphium, litiumst?

*Ast.* Merito ecastor tibi succenset.

*Phron.* Egon, atque isti etiam parum male volo.

*Strat.* Ego, mea voluptas, si quid peccavi prius, supplicium ad te hanc minam fero auri. si minus credis, respice. 900

*Phron.* Manus vetat prius quam penes sese habeat quicquam credere.

<sup>1</sup> *Corrupt (Leo): damnas Dousa.*



## TRUCULENTUS

*Ast.* (*points*) Here's the father of your child!

*Phron.* Let the man come here. Let him, if it's only he.

*Ast.* That's who it is.

*Phron.* Let the man have his way and come to me.

*Ast.* He's headed straight here, ma'am.

*Phron.* Ah! If I don't make a wile-worn spectacle of him to-day!

### ACT V

ENTER *Stratophanes*, BADLY CRESTFALLEN AND DISTRESSED. HE STOPS AND RUEFULLY EXAMINES THE CONTENTS OF A PURSE.

*Strat.* I'm bringing my sweetheart five pounds to make amends—and swell my losses. So as to make my earlier extravagance acceptable, I'll add this to boot. (*notices the girls*) But what do I see? Mistress and maid in front of the house. I must up and at 'em. (*advances, genially*) What are you two doing here?

*Phron.* (*peevishly, turning away*) Don't you dare address me, sir.

*Strat.* Now, now! You're too snappish. (*tries to pet her*)

*Phron.* Can't you keep from pestering me?

*Strat.* Why is she so quarrelsome, Astaphium?

*Ast.* She has reason to be angry at you, mercy, yes!

*Phron.* (*to Astaphium*) Well, if I haven't! I'm altogether too good to that man.

*Strat.* But, darling girl, suppose I did act badly before, I'm bringing you this five pounds to make amends. (*holds out the purse*) Look round here, if you mistrust me.

*Phron.* (*still averted*) My hand forbids my trusting anything



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

puero opust cibo, opus est matri autem, opus est  
 quae puerum lavit,  
 opus nutrici, lact ut habeat, veteris vini largiter  
 ut dies noctesque potet, opust ligno, opust carboni-  
 bus,  
 fasciis opus est, pulvinis, cunis, incunabulis,  
 oleo opust, opus est farina, porro opus est totum  
 diem :

numquam hoc uno die efficiatur opus, quin opus sem-  
 per siet ;

non enim possunt militares pueri dauco <sup>1</sup> exducier.

*Strat.* Respice ergo, accipe hoc, qui istuc efficias opus. .

*Phron.* Cedo, quamquam parum est.

*Strat.* Addam etiam unam minam istuc post.

*Phron.* Parumst. 910

*Strat.* Tuo arbitrato quod iubebis dabitur. da nunc  
 savium.

*Phron.* Mitte me, inquam, odiosu's.

*Strat.* Nil fit, non amor, teritur dies.

plus decem pondo amoris <sup>2</sup> pauxillisper perdidi.

*Phron.* Accipe hoc atque auferto intro.

*Strab.* Vbi mea amicast gentium ?

neque ruri neque hic operis quicquam facio, cor-  
 rumpor situ,

ita miser cubando in lecto hic expectando obdurui.

sed eccam video. heus amica, quid agis ? <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *dauco* Seyffert : *etauio* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> *amoris* Nonius : *moris* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>3</sup> Leo brackets following *mille*.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

- Strat.* Quis illic est homo ?
- Phron.* Quem ego ecastor mage amo quam te.<sup>1</sup>
- Strat.* Quam me? quo modo?
- Phron.* Hoc modo, ut molestus ne sis.
- Strat.* Iamne abis, postquam aurum habes?
- Phron.* Condidi intro quod dedisti.
- Strab.* Ades, amica, te adloquor. 920
- Phron.* At ego ad te ibam, mea delicia.
- Strab.* Hercle vero serio,  
quamquam ego tibi videor stultus, gaudere aliqui  
me volo;  
nam quamquam tu es bella, malo tuo, nisi ego aliqui  
gaudeo.
- Phron.* Vin te amplectar, savium dem?
- Strab.* Quidvis face qui gaudeam.
- Strat.* Meosne ante oculos ego illam patiar alios ample-  
xarier?  
mortuom hercle me hodie satiust. apstine hoc,  
mulier, manum,  
nisi si te mea manu <sup>2</sup> ui in machaera et hunc vis  
mori.
- Phron.* Nil halapari satiust, miles, si te amari postulas;  
auro, hau ferro deterrere potes, hunc ne amem,  
Stratophanes.

