

Ovid's *Amores* 1.9

Mīlitat omnis amāns, et habet sua castra Cupīdō;

Attice, crēde mihī, mīlitat omnis amāns.

quae bellō est habilis, Venerī quoque convenit aetās:

turpe senex mīles, turpe senīlis amor.

quōs petiēre ducēs animōs in mīlite fortī,

5

hōs petit in sociō bella puella virō:

pervigilant ambō, terrā requiēscit uterque;

ille forēs dominae servat, at ille ducis.

mīlitis officium longa est via: mitte puellam,

strēnuus exemptō fine sequētur amāns;

10

ībit in adversōs montēs duplicātaque nimbō

flūmina, congestās exeret ille nivēs,

nec freta pressūrus tumidōs causābitur Eurōs

aptave verrendīs sīdera quaeret aquīs.

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quis nisi vel miles vel amans et frīgora noctis 15
 et dēnsō mixtās perferet imbre nivēs?
 mittitur infestōs alter speculātor in hostēs,
 in rīvāle oculōs alter, ut hoste, tenet.
 ille gravēs urbēs, hic dūrae līmen amīcae
 obsidet; hic portās frangit, at ille forēs. 20
 saepe sopōrātōs invādere prōfuit hostēs
 caedere et armātā vulgus inerme manū.
 sic fera Thrēiciī cecidērunt agmina Rhēsī,
 et dominum captī dēseruistis equī.
 nempe marītōrum somnīs ūtuntur amantēs 25
 et sua sōpītīs hostibus arma movent.
 custōdum trānsīre manūs vigilumque catervās
 mīlitis et miserī semper amantis opus.
 Mārs dubius, nec certa Venus: victīque resurgunt,
 quōsque negēs umquam posse iacēre, cadunt. 30
 ergō dēsidiā quīcumque vocābat amōrem,
 dēsinat: ingeniū est experientis Amor.
 ardet in abductā Brīsēide magnus Achillēs
 (dum licet Argēās frangite, Trōes, opēs);

Hector ab Andromachēs complexibus ībat ad arma, 35
 et galeam capitī quae daret, uxor erat;
 summa ducum, Ātrīdēs vīsā Priamēide fertur
 Maenadis effūsīs obstipuisse comīs.
 Mārs quoque dēprēnsus fabrīlia vincula sēnsit:
 nōtior in caelō fābula nūlla fuit. 40
 ipse ego segnis eram discīnctaque in ōtia nātus;
 mollierant animōs lectus et umbra meōs;
 impulit ignāvum fōrmōsae cūra puellae,
 iussit et in castrīs aera merēre suīs.
 inde vidēs agilem nocturnaue bella gerentem: 45
 quī nōlet fierī dēsidiōsus, amet.