

# EPIDICUS BY PLAUTUS

## An Annotated Latin Text, with a Prose Translation

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# Latin Text of *Epidicus* with Language Notes

*From the Latin text of W. M. Lindsay,  
with vocabulary and grammar help  
by Catherine Tracy*

[**Note:** for the acrostic *argumentum* (plot summary) that was added to the play perhaps around 150 CE, see page 173]



# Helpful Information for Reading the Latin Text

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Students who read the play in Latin will see that there are a few ways in which this text differs from the Latin introduced in most beginners' textbooks. This is partly because, between the time of Plautus and the time of Cicero and Caesar, the spelling of some Latin words changed, and partly because poetic Latin retained some variant forms after they had disappeared from Latin prose. The Latin of Plautus's day is called "Early Latin", as opposed to the later "Classical Latin" that most Latin textbooks teach. The following points will enable readers of the Latin text of *Epidicus* to take in their stride most of the quirks of Plautus's Latin as they appear in this play.

1. **The letter "u":** When writing, the Romans did not distinguish between the vowel "u" and the semivowel that was later written as "v" (which was pronounced like our "w"), and the Latin text of the play used in this volume (which is Lindsay's widely used edition from 1903) therefore uses the letter "u" for both the vowel and the semivowel. When written in upper case both the vowel and the semivowel are written like a capital "V".

For example, in the word "*iuenis*" (line 5 of the play), the first "u" is a vowel, while the second is a semivowel, and it would consequently be spelled "*iuenis*" in most Latin textbooks (like its English derivative "juvenile"). The reason introductory Latin textbooks distinguish between the two is because it is believed to help beginners learn how to pronounce Latin correctly. Those whose Latin skills have reached the point where they can read this play should have no real trouble distinguishing the vowel "u" from the semivowel "u".

2. **Avoidance of "uu":** Early Latin tended to avoid placing the vowel "u" immediately after another "u". For this reason we find that "*seruus*" (nominative singular) and "*seruum*" (accusative singular) in Plautus are usually spelled "*seruos*" and "*seruom*", respectively. Similarly we see the Early Latin spellings "*aequom*", "*confluont*", "*emortuom*", "*saluos*", "*suom*", "*tuom*", "*uolt*", "*uoltu*", etc. (instead of the Classical

Latin spellings of these words: “aequum”, “confluent”, “emortuum”, “saluus”, “suum”, “tuum”, “uult”, “uultu”).

3. **“Quo-/qu-” where you might expect “cu-”:** the conjunction that was later spelled “cum” is spelled “quom” in Early Latin (though the same is not true for the preposition “cum”, which is so spelled in both Early and Classical Latin). In this Latin text we also see “quoius/quoiius”, “quoi”, “quor/qur”, and “utquomque” (instead of the Classical Latin “cuius”, “cui”, “cur”, and “utcumque”).
4. **“Qui” where you might expect “quo”, “qua” or “quibus”:** the singular and plural ablative forms of the relative and interrogative pronouns, and of the interrogative adjective (which are normally “quo”, “qua”, and “quibus”) can be instead written as “qui” in Plautus. Similarly in this play we see “quicum” (instead of the more standard “quacum”) and “aliqui” (instead of “aliquo”).
5. **The spelling “-ei-” where you might expect “-ī-”:** some words that, in Classical Latin, came to be spelled with a long “i” were spelled instead with “ei” in Early Latin; in this play we see “preimum”, “quei”, “sei”, “seic”, “sein”, and “uestei” (instead of the Classical Latin “primum”, “qui”, “si” “sic”, “si+ne”, and “uesti”).
6. **The spelling of prepositional compounds:** where a preposition has become the prefix of a word, this Latin text preserves the original spelling, so that we see “inmortales”, “adligabit”, and “adcurentur” (instead of the Classical Latin “immortales”, “alligabit”, and “accurentur”).
7. **“Aps”, “ap-” where you might expect “a”, “ab-”:** the preposition “a” (short for “ab”) before the word “te” was usually “aps” in the time of Plautus. Prepositional compounds that in Classical Latin would begin with “abs-” in Early Latin are spelled “aps-”; thus we see “apscedat”, “apsentem”, “apsoluam”, “apstulit”, and “apsurde”, etc. (instead of the Classical Latin “abscedat”, “absentem”, “absoluam”, “abstulit”, and “absurde”).
8. **Superlative adjectives/adverbs ending in “-umus” instead of “-imus”, etc.:** in Early Latin the superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs were often spelled with a “-u-” for the penultimate vowel instead of the “-i-” that was standard in Classical Latin. Hence in this play we see the forms “festiuissimus”, “maximae”, “meritissimo”, “optima”, “planissime”, “proximum”, etc. (instead of the Classical Latin spellings “festiuissimus”, “maximae”, “meritissimo”, “optima”, “planissime”, “proximum”).