<sup>1</sup> Leo notes lacuna here :

*Strat.* *Quam me ?*

*Phron.* *Quam te.*

*Strat.* *Quo modo ?* Bothe.

<sup>2</sup> Corrupt (Leo) : *nisi si te mea machaera vis et hunc una  
mori* Schoell.



## TRUCULENTUS

*Strat.* (*roaring*) What man is that?

*Phron.* Oh well, one I love more than you.

*Strat.* Than me? How mean you?

*Phron.* (*turning away*) This is how—I won't be bothered by you.

*Strat.* You leave, the moment you have my money?

*Phron.* Why, I tucked inside there (*indicating her house*) what you gave me.

*Strab.* (*impatient*) Come here, sweetheart, I'm hailing you. (*goes toward her*)

ENTER *Astaphium*, PLEASED WITH THE SITUATION,  
INTO DOORWAY.

*Phron.* (*joining Strabax*) Well, you dear precious thing, I was just on my way to you.

*Strab.* (*aggrieved*) Really truly now, hang it, no matter what a fool you take me for, I want some fun, I do. No matter if you are pretty, you'll pay for it, if I don't have some fun.

*Phron.* Shall I hug you and give you a nice kiss? (*illustrates*)

*Strab.* (*contentedly*) Do what you want, so long as I have my fun.

*Strat.* (*aside*) Shall I endure to see her hug another man before my very eyes? Good Lord, I'd rather be dead this day! (*thunderously, drawing his sword*) Hands off that man, minx, if thou be not minded that ye both should die by this my hand and mighty blade!

*Phron.* (*over Strabax' shoulder*) No bambullying, soldier man, I advise you, if you want to be loved. Only gold, not iron, Stratophanes, can scare away my affection for this lad. (*they continue their caresses unperturbed*)



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Strat.* Qui, malum, bella aut faceta es, quae ames hominem  
isti modi?

*Phron.* Venitne in mentem tibi quod verbum in cavea dixit  
histrionis:

omnes homines ad suum quaestum callent et fasti-  
diunt.

*Strat.* Huncine hominem te amplexari tam horridum ac  
tam squalidum?

*Phron.* Quamquam hic squallet, quamquam hic horret,  
scitus et bellus mihi.

*Strat.* Dedit ego aurum—

*Phron.* Mihi? dedisti filio cibaria.

nunc, si hanc tecum esse speras, alia opus auri  
mina.

*Strab.* Malam rem is et magnam magno opere, serva tibi  
viaticum.

*Strat.* Quid isti debes?

*Phron.* Tria.

*Strat.* Quae tria nam?

*Phron.* Unguenta, noctem, saviu.

*Strat.* Par pari respondet. verum nunc saltem, etsi  
istunc amas,  
dant tu mihi de tuis deliciis quidquid est <sup>1</sup> paucillum?

*Phron.* Quid id, amabo, est quod dem? <sup>2</sup>

cave faxis vulnus tibi iam cui sunt dentes ferrei.

*Strab.* Volgo ad se omnis intromittit.

*Strat.* Abstine istae tu manum.

*Strab.* Iam berele cum magno malo tu vapula vir strenuus.

*Strat.* Dedit ego huic aurum.

*Strab.* At ego argentum.

<sup>1</sup> *quidquid est* Geppert: *sum quicquid* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> The rest of v. 941 and 942, *dic tunc super feri capax dicit auauis consultam istuc mihi homo* (Leo), is hopelessly corrupt.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Strat.* At ego ancillas tura purpuram.<sup>1</sup>

*Strab.* At ego oves et lanam, et alia multa quae poscet dabo.

meliust te minis certare mecum quam minaciis.

*Phron.* Lepidu's .ecastor mortalis, mi Strabax, perge obsecro.

*Ast.* Stultus atque insanus damnis certant: nos salvae sumus.

*Strat.* Age prior prompta aliquid.

