

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

National Latin-English/French Sight Translation Competition (Senior Level)

2009

Next time, hold the garlic. A fiery stomach ache calls forth from the poet, Horace, mythic examples of garlic's magical and toxic powers, and a humorous curse upon his dinner host and friend, Maecenas.

Parentis olim si quis impia manu
Senile guttur fregerit,
Edit cicutis allium nocentius.
O dura messorum ilia!
Quid hoc veneni saevit in praecordiis? 5
Num viperinus his cruor
Incoctus herbis me fefellit? an malas
Canidia tractavit dapes?
Ut Argonautas praeter omnis candidum
Medea miratast ducem, 10
Ignota tauris inligaturum iuga
Perunxit hoc Iasonem;
Hoc delibutis ultra donis paelicem
Serpente fugit alite.
Nec tantus umquam siderum insedit vapor 15
Siticulosae Apuliae,
Nec munus umeris efficacis Herculis
Inarsit aestuosius.
At si quid umquam tale concupiveris,
Iocose Maecenas, precor 20
Manum puella savio opponat tuo,
Extrema et in sponda cubet. (Horace, *Epodes* III.)

Notes.

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| 3. edit: archaic subjunctive for <i>edat</i> . | 11. inligaturum: about to bind. |
| -- cicutis: the hemlock (a poison); plur. for sing. | 12. perunxit: smeared, slathered. |
| -- allium: garlic. | 13. delibutis: smeared, steeped. |
| 4. messorum: reapers, harvesters. | -- paelicem: mistress, kept woman
(Creusa/Glauce). |
| -- ilia: guts, stomachs. | 14. serpente alite: sing. for plur. |
| 5. praecordiis: insides, bowels. | 15. siderum vapor: summer heat. |
| 8. Canidia: a witch and poisoner. | 17. efficacis: powerful, mighty. |
| -- dapes: food, dish; plur. for sing. | 19. umquam: ever again. |
| 9. ut: when. | 22. sponda: bedframe, bed. |
| -- praeter omnis: take with <i>candidum</i> , handsome. | |