9. **The syllable “uo-” where you might expect “ue-”:** some words that in Classical Latin include the syllable “ue-” (such as “uertere”) were written instead with the syllable “uo-” (like “uortere”). Hence in this play we find the forms “uorsutior”, “uortitur”, and “uotuit” (instead of the Classical Latin “uertitur”, “uersutior”, and “uetuit”).
10. **“Illic”, “istoc”, etc.:** students will be familiar with the “-c” that ends half of the Classical Latin forms of the demonstrative pronoun/adjective “hic”, “haec”, “hoc”. This final “-c” (originally it was “-ce”) could also be added, in Early Latin, to forms of “ille” and “iste”, so we get “illic”, “iloc”, “istac”, “istaec”, “istanc”, “istoc”, “istuc”, etc. (instead of the Classical Latin “ille”, “illo”, “istā”, “ista”, “istam”, “isto”, “istud”).
11. **Variant verb forms:**
  - a. **Future in “-so”:** in this play we see the alternate future forms “faxo” (from “facio”) and “adempsit” (instead of *adimet*, from the verb “adimo”). “Faxo” does not, however, simply substitute for “faciam” (which Plautus uses in its essential future sense), but tends to function as a statement of the speaker’s certainty, so should be translated as “I promise” or “definitely”.
  - b. **Future in “-asso”, “-assis”, etc.:** in clauses introduced by *si*, *nisi*, *nei* (*ni*), *ubi*, or *sive*, Plautus used an older form of the future tense of some first-conjugation verbs by adding “-asso”, “-assis”, “assit”, etc. to the stem; hence we find “commostrasso”, “comparassit” and “orassis” (instead of the Classical Latin “commonstrabo”, “comparabit”, and “orabis”).<sup>1</sup>
  - c. **Future in “-ibo”, “-ibis”, etc.:** the future tense signifier “-bi-” which in Classical Latin is used only for the first and second conjugations and in the verb “eo”, can also appear in Early Latin in verbs of the fourth conjugation, so that in this play we see “reperibitur”, “saeuibunt”, and “scibit” (instead of the Classical Latin “reperiatur”, “saeuient”, and “sciet”).
  - d. **Imperfect in “-ibam”, etc.:** The imperfect active forms of fourth-conjugation verbs sometimes have no “-e-” before the tense signifier “-ba-”; thus in this play we see the form “exaudibam” (instead of the more standard “exaudiebam”).
  - e. **Singular imperatives “face” and “duce”:** whereas in Classical Latin the singular imperatives of the verbs “dico”, “duco”, “facio”,

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<sup>1</sup> There is some scholarly uncertainty as to the mood and tense of these forms (see Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 178–179).

and “*fero*” are “*dic*”, “*duc*”, “*fac*”, and “*fer*”, respectively, in Early Latin the forms “*dice*”, “*duce*”, and “*face*” (but not “*fere*”) could be used. In this play we see “*duce*” and “*dice*” once each, and “*face*” twice, but also “*fac*” several times.

- f. **“Euenat” and “euenant” instead of “eueniat” and “eueniant”:** the present subjunctive third-person singular and plural of the verb “*euenio*” appears in Early Latin as “*euenat*” and “*euenant*”.
  - g. **Present passive infinitive in “-ier”:** Plautus sometimes used an older form of the present passive infinitive, which ended in “-er”, so that in this play we see “*percontarier*” and “*praestolarier*” (instead of the Classical Latin “*percontari*” and “*praestolari*”).
  - h. **Perfect system forms of “sum” in perfect passive tenses:** perfect passive forms of verbs that in Classical Latin use “*sum*”, “*eram*”, or “*ero*” (indicative) or “*sim*”, “*essem*” (subjunctive) sometimes use instead the perfect system forms “*fui*”, “*fueram*”, “*furo*” (indicative) and “*fuerim*”, “*fuissem*” (subjunctive). Thus in this play we see “*furo elocutus*” and “*induta fuerit*” (instead of the Classical Latin “*ero elocutus*” and “*induta sit*”).
  - i. **Present subjunctive of “sum”:** alternative forms to the Classical Latin “*sim*”, “*sis*”, “*sit*”, and “*sint*” often appear in Early Latin as “*siem*”, “*sies*”, “*siet*”, and “*sient*” (in this play only “*sies*” and “*siet*” appear).
12. **Contractions:** the final “-s” of words normally ending in “-us” or “-is” was pronounced weakly enough that it did not affect the scansion of the line the way a normal consonant would, and in this version of the Latin text the weak final “-s” is not written. Hence we get “*minu*”, “*dici*”, “*rebu*”, and “*priu*”, etc. (contracted from “*minus*”, “*dicis*”, “*rebus*”, and “*prius*”).

For the same reason, a word ending in “-us” followed by the word “*es*” or “*est*”, is written without the final “-s” of the first word and the initial “e-” of “*es/est*” when the meter requires it. Hence we get “*captiost*”, “*mercatust*”, “*timidu's*”, and “*ueritust*”, etc. (instead of “*captio est*”, “*mercatus est*”, “*timidus es*”, and “*ueritus est*”).

The initial “e-” of “*es/est*” when it follows a word ending in “-m” or in a vowel was either not pronounced or pronounced very lightly, and thus Lindsay’s text does not write that final “-e”. Hence we see “*corruptumst*”, “*ergost*”, “*tu's*”, and “*ubist*”, etc. (contracted from “*corruptum est*”, “*ergo est*”, “*tu es*”, and “*ubi est*”).