*Strab.* Immo tu prior perde et peri.

*Strat.* Em tibi talentum argenti. Philippi hic est, em<sup>2</sup> tene tibi.

*Phron.* Tanto melior, noster esto—sed de vostro vivito.

*Strat.* Vbi est quod tu das? solve zonam, provocator. quid times?

*Strab.* Tu peregrinu's, hic ego habito: non cum zona ego ambulo:

pecua ad hanc collo in crumina ego obligata defero. quid dedi! ut discinxi hominem.

*Strat.* Immo ego vero, qui dedi.

*Phron.* I intro, amabo, i, tu eris mecum; tum tu eris mecum quidem.

*Strat.* Quid tu? quid ais? cum hocin eris? ego ero posterior, qui dedi?

*Phron.* Tu dedisti iam, hic daturust: istuc habeo, hoc expeto.

<sup>1</sup> *At ego ancillas tura purpuram* Schoell: *eat apale puram* corrupt (Leo).

<sup>2</sup> *Philippi hic est, em* Schoell: *Philippices est* corrupt (Leo).



## TRUCULENTUS

*Strat.* Well, maids and incense and a purple cloak from me!

*Strab.* Well, sheep and wool from me—and I'll give her lots of other things she asks for. Competition with me calls for cash, not brash.

*Phron.* Oh, Strabax dear, you're the cleverest creature. Do keep at him, do.

*Ast.* (*aside*) A fool and a madman competing to lose the most! That's fine for us.

*Strat.* (*beside himself*) Come then, you first, produce some present!

*Strab.* No, you first—go broke and go hang!

*Strat.* (*to Phronesium, wildly tearing off his money belt*) There you are! Three hundred pounds, coin of the realm! There! It's yours! Take it!

*Phron.* (*losing no time*) Ah, that's better! Our home is yours—but be your own provider.

*Strat.* (*to Strabax, triumphantly*) Where is your gift? Loose your money-belt, challenger! Why so timid?

*Strab.* You're from foreign parts; I live here, I do. I don't go walking round with a money-belt. It's flocks I fetch her, all tied up in this here sack on my neck. (*displaying it to Phronesium*) What a gift! How I got him peeled!

*Strat.* (*with a confident laugh*) Ah no, how I got you, you mean! I made my gift.

*Phron.* (*to Strabax*) Go inside, there's a dear, go on. You can be with me. (*to Stratophanes*) Then you can be with me, too.

*Strat.* (*aghast*) What's that? What are you saying? He be with you? And I come second, I that made my gift?

*Phron.* (*sweetly*) Yes, yours is made already; his isn't, yet. I have that (*indicating the belt*) and I'm after this.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

verum utrique mos geratur amborum ex sententia.

*Strat.* Fiat. ut rem gnatam video, hoc accipiendumst  
quod datur.

*Strab.* Meum quidem te lectum certe occupare non sinam.

*Phron.* Lepide ecastor aucupavi atque ex mea sententia,  
meamque ut rem video bene gestam, vostram rursus  
bene geram :

rem bonam <sup>1</sup> si quis animatus facere, faciat ut sciam.

Veneris causa adplaudite: eius haec in tutelast  
fabula.

spectatores, bene valet, plaudite atque exurgite.

<sup>1</sup> *rem bonam* Buecheler : *romabo* corrupt (Leo).



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VIDULARIA

OR

THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

*[Only a score of fragments of the VIDULARIA, a total of hardly more than a hundred lines, have been discovered.]*

VIDVLARIA



## PERSONAE

ASPASIVS SERVVS  
NICODEMVS ADVLESCENS  
GORGINES PISCATOR  
DINIA SENEX  
CACISTVS PISCATOR  
SOTERIS VIRGO  
ADVLESCENS  
MVLIER  
LENO



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# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## PROLOGVS

	hanc rem vetere nomine		
	potentiam inimicorum		3
	laudatus	gratias	
Schedia			6
poeta hanc noster fecit Vidulariam.			
		faxo scibitis.	
prius noseite alia : sane scitis, ipse est ;			
credo argumentum velle vos pernoscere ;			10
intellegetis potius quid agant quando agent.			
	uos in loco monitum		
		meam	14
magis	abeo	nunciam	15
uos	pro hoc		
<i>Asp.</i>	Hominem, semel quem usurpavit servitus		
I. <i>Nic.</i>	Eiusdem Bacchae fecerunt nostram navem Pentheum.		
II.	inopiam, luctum, maerorem, paupertatem, algum, famem.		



# THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

*The scene of the play is unknown. The action takes place in front of the house of Gorgines, and perhaps, of Dinia.*

## PROLOGUE

\* \* \* This matter by an old name \* \* \*  
power of enemies \* \* \* praised \* \* \* thanks  
\* \* \* SCHEDIA \* \* \* our dramatist has made this  
play THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG. \* \* \* I shall  
let you know. First learn other matters: you  
doubtless do know—it is he himself. I fancy that  
you wish full information of the plot—but I prefer  
to let you discover what they do when they do it.  
\* \* \* You, here and now admonished \* \* \*  
mine more \* \* \* I leave \* \* \* at once you  
\* \* \* instead of this one \* \* \*

The play is opened by Aspasius. Only the first of his lines is preserved.

*Asp.* A chap that slavery once has got its hold on \* \* \*

Nicodemus has been shipwrecked. Gorgines is hospitable to the destitute young fellow. The four fragments that follow seem to belong to a scene in which Nicodemus tells Gorgines his story.

I. *Nic.* It was his Bacchantes made a Pentheus of our ship.

II. want, affliction, sorrow, poverty, cold, hunger.



TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

III. *Gorg.* Paupera haec res est.

IV. haec myrtus Veneris est.

est quo censeo

*Nic.* Quid ais? licetne?

*Din.* Maxume, siquid est opus.  
sed quid est negoti?

*Nic.* Te ego audivi dicere, 20  
operarium te velle rus conducere.

*Din.* Recte audivisti.

*Nic.* Quid vis operis fieri?

*Din.* Quid tu istuc curas? an mihi tutor additu's?

*Nic.* Dare possum, opinor, satis bonum operarium.

*Din.* Est tibi in mercede servus quem des quispiam? 25

*Nic.* Inopia servum me

*Din.* Quid? tu locas te? non, ut opinor, serio,  
nam equidem te mercennarium haud esse arbitror.

*Nic.* Non sum, siquidem tu non vis mercedem dare,  
verum, si pretium das, duces tecum simul. 30

*Din.* Laboriosa, adulescens, vita est rustica.

*Nic.* Urbana egestas edepol aliquanto magis.

*Din.* Talis iactandis tuae sunt consuetae manus.

*Nic.* At qualis exercendas nunc intellego.



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## THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

*Din.* Your skin's all white from the soft, sheltered city life you've led.

*Nic.* The sun's a painter who'll attend to that, sir: he'll soon put the black on.

*Din.* Mark my words, it's mighty rough fare my workmen get there.

*Nic.* Quite in the nature of things, sir, that a poor devil fare poorly. What \* \* \* of you, sir, \* \* \* I beg you'll grant it to me. If you need a man that's decent, that's no bad sort, one who'll show more loyalty than your own slaves, one you can feed least, sweat most, and trust to the utmost—here I am, sir, ready to be hired.

*Din.* But good heavens, I really don't believe it, that you're a wage-earner.

*Nic.* You don't believe it, sir? Not \* \* \* to be hired, I think \* \* \* he would likewise say \* \* \*  
\* \* \* labourer \* \* \* now \* \* \* I hire .gets long hours, little pay, and little food.

*Nic.* I'll do quite as much as the one that does most, sir, and you needn't give me anything besides my wages except a meal at noon.

*Din.* How about a meal in the afternoon?

*Nic.* No need of it, sir, and no dinner.

*Din.* You won't have dinner?

*Nic.* Well, I'll go home, sir.

*Din.* Where do you live?

*Nic.* (*pointing*) Here with Gorgines the fisherman.

*Din.* Then you're my neighbour, according to that \* \* \*

Cacistus finds Nicodemus' travelling bag while he is fishing, but Aspasius prevents his appropriating it. Gorgines appears and makes himself its temporary custodian. Fragments V and VI, and lines 56–68, deal with this incident.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

V. *Gorg.* Animum advortite ambo sultis. vidulum hic  
apponite;

ego servabo, quasi sequestro detis; neutri reddibo,  
donicum res iudicata erit haec.

