

LUDI NOVEMBRES 2021 - LATIN ORATORY PASSAGES

*Novice - From "Quomodo Invidiosulus Nomine Grinchus Christi Natalem
Abrogaverit"*

Passage

At neque Rumorem audivit,
neque *clamorem*, neque *plangorem*, sed aliquid Laeti, aliquid *amabile*,
aliquid *jucundi*, aliquid Laetabile.

De vertice montis in vallem deorsum despicit
Grinchus noster concentu obstupidus

ubi - mirabile dictu - omnes ad unum, maiores minoresque,
senes iuvenesque, donis, muneribus, apophoretis ablati,
canunt, cantant, psallunt, cantillant!

Dies Christi natalicius PROCUL DUBIO ADVENERAT;
quem QUIN ADVENIERET
nullis dolis, nullis praestigiis impedire potuerat Grinchus

Translation

But he heard no Rumbling
No shouting, no crying,
But something Happy, something loveable,

Something jolly, something joyful.

From the top of the mountain he looked down into the valley below
Our Grinch struck dumb with shock

When - wonderful to behold - all of them to the last one, big and small,
Old and young, with their gifts, presents, and stocking stuffers taken away,
Were singing, caroling, making music, belting their songs!

Christmas Day HAD WITHOUT A DOUBT ARRIVED;
The Grinch had not been able to prevent
THE ARRIVAL, neither by deceit nor by tricks.

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Intermediate - From "Regulus" by Antoine De Saint-Exupery

Passage

qui facetus esse vult, is interdum mendaciuncula dicit. non optime fide de curatoribus lychnorum locutus sum. periculum est ne qui stellam nostram non noverunt me vitio sibi de ea falsam opinionem fingant. homines enim in terris angustissimum locum occupant. si illa vicies miles centena milia hominum a quibus habitantur confertiora contionis modo starent, foro quadrato viginti milium passuum quoque versus facile caperentur. ita genus hominum in angustissimam quamvis insulam maris Pacifici cogi potest.

adultis hominibus videlicet fidem non facies. magnum se locum obsidere arbitrantur et eadem amplitudine qua adansoniae esse sibi videntur. hortabere igitur eos ut rationem subducant. quoniam numeros in deliciis habent, id eis jucundum erit. tu contra ne operam in re odiosa frustra consumpseris. inutile negotium est. nempe mihi confidis.

Translation

When one wishes to play the wit, he sometimes wanders a little from the truth. I have not been altogether honest in what I have told you about the lamplighters. And I realize that I run the risk of giving a false idea of our planet to those who do not know it. Men occupy a very small place upon the Earth. If the two billion inhabitants who people its surface were all to stand upright and somewhat crowded together, as they do for some big public assembly, they could easily be put into one public square twenty miles long and twenty miles wide. All humanity could be piled up on a small Pacific islet.

The grown-ups, to be sure, will not believe you when you tell them that. They imagine that they fill a great deal of space. They fancy themselves as important as the baobabs. You should advise them, then, to make their own calculations. They adore figures, and that will please them. But do not waste your time on this extra task. It is unnecessary. You have, I know, confidence in me.

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Advanced - From "Oratio in Catilinam Prima in Senatu Habita" by M. Tullius Cicero

Passage

Quo usque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? quam diu etiam furor iste tuus nos eludet? quem ad finem sese effrenata iactabit audacia? Nihilne te nocturnum praesidium Palati, nihil urbis vigiliae, nihil timor populi, nihil concursus bonorum omnium, nihil hic munitissimus habendi senatus locus, nihil horum ora voltusque moverunt? Patere tua consilia non sentis, constrictam iam horum omnium scientia teneri coniurationem tuam non vides? Quid proxima, quid superiore nocte egeris, ubi fueris, quos convocaveris, quid consilii ceperis, quem nostrum ignorare arbitraris?

O tempora, o mores! Senatus haec intellegit. Consul videt; hic tamen vivit. Vivit? immo vero etiam in senatum venit, fit publici consilii particeps, notat et designat oculis ad caedem unum quemque nostrum. Nos autem fortes viri satis facere rei publicae videmur, si istius furorem ac tela vitemus. Ad mortem te, Catilina, duci iussu consulis iam pridem oportebat, in te conferri pestem, quam tu in nos machinaris.

Translation

When, O Catiline, do you mean to cease abusing our patience? How long is that madness of yours still to mock us? When is there to be an end of that unbridled audacity of yours, swaggering about as it does now? Do not the nightly guards placed on the Palatine Hill—do not the watches posted throughout the city—does not the alarm of the people, and the union of all good men—does not the precaution taken of assembling the senate in this most defensible place—do not the looks and countenances of this venerable body here present, have any effect upon you? Do you not feel that your plans are detected? Do you not see that your conspiracy is already arrested and rendered powerless by the knowledge which every one here possesses of it? What is there that you did last night, what the night before— where is it that you were—who was there that you summoned to meet you—what design was there which was adopted by you, with which you think that any one of us is unacquainted?

Shame on the age and on its principles! The senate is aware of these things; the consul sees them; and yet this man lives. Lives! aye, he comes even into the senate. He takes part in the public deliberations; he is watching and marking down and checking off for slaughter every individual among us. And we, gallant men that we are, think that we are doing our duty to the republic if we keep out of the way of his frenzied attacks.

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You ought, O Catiline, long ago to have been led to execution by command of the consul. That destruction which you have been long plotting against us ought to have already fallen on your own head.