When metrically necessary, the interrogatory suffix “-ne/-n” is often shortened to “-n” even when not followed by a

word beginning with a vowel, such as “*nouistin*” (instead of “*nouistine*”), “*meministin*” (instead of “*meministine*”), “*perpetuen*” (instead of “*perpetuene*”), and “*men*” (instead of “*mene*”). A final “s” disappears before the suffix “-ne” (usually shorted to “-n”), so that we get “*ain*”, “*audin*”, “*patierin*”, “*potin*”, “*satine*”, “*scin*”, “*uiden*”, etc. (instead of “*aisne*”, “*audisne*”, “*patierisne*”, “*potsne*”, “*satisne*”, “*scisne*”, and “*uidesne*”).

13. **“*Med*” instead of “*me*”:** Plautus at least sometimes used the Early Latin ablative/accusative forms of the personal pronouns (*med* and *ted*); in this play we find “*med*” instead of “*me*” twice, though he used “*me*” more commonly.
14. **“-ii-” for the semivowel “-i-”:** we see the forms “*eius*”, “*huius*”, and “*quoius*” (instead of the later spellings “*eius*”, “*huius*” and “*quoius/cuius*”).
15. **Poetic forms “*mi*” and “*ni*”:** Plautus used the forms “*mi*” and “*ni*” (for “*mihi*” and “*nihil*”) when the rhythm of the line required it.
16. **Other common variant forms:** Plautus preferred to use the variant form “*lubet*” and its cognates (such as “*lubens*” and “*lubentius*”), instead of the later spelling of these words with “*lib-*”. We also find the spelling “*sacrificas*”, “*periculum*”, and “*caussa*” (which in Classical Latin would be “*sacrificas*”, “*periculum*”, and “*causa*”).



# The Rhythm of Plautus

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The actors in Plautus's plays often broke into song, in a variety of very complicated meters ("meter" refers to the rhythmic structure of the line) that continued the play's action rather than, like the choral interludes in Greek drama, being a break from the action. Furthermore, much of the dialogue was sung or spoken with accompaniment on one or more musical instruments (usually a woodwind instrument called a *tibia* and some sort of percussion); these sections of sung or chanted dialogue are commonly called in English "recitative", like the "spoken" parts of an opera that are sung to accompanying music but that are not self-contained arias or songs. Songs and recitative made up nearly two-thirds of the lines in Plautus's plays, while the remaining third, written in a meter called iambic senarii, was spoken without music (Duckworth 1952/1971: 363).

Those who want to experience *Epidicus* in at least some of its metrical complexity are encouraged to consult a book on Latin meter (*The Meters of Greek and Latin Poetry* by Halporn *et al.* is a good place to start<sup>2</sup>). Beginners who have learned the basic rules of elision and vowel length should practice reading the two most common meters of Plautus: **trochaic septenarii** (which was generally recited or chanted to the music of the *tibia*), and the spoken passages in the **iambic senarius** meter.

## Trochaic Septenarii

A line of trochaic septenarii is theoretically made up of seven trochees plus an additional anceps (either long or short) syllable at the end. A basic trochee is a long syllable followed by a short syllable (— U), but in a line of Latin trochaic septenarii the short syllable in the first six trochees can be either long or short. An anceps syllable is usually represented by X, so that a trochee, where the so-called short syllable is actually an anceps, would be symbolized like this: — X.

Furthermore, since the important thing about syllable length in Latin meter is literally how long it took to pronounce, two short syllables can replace a long

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<sup>2</sup> Any good Latin grammar, such as Bennett's *New Latin Grammar* or Allen & Greenough's *New Latin Grammar for Schools and Colleges*, will provide a helpfully simplified explanation of Latin meter.

syllable, allowing a so-called trochee to potentially be replaced by a spondee (— —), a dactyl (— U U), an anapaest (U U —), a tribrach (U U U), or a proceleusmatic (U U U U). That so many variations are possible may sound anarchic, but with enough practice it is possible to get a sense of the unifying rhythm that makes each line of trochaic septenarii distinct from the other meters in the play. Plautus used meter changes to differentiate between different characters and different aspects of his plays, so getting a feel for the rhythm will add to an appreciation of the play.

Almost the whole of scene 2 in Act 1 (lines 104–163) is written in trochaic septenarii. We can visualize the scansion of lines 104–105 as follows:

|                           |  |                            |  |  |  |               |  |                             |  |                             |  |                              |  |             |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|--|--|---------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|-------------|
| — U U                     |  | — U                        |  | — U  |  | — —           |  | — U                         |  | — —                         |  | — U                          |  | X           |
| <i>rem tibi</i>           |  | <i>s<sub>um</sub> elo-</i> |  | <i>-cutus</i>                              |  | <i>omnem</i>  |  | <i>Chaeri-</i>              |  | <i>-bul<sub>e</sub> at-</i> |  | <i>-qu<sub>e</sub> admo-</i> |  | <i>-dum</i> |
| — —                       |  | — —                        |  | — U  |  | — —           |  | — U                         |  | — —                         |  | — U                          |  | X           |
| <i>m<sub>e</sub> orum</i> |  | <i>maero-</i>              |  | <i>-r<sub>um</sub> atqu<sub>e</sub> a-</i> |  | <i>-morum</i> |  | <i>summ<sub>am</sub> e-</i> |  | <i>-dicta-</i>              |  | <i>-ui ti-</i>               |  | <i>-bi</i>  |

- The letters printed in subscript are elided, which means they were either barely pronounced, or not pronounced at all.
- A natural pause in the line, where a diaeresis (a word and the metrical foot ending in the same place) coincides with a pause in the sense of the line, is represented by this symbol: || and usually appears after the fourth foot. This diaeresis is one of the distinct aspects of a line of trochaic septenarii.
- In line 105, the “e” and the “o” of “meorum” are pronounced together as a long syllable (this is called synizesis).
- The final syllable of a line of verse can be either long or short regardless of the meter, since a reader or actor would pause at the ends of lines, thereby effectually lengthening a short final syllable.