VI. *Asp.* Haud fugio sequestrum

*Cac.* ibo et quaeram, si quem possim sociorum nanciscier 56  
seu quem norim, qui advocatus adsit. iam hunc  
novi locum.

hicine vos habitatis?

*Gorg.* Hise in aedibus: huc adducito.  
at ego vidulum intro condam in arcam atque occlu-  
dam probe.

tu si quem vis invenire tibi patronum, quaerita; 60  
perfidiose numquam quicquam hic agere decretumst  
mihi.

*Cac.* Qur, malum, patronum quaeram, postquam litem  
perdidi?

ne ego homo miser et scelestus dudum atque  
infelix fui,

vidulum qui ubi vidi, non me circumspexi centiens;  
verbero illic inter murtos latuit, insidias dedit. 65

tam scio quam med hic stare: captam praedam  
perdidi.

nisi quid ego mei simile aliquid contra consilium  
paro.

hic astabo atque observabo, si quem amicum  
conspicer.

*Din.* Ne tu edepol hodie miserias multas tuas 70  
mihi narravisti, eoque ab opere maxume  
te abire iussi, quia me miserebat tui.



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## THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

*Cac.* (*aside*) He's the young chap that the storm \* \* \* and now I've heard \* \* \* how quickly he got himself a job. Lord! He didn't hang back, once he touched solid ground.

In the course of this scene Dinia seems to have been stirred by a faint recognition of Nicodemus' voice and to have spoken of his own son, lost and possibly in such straits as Nicodemus.

It's strange if \* \* \* he recounted the affair to me \* \* \* a man more destitute \* \* \* does not exist, or ever did, or ever will, I do believe.

*Din.* Don't say a thing like that. No, no, see here, I'll go at once and bring you the five pounds you asked me to lend you at interest. As for interest, you needn't pay a bit.

*Nic.* May heaven preserve that son of yours for you, sir, and reward your providing me in my need with the means of living. But I don't expect you to forgo the interest, sir.

*Din.* A man that's destitute must not be burdened with interest charges. (*affecting rigour*) But the date you mention for repaying me, mind you don't change that.

*Nic.* Up to the very time I settle \* \* \*

Cacistus appeals to Nicodemus, or to Dinia, to help him regain the travelling bag, and tells how he found it. The next four fragments come from this lost scene.

VII. *Cac.* There as I was fishing, I struck my spear against the bag.

VIII. Some slave or other leapt out of the myrtle grove.



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

IX. Quid multa verba? plurimum luctavimus.

X. Nunc apud sequestrum vidulum posivimus.

XI. Opposita est calcendix.

*Nic.* At ego signi dicam quid siet.

XII. XIII. *A.* Iuben hunc insui in culleo  
atque in altum deportari, suis ut annonam bonam  
piscibus concinnet?

*B.* Malo hunc adligari ad horiam,  
ut semper piscetur, etsi sit tempestas maxima.

XIV. Signum recte comparebat; huius contendi  
anulum.

XV. Malim moriri meos quam mendicari:  
boni miserantur illum, hunc inridet mali.

XVI. Nunc servos argentum a patre expalpabitur.



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TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

XVII. *Nic.* immo id quod haec nostra est patria et quod  
hic meus pater,  
illic autem Soterinis est pater.

XVIII. Nam audivi feminam ego leonem semel parere

XIX. Vbi quamque pedem viderat, subfurabatur  
omnis.

XX. Sed leno egreditur foras;  
hinc ex occulto sermonem eius sublegam.



## THE TALE OF A TRAVELLING BAG

XVII. *Nic.* \* \* \* well, the fact that this is our country  
and this man my father, while he's the father of  
Soteris.

XVIII. For I heard of a woman's once giving birth to a  
lion \* \* \*

XIX. Every louse he saw, he'd emboodle 'em all.

XX. But the pimp's coming out; I'll catch what he  
says from here secretly.



11



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ADDICTUS  
OR  
THE BONDMAN

Gellius (3, 3, 14) quotes Varro and others as stating that the *Addictus* was one of three plays written by Plautus while working in a mill. We have only the following fragment.

I

opus facere nimio quam dormire mavolo:  
veternum metuo.