The following lines of *Epidicus* are in trochaic septenarii: 1–2; 23; 44–45; 50–51; 86; 88; 90; 91; 93; 95; 97; 99–163; 190–305; 333; 547–733.

## Iambic Senarii

A line of iambic senarii is theoretically made up of six iambs. A basic iamb is a short syllable followed by a long: U —, but the “short” syllable of the iamb in Roman comedy is an anceps (can be either long or short) in all but the last foot; in fact, the anceps is more often long than short in Plautus’s iambic senarii. To further complicate matters, any of the first four iambs in the line can be replaced with a dactyl (a long followed by two shorts: — U U) or with an anapaest (two shorts followed by a long: U U —). Since a long syllable can be replaced by two

short syllables (except for the final syllable in a line of iambic senarii), one of Plautus's iambs can potentially look like this: U U U U.

We can visualize the scansion of lines 310–311, both in the iambic senarius meter, as follows:

|                    |  |                  |  |                   |  |                      |  |                     |  |               |
|--------------------|--|------------------|--|-------------------|--|----------------------|--|---------------------|--|---------------|
| —UU                |  | —UU              |  | —  —              |  | — —                  |  | — —                 |  | U X           |
| <i>quod pol e-</i> |  | <i>-go metu-</i> |  | <i>-o si</i>      |  | <i>senex</i>         |  | <i>resci-</i>       |  | <i>-uerit</i> |
| — —                |  | UU —             |  | —    UU           |  | U —                  |  | — —                 |  | UX            |
| <i>n_e ulmos</i>   |  | <i>parasi-</i>   |  | <i>-tos faci-</i> |  | <i>-at qu_ae us-</i> |  | <i>-qu_e atton-</i> |  | <i>-deant</i> |

- The prominent caesurae are here marked with the same notation as for the diaeresis in the trochaic septenarii above: || .

A caesura is the ending of a word in the middle of a foot; in Plautus a line of iambic senarii usually has a prominent caesura (where a pause in the sense of the line coincides with a caesura) in the third or fourth foot.

The following lines of *Epidicus* are in iambic senarii: all of the *Argumentum*; 24; 46–47; 177; 306–319; 382–525.

A dedicated student of Plautine meter will eventually need to learn the more complicated choral meters to fully experience the play, but beginners can start slow, and there is no need to feel discouraged if you can't scan a particular line. Aim instead to acquire a sense of the rhythm by scanning the less complicated lines. Timothy Moore's article on introducing students to the music of Roman comedy provides useful suggestions to instructors as to how best to approach teaching scansion in Plautus (Moore 2013).

A word of encouragement: Latin poets took occasional liberties with the strict rules of meter (see section 367: "Special Peculiarities" in Bennett's *New Latin Grammar* and Moore 2013: 229–230), which can make scansion more complicated. Furthermore, the plays of Plautus have not come down to us without numerous copying errors creeping in, and though experts attempt to fix these errors (and the faulty meter of a line can be a hint that an error has crept in), sometimes it can be quite challenging to work out the meter of a line. If you find you can't scan a line properly, move on and try another.



## The Play in Latin



# PERSONAE

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**ACROPOLISTIS: FIDICINA** (a lyre-player and female slave who was Stratippocles's girlfriend till just before the action of the play begins; she is first mentioned by Epidicus in Act 1, scene 1 as the "*fidicina*" that Stratippocles ordered Epidicus to buy for him)

**APOECIDES: SENEX** (an old man, friend of Periphanes, first appearing in Act 2, scene 1)

**CHAERIBVLVS: ADVLESCENS** (a freeborn young man, friend of Stratippocles, first appearing in Act 1, scene 2)

**DANISTA** (the moneylender from whom Stratippocles borrowed in order to buy Telestis; he first appears in Act 5, scene 1)

**EPIDICVS: SERVOS** (a male slave of Periphanes's household who is the con-man hero of the play)

**FIDICINA** (a freedwoman and professional musician who appears in Act 3, scene 4a)

**MILES** (a wealthy and boastful soldier, first appearing in Act 3, scene 4)

**PERIPHANES: SENEX** (an old man, father of Stratippocles, first appearing in Act 2, scene 1)

**PHILIPPA: MPLIER** (a poor middle-aged woman, mother of Telestis; she first appears in Act 4, scene 1)

**SERVOS** (unnamed male slave belonging to Periphanes's household who appears in Act 3, scene 3)

**STRATIPPOCLES: ADVLESCENS** (a freeborn young man, son of Periphanes, who is first mentioned in Act 1, scene 1, and first appears in Act 1, scene 2)

**TELESTIS: VIRGO** (a freeborn young woman, illegitimate daughter of Philippa and Periphanes; Stratippocles, not knowing she is his half-sister, buys her as a war captive; she first appears in Act 5, scene 1)