“Servius,” commenting on Virgil’s *Georgics*,  
1, 124 (*veternus*).

I’d a whole lot rather do my work than sleep:  
I’m scared of torpour-complaint.

AGROECUS  
OR  
THE RUSTIC

Gellius (3, 3, 9) quotes Accius, through Varro, as saying: “For neither the *Gemini Lenones* nor the



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

*Condalium* nor the *Anus* were Plautus' work, nor the *Bis Compressa* nor the *Bacaria*, never, nor were the *Agroecus* or the *Commorientes*, for that matter, the work of Titus Maccius." We have only one line of the *Agroecus*.

### I

quasi lupus ab armis valco, clunes infractos gero.

Paulus, 61, and Nonius, 196 (*clunes* masculine).

My fore quarters are strong as a wolf's, but oh, the state of my haunches!

## ASTRABA

OR

## PACK SADDLE

The Astraba of Plautus is quoted by Varro, Nonius and Festus, alluded to by Probus. - Gellius (11, 7, 5) doubts its authenticity.

### II

axitiosae annonam caram e vili concinnant viris

Varro, *De Lingua Latina*, 7, 66 (*axitiosae*).

Synergetic women do make market prices soar  
for the men



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## TITUS MACCIUS · PLAUTUS

and universally ascribed to Plautus," Varro also accepted as Plautine still other plays such as the *Boeotia*. Gellius then quotes from that comedy the following lines spoken by a hungry parasite, and declares that they are not merely Plautine, but *Plautinissimi*.

### I

ut illum di perdant, primus qui horas repperit  
quique adeo primus statuit hic solarium;  
qui mihi comminuit misero articulatum diem.  
nam unum me puero venter erat solarium,  
multo omnium istorum optimum et verissimum.  
ubi is te monebat, esses, nisi cum nil erat;  
nunc etiam quom est non estur, nisi Soli libet.  
itaque adeo iam oppletum oppidum est solariis:  
maior pars populi aridi reptant fame.

Gellius, 3, 3, 5.

May heaven blast the man that first invented hours, yes, and first set up a sundial here—and minced the day into mere nothings for me, curse it! Why, when I was a boy my only sundial was my belly, and it was easily the best and most reliable timepiece of 'em all. On its giving you notice, you'd eat, except when there was no food; now, even when there is it isn't eaten, unless it suits old Sol. Why, we've reached the point where this town's stuffed with sundials—while most of its citizens creep about all shrivelled up with emptiness.



## FRAGMENTS

### CAECUS VEL PRAEDONES

OR

### THE BLIND MAN OR THE BANDITS

Charisius gives us ten short quotations from this play to illustrate Plautus' use of various adverbs and an interjection.

V

ita sunt praedones: prorsum parcunt nemini.

Charisius, 211 (*prorsum*).

Bandits are like this: they spare no one, absolutely no one.

VIII

si non strenue fatetur ubi sit aurum  
membra exsecemus serra.

Charisius, 219 (*strenue*).

If he doesn't confess where the gold is, double quick, let's slice parts off him with a saw.

### COLAX

OR

### THE TOADY

Terence (*Eunuchus*, Prologue, 25) ascribes a play named *Colax* to both Naevius and Plautus,



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

and admits that he himself took from Menander's comedy of this name the characters of a parasite and a braggart warrior. Four quotations from the *Colax* have come down to us; the only one of any length is found in a letter of Marcus Aurelius to Fronto. The emperor quotes with approval:

### II

qui data fide firmata fidentem fefellerint,  
subdoli subsentatores, regi qui sunt proximi,  
qui aliter regi dictis dicunt, aliter in animo habent.

*M. Caesar ad Frontonem, 2, 10, 33.*

Who give their solemn word, then trick him  
when he takes it, manoeuvring mealy-mouthers  
that stand the closest to their king and tell him  
one thing while they think another.

## FAENERATRIX

OR

## THE MONEYLENDRESS

Varro refers to Plautus' *Faeneratrix*, or *Feneratrix*, and Diomedes quotes a few words from the play, but it is to Festus and his interest in the obscure<sup>1</sup> phrase, *vapula Papiria*, that we owe the three-line fragment which follows.