**THESPRIOS: SERVOS** (a male slave of Periphanes's household who appears in Act 1, scene 1)



# ACTVS I

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## 1.1 EPIDICVS, THESPRIO

**Scene summary:** Thesprio, a slave in the Athenian household of Periphanes, returns from Thebes where Periphanes's son Stratippocles has been serving as a soldier. He encounters Epidicus, another of Periphanes's slaves, and the two begin a comic routine, each insulting the other. We find out that Stratippocles has abandoned his weapons in battle (showing us that he is a cowardly soldier), and that he has borrowed a large sum of money with which he has bought a young woman who was taken captive when the Athenian army had captured Thebes. Epidicus is horrified because, before Stratippocles had left for the war, his young master had been in love with a different young slave woman, a lyre-player called Acropolitidis. Stratippocles had insisted that Epidicus find a way to buy Acropolitidis for him while he was away in Thebes, and the clever, scheming Epidicus had done so by tricking Periphanes into buying her, after making him believe that Acropolitidis was actually his long-lost illegitimate daughter Telestis. The scene ends with Epidicus desperately trying to think of some way to get out of the inevitable punishment he'll get from Periphanes when his trick is found out.

**Epidicus:** Heus,<sup>1</sup> adulescens! **Thesprio:** quis properantem me  
reprehendit pallio?

**Epidicus:** familiaris. **Thesprio:** fateor,<sup>2</sup> nam odio es<sup>3</sup> nimium  
familiariter.<sup>4</sup>

**Epidicus:** respice uero, Thesprio. **Thesprio:** oh,  
Epidicumne ego conspicor?<sup>5</sup>

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1 *heus:* "hey!" (used to try to get someone's attention).

2 *fateor, fateri, fassus sum:* "admit", "confess".

3 *odio es* (*odio* is dative of purpose): "you are an object of hatred".

4 *familiaris...familiariter:* this is a play on words: *familiaris* means "fellow slave", while *familiariter* means "on friendly terms".

5 *conspicor, conspicari, conspicatus sum:* "catch sight of", "see".

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Epidicus:</b> sati' <sup>6</sup> recte oculis uteris. <sup>7</sup>   | 5   |
| <b>Thesprio:</b> salue. <b>Epidicus:</b> di dent quae uelis.  |     |
| uenire saluom gaudeo. <sup>8</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> quid ceterum? <b>Epidicus:</b> quod eo adsolet: <sup>9</sup>  |     |
| cena tibi dabitur. <b>Thesprio:</b> spondeo — <b>Epidicus:</b> quid? <b>Thesprio:</b> me accepturum, <sup>10</sup> si dabis.  |     |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> quid   |     |
| tu agis? <sup>11</sup> ut uales? <sup>12</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> ex-   | 9a  |
| emplum adesse <sup>13</sup> — <b>Epidicus:</b> intellego. eugae! <sup>14</sup>  | 9b  |
| corpulentior uidere atque habitior. <sup>15</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> huic gratia. <sup>16</sup>   | 10  |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> quam <sup>17</sup> quidem te iam diu perdidisse <sup>18</sup> oportuit. <sup>19</sup>  | 11a |
| <b>Thesprio:</b> minu' <sup>20</sup> iam furtificus <sup>21</sup> sum quam antehac. <b>Epidicus:</b> quid ita? <sup>22</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> rapiō propalam. <sup>23</sup>   |     |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> di immortales <sup>24</sup> te infelicit, <sup>25</sup> ut tu es gradibus grandibus! <sup>26</sup> nam ut <sup>27</sup> apud portum te conspexi, curriculo <sup>28</sup> occipi <sup>29</sup> sequi: |     |

6 *sati' = satis:* "enough", "sufficiently".

7 *uteris* (second-person singular present deponent indicative) < *utor, uti, usus sum* (+ ablative).

8 *uenire saluom gaudeo:* "I am glad that you've come home safe and sound" (a formulaic greeting).

9 *quod eo adsolet:* "what's usual with that [greeting]" (*eo* is an adverb here, meaning "there", "in that place").

10 *spondeo me accepturum [esse]* is an indirect statement.

11 *quid tu agis:* "what's up with you?" "how are you doing?"

12 *ut:* "how".

13 *exemplum adesse:* "the very model of good health is before [you]" (the introductory verb is missing from this indirect statement, or else Epidicus' *intellego* is meant to complete it. I have followed Duckworth-Wheeler in moving *intellego* from Thesprio's line to Epidicus').

14 *eugae = euge* (exclamation of approval or joy): "good", "well done".

15 *habitior* (a comparative adjective < *habeo*): "better kept", "in better condition."

16 *huic gratia:* "thanks to this" ("this" refers to his left hand).

17 *quam* (fem. acc. sing. of the relative pronoun; the antecedent is *huic* in line 10).

18 *perdo, perdere, perdidī, perditus:* "ruin", "lose".

19 *oportuit* (impersonal verb); translate here as "you ought".

20 *minu' = minus.*

21 *furtificus, -a, -um:* "thievish", with the implication of furtive sneakiness.

22 *quid ita?:* "why so?"

23 *propalam* (adverb): "openly", "publicly".

24 *immortales = immortales.*

25 *infelico, -are:* "grant bad luck".

26 *gradibus grandibus* < *gradus, -us* (m.): "step", "stride" and *grandis, -e* (adjective): "huge", "enormous" (they are datives of reference); translate the phrase: "what enormous steps you're taking".

27 *ut:* "when".

28 *curriculo* (adverb): "by running", "at full speed".

29 *occipio, occipere, occipi / occoepi, occoptum:* "begin".

uix adipiscendi<sup>30</sup> potestas modo fuit. **Thesprio:** scurra<sup>31</sup> es. **Epidicus:** 15  
scio

te esse equidem hominem militarem. **Thesprio:** audacter<sup>32</sup> quamuis<sup>33</sup>  
dicito.<sup>34</sup>

**Epidicus:** quid agis? perpetuen<sup>35</sup> ualuisti? **Thesprio:** uarie.<sup>36</sup> **Epidicus:**  
qui uarie ualent,

capreaginum<sup>37</sup> hominum non placet<sup>38</sup> mihi neque pantherinum  
genus.

**Thesprio:** quid tibi uis dicam nisi quod est? **Epidicus:** ut illae res \*?<sup>39</sup>

**Thesprio:** probe.<sup>40</sup>

**Epidicus:** quid erilis<sup>41</sup> noster filius? **Thesprio:** ualet pugilice atque 20  
athletice.<sup>42</sup>

**Epidicus:** uoluptabilem mihi nuntium tuo aduentu adportas,  
Thesprio.

sed ubist<sup>43</sup> is? **Thesprio:** aduenit simul.<sup>44</sup> **Epidicus:** ubi is ergost?<sup>45</sup> nisi  
si in uidulo<sup>46</sup>

aut si in mellina<sup>47</sup> attulisti. **Thesprio:** di te perdant! **Epidicus:** te  
uolo —

percontari:<sup>48</sup> operam da, opera reddetur tibi.<sup>49</sup>

**Thesprio:** ius

25

30 *adipiscendi* (gerund) < *adipiscor, adipisci, adeptus:* “overtake”, “catch up”.

31 *scurra, -ae* (m.): a fashionable man of the town; an idler.

32 *audacter* (adverb): “boldly”.

33 *quamuis* (adverb): “as much as you want”.

34 *dicito* (second-person singular future imperative active) < *dico, dicere.*

35 *perpetuen = perpetue + ne* (adverb): “continually”.

36 *uarie* (adverb): “so-so” (*uarie* could also mean “spotted” or “striped”, hence Epidicus’s reference to (presumably spotted) goats and leopards. His joke refers to slaves being “striped” due to having been severely beaten).

37 *capreaginus, -a, -um:* “goatlike”, “goaty” (modifies *genus*).

38 While *placet* is singular, its subject is nevertheless *qui uarie ualent*.

39 *ut illae res\** (some word(s) missing): “how did it go?”.

40 *probe:* “fine”.

41 *erilis, -e* (adjective): “relating to the *erus* (master)”.

42 *pugilice atque athletice:* “like a boxer and like an athlete”.

43 *ubist = ubi est.*

44 *simul* (adverb): “right now”, “at the same time”.

45 *ergost = ergo est.*

46 *uidulus, -i* (m.): “suitcase”.

47 *mellina, -ae* (f.): a bag made of the skin of a marten or badger (*meles*).

48 *percontari* is a complementary infinitive after *uolo*; *te* is the direct object of *percontari*.

49 *operam da, opera reddetur tibi:* literally “pay attention, [and] attention will be paid to you”. This seems to have been a formulaic phrase used in the law courts, which is why Thesprio jokes about *ius* in the next line.

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| dicis. <b>Epidicus:</b> me decet. <sup>50</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> iam tu autem<br>nobis praeturam geris? <sup>51</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> quem <sup>52</sup><br>dices <sup>53</sup> dignorem esse hominem hodie Athenis <sup>54</sup> alterum?<br><b>Thesprio:</b> at unum a praetura tua,<br>Epidice, abest. <sup>55</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> quidnam? <sup>56</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> scies:<br>lictores <sup>57</sup> duo, duo ulmei <sup>58</sup><br>fasces uirgarum. <sup>59</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> uae tibi!<br>sed quid ais? <b>Thesprio:</b> quid rogas? <b>Epidicus:</b> ubi arma sunt<br>Stratippocli? <sup>60</sup> | 25a<br>25b<br>27a<br>27b |
| <b>Thesprio:</b> pol <sup>61</sup> illa ad hostis <sup>62</sup> transfugerunt. <sup>63</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> armane? <sup>64</sup>  | 30                       |
| <b>Thesprio:</b> atque quidem cito. <sup>65</sup>  |                          |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> serione <sup>66</sup> dici' <sup>67</sup> tu?   | 30a                      |
| <b>Thesprio:</b> serio, inquam: hostes habent.   | 31                       |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> edepol <sup>68</sup> facinus inprobum. <sup>69</sup> <b>Thesprio:</b> at iam ante <sup>70</sup> alii<br>fecerunt idem. <sup>71</sup>  |                          |
| erit illi illa res honori. <sup>72</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> qui? <b>Thesprio:</b> quia ante aliis fuit. <sup>73</sup>  |                          |

50 Epidicus says *me decet* probably because *ius dicis* sounds a bit like the name *Epidicus* (it's the sort of terrible joke that an audience will enjoy because it's so terrible).

51 *nobis praeturam geris:* "you're acting the praetor for us".

52 *quem... hominem... alterum:* "what other man".

53 *dices* introduces indirect discourse with the infinitive *esse*. The accusative subject of *esse* is *quem... hominem... alterum*.