<sup>1</sup> "Papiria" implying any patroness of high birth and importance?



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# TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

## FRIVOLARIA

OR

## BAGATELLE

We have ten short fragments of this play quoted by Charisius, Paulus, Festus, Varro, Nonius and Priscian, and ascribed by them to Plautus.

### II

is mi erat bilis, querquera, tussis, aqua intercus

Paulus, 256, (*querquera*); Festus, 257;

Priscian, 1, 271, (*intercus*).

The man was a bilious attack to me, an ague,  
a cough, a dropsy

## LIPARGUS

Only one fragment of this play is known. Illustrating the ancient forms, *edo*, *edis*, *edit*, Priscian quotes the following lines from "Plautus in Lipargo."

### I

nil moror mihi fucum in alveo, apibus qui peredit  
cibum.

Priscian, 1, 522.

I'll have no drone in my hive to batten on the  
bees' food.



## FRAGMENTS

### NERVOLARIA

Varro, Festus and Nonius supply us with a few short quotations from this play, the meaning of whose title is uncertain. Gellius (3, 3, 6) tells us: "When I was reading Plautus' *Nervularia*—accounted one of the doubtful plays—to our Favorinus, and he heard this line from that comedy:

scrattae, scrupipedae, strittivillae sordidae,

(scramblefoot scratchers, hair-plucking drabs)

he was delighted with the ancient, salty flavour of those words describing the nastiness and ugliness of harlots, and said: 'This one verse alone is enough to prove that Plautus wrote that play.' "

### IV

producte prodigum esse amatorem addecet.

Festus, 229, (*prodegeris*).

Lavishness long drawn out befits the lover.

### SATURIO

Very likely this play, quoted four times by Paulus and Festus to illustrate the meaning of four words, got its title from a parasite of the same



## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

name as one in the *Persa*. The *Saturio* is another of the three comedies said to have been written by Plautus when he worked for a miller.

### III

male tibi evenisse video. glaber erat tamquam  
rien.

Festus, 277, (*rienes*).

I see you've had hard luck. He was smooth as a  
kidney.

### FRAGMENTS OF UNKNOWN PLAYS VII (XXI)

nullam ego rem citiorem apud homines esse quam  
famam reor.

Paulus, 61, (*citior*).

No fleeter thing is known to men, methinks,  
than the voice of rumour.

### VIII (XXII)

stultus est adversum aetatem et capitis cani-  
tudinem.

Paulus, 62, (*canitudinem*).

He's too asinine for his age and hoarihood of  
head.



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## TITUS MACCIUS PLAUTUS

### XXVI XXVII (XLV XLVI)

quid est? hoc rugat pallium: amictus non sum  
commode.

exi tu, Dave, age sparge, mundum esse hoc vesti-  
bulum volo.

Venus ventura est nostra, nolo hoc pulveret.

Gellius, 18, 12, 3-4.

How's this? My cloak wrinkles. I am not  
properly attired.

Out with you, Davus, come do some sprinkling!  
I want this vestibule made very neat. Soon my  
Venus visits me; I won't have it dusty here.

### XXXII (LI)

quid murmurillas tecum et te discrucias?

Nonius, 143, (*murmurillum*).

Why these mutterlings to yourself and this  
self-torment?

### XLI (LXI)

neque ego ad mensam publicas res clamo neque  
leges crepo.

“Servius,” commenting on Virgil's *Aeneid*, 1, 738,  
(*increpitans*).

I don't blare about politics at table or bellow  
over legislation.



## FRAGMENTS

### LI (LXXI)

faciles oculos habet,

Servius, commenting on Virgil's *Aeneid*, 8, 310,  
(*faciles oculos, mobiles vino*).

He has easy-running eyes.

### LVI (LXXXI)

Si quid facturus es,  
appende in umeris pallium  
et perge ad eam quantum valet  
tuorum pedum pernitas.

Isidorus, *Origines*, 19, 24, 1, (*pallium*).

If you're going to do anything, bundle your cloak  
on your shoulders and be off to her fast as your  
fleetness of foot allows.

### LVII (LXXXII)

aeneis coculis mi excocta est omnis misericordia.

Isidorus, *Origines*, 20, 8, 1, (*cocula*).

All pity was cooked out of me in brass cookpots.







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