54 *Athenis* (locative).

55 The subject of *abest* is *unum*, in line 27.

56 *quidnam* (from *quisnam*, *quidnam*, a more emphatic version of *quis*, *quid*).

57 Lictors were officials whose job was to walk in front of magistrates to give them status and authority. Lictors carried bundles of sticks (sometimes including a double axe head) called *fasces*, which symbolized the magistrate's authority to scourge and even execute citizens. The urban praetor had two lictors, while the ruling consul had twelve. The modern term "fascism" comes from the Roman *fasces*.

58 *ulmeus, -a, -um:* "[made of] elm wood".

59 *uirga, -ae* (f.): "sticks," "rods".

60 *Stratippocli* (dative) < *Stratippocles, -is*.

61 *pol:* "by Pollux" (see note 8 on page 131 for the use of the swear words *pol* and *edepol*).

62 *hostis* (accusative plural).

63 *transfugio, -ere, -fugi, -:* "go over to the enemy", "desert".

64 *armane* = *arma* + *ne* (making the sentence into a question).

65 *cito* (adverb): "quickly", "speedily".

66 *serio* (adverb): "seriously".

67 *dici' = dicis.*

68 *edepol:* "by Pollux".

69 *facinus inprobum* = *facinus improbum* (accusative of exclamation): "what a shameful deed!", "what a crime!"

70 *iam ante:* "before now".

71 *idem:* "the same thing".

72 *honori* (dative of purpose); *erit illi illa res honori* "that affair will end up honourably for him".

73 *quia ante aliis fuit:* "because it has ended up honourably for others before him". This may be a disparaging reference to the fugitives from the Battle of Cannae who were thought to have

Mulciber,<sup>74</sup> credo, arma fecit quae habuit Stratippocles:  
 trauolauerunt<sup>75</sup> ad hostis.<sup>76</sup> **Epidicus:** tum ille prognatus<sup>77</sup> Theti<sup>78</sup>        35  
 sine<sup>79</sup> perdat:<sup>80</sup> alia adportabunt<sup>81</sup> ei Neri<sup>82</sup> filiae.  
 id modo uidendum est, ut<sup>83</sup> materies<sup>84</sup> suppetat<sup>85</sup> scutariis,<sup>86</sup>  
 si in singulis<sup>87</sup> stipendiis<sup>88</sup> is ad hostis<sup>89</sup> exuuias<sup>90</sup> dabit.  
**Thesprio:** supersede<sup>91</sup> istis rebu'<sup>92</sup> iam. **Epidicus:** tu ipse ubi lubet<sup>93</sup>  
 finem face.<sup>94</sup>  
**Thesprio:** desiste percontarier.<sup>95</sup> **Epidicus:** loquere<sup>96</sup> ipse: ubist<sup>97</sup>        40  
 Stratippocles?  
**Thesprio:** est caussa qua caussa<sup>98</sup> simul mecum ire ueritust.<sup>99</sup>  
**Epidicus:** quidnam<sup>100</sup> id est?

been honoured undeservedly for their defeat (see Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 125).

74 *Mulciber, Mulciberis* (m.): another name for Vulcan, the Roman blacksmith god, and god of fire generally.

75 *trauolauerunt* = *transuolauerunt* < *transuolo*, -are, -auī, -atus: “fly across”.

76 *hostis* (accusative plural).

77 *prognatus*, -a, -um: “sprung from”, “descended from” (followed by the ablative; the word was archaic even in Plautus’s time, and is here intended to parody the language of tragedy or epic — see de Melo 2013: 340).

78 *Theti*: alternative ablative form of *Thetis*, *Thetidis* (f.), the name of a sea goddess, mother of the Greek hero Achilles.

79 *sine* (second-person singular present imperative active) < *sino*, *sinere*, *siui*, *situm*: “allow”, “permit”.

80 *sine perdat*: “let [that son of Thetis] lose [them].

81 *adportabunt* = *apportabunt*.

82 *Neri* (alternative genitive singular form of *Nereus*, a sea god and father of Thetis).

83 *uidendum est* introduces the *ut* clause (construction found only in Plautus).

84 *materies*, -ei (f.): “wood”, “material” [for making shields].

85 *suppeto*, -ere, -iui, -itus (+ dative): “be at hand”, “be equal to”, “be sufficient for”, “agree with”.

86 *scutarius*, -i (m.): “shield-maker” (the *scutarii* probably refer to the divine helpers of Vulcan).

87 *singuli*, -ae, -a: “each”, “every”.

88 *stipendum*, -i (n.): “military campaign”.

89 *ad hostis*: “to the enemy” (we would expect *hostibus*, dative of indirect object).

90 *exuuiae*, -arum (f.): “spoils”, “booty”.

91 *supersedeo*, -sedere, -sedi, -sessus: “be superior to”, “refrain from” + ablative.

92 *rebu'* = *rebus*.

93 *lubet* = *libet*: “it is pleasing”; *ubi lubet*: “whenever you want”.

94 *face* = *fac* < *facio*, -ere, *feci*, *factum*.

95 *percontarier* = *percontari*.

96 *loquere* (second-person singular present imperative deponent) < *loquor*, *loqui*, *locutus sum*.

97 *ubist* = *ubi est*.

98 *est caussa quā caussā* = *est causa quā causā*: “there is a reason [that he’s not here] and it’s because...”.

99 *ueritust* = *ueritus est* (perfect passive participle masculine nominative singular) < *uereor*, *uereri*, *ueritus sum*.

100 *quidnam* (from *quisnam*, *quidnam*, a more emphatic version of *quis*, *quid*).

**Thesprio:** patrem uidere se neuolt<sup>101</sup> etiamnunc. **Epidicus:**  
quapropter?<sup>102</sup> **Thesprio:** scies.  
quia forma lepida et liberali<sup>103</sup> captiuam adulescentulam<sup>104</sup>  
de praeda<sup>105</sup> mercatust.<sup>106</sup> **Epidicus:** quid ego ex te audio? **Thesprio:**  
hoc quod fabulor.<sup>107</sup>

**Epidicus:** qur<sup>108</sup> eam emit? **Thesprio:** animi<sup>109</sup> caussa.<sup>110</sup> **Epidicus:** 45  
quot illic<sup>111</sup> homo animos habet?  
nam certo,<sup>112</sup> priu' quam<sup>113</sup> hinc<sup>114</sup> ad legionem abiit domo,  
ipse mandauit<sup>115</sup> mihi ab lenone<sup>116</sup> ut fidicina,<sup>117</sup>  
quam amabat, emeretur sibi. id<sup>118</sup> ei impetratum<sup>119</sup> reddidi.<sup>120</sup>

**Thesprio:** utquomque<sup>121</sup> in alto<sup>122</sup> uentust,<sup>123</sup> Epidice, exim<sup>124</sup> uelum<sup>125</sup>  
uortitur.<sup>126</sup>

**Epidicus:** ueae misero mihi, male perdidit me! **Thesprio:** quid istuc?<sup>127</sup> 50  
quidnam | est?

101 *neuolt = non uult.*

102 *quapropter:* "why?" "for what reason?".

103 *formā lepidā et liberali* (ablative of description).

104 *adulescentula, -ae* (f.): "young woman", "teenaged girl".

105 *de praeda:* "from the spoils/booty [he acquired from the campaign]".

106 *mercatust = mercatus est < mercor, -ari, -atus sum:* "buy".

107 *hoc quod fabulor:* "what I'm telling you."

108 *qur = cur.*

109 *animus, -i* (m.): (in this context) "pleasure", "whim".

110 *caussa = causa.*

111 *illic = ille.*

112 *certo:* "certainly".

113 *priu' quam = prius quam:* "before".

114 *hinc:* "from this place", "from here", "hence".

115 *mandauit mihi [...] ut fidicina emeretur sibi* (indirect command): "he ordered me to buy a lyre-player".

116 *leno, -onis* (m.): "pimp", "brothel keeper".

117 *fidicina, -ae* (f.): a woman trained in playing the lyre, who was usually a slave or freedwoman and who was assumed, like all female performers, to be a sex worker.

118 *id* (refers to the act of buying the *fidicina*).

119 *impetro, -are, -aui, -atum:* "achieve", "bring to pass".

120 *reddo, -ere, reddidi, redditus:* (in this context) "render", "cause [something] to be". The phrase *id ei impetratum reddidi* should be translated "I made it happen for him" or "I did what he asked."

121 *utquomque = utcumque:* "however", "whichever way".

122 *altum, -i* (n.): "the sea".

123 *uentust = uentus est; uentus, -i* (m.): "wind".

124 *exim* (adverb): "so", "in that way".

125 *uelum, -i* (n.): "sail".

126 *uortitur = uertitur < uerto, -ere, uerti, uersum:* "turn", "direct".

127 *quid istuc:* "what are you talking about".

**Epidicus:** quid<sup>128</sup> istanc<sup>129</sup> quam emit, quanti<sup>130</sup> eam emit? **Thesprio:**

uili.<sup>131</sup> **Epidicus:** haud istuc te rogo.<sup>132</sup>

**Thesprio:** quid igitur? **Epidicus:** quot<sup>133</sup> minis?<sup>134</sup>

**Thesprio:** tot: quadraginta<sup>135</sup> minis.

52a

id adeo<sup>136</sup> argentum<sup>137</sup> ab danista<sup>138</sup> apud Thebas<sup>139</sup> sumpsit<sup>140</sup> faenore<sup>141</sup>

in dies minasque argenti singulas nummis.<sup>142</sup> **Epidicus:** papae!<sup>143</sup>

**Thesprio:** et is danista aduenit una<sup>144</sup> cum eo, qui argentum petit. 55

**Epidicus:** di inmortales! ut ego interii<sup>145</sup> basilice!<sup>146</sup> **Thesprio:** quid iam? aut quid est,

Epidice? **Epidicus:** perdidit<sup>147</sup> me. **Thesprio:** quis? **Epidicus:** ille qui arma perdidit.

**Thesprio:** nam quid ita? **Epidicus:** quia cottidie ipse ad me ab legione epistulas

mittebat — sed taceam optimum est,

plus scire satiust<sup>148</sup> quam loqui seruom hominem;<sup>149</sup> ea sapientia est. 60

**Thesprio:** nescio edepol quid [tu] timidu's,<sup>150</sup> trepidas,<sup>151</sup> Epidice, ita uoltu<sup>152</sup> tuo

128 *quid:* "anyway".

129 *istanc = istam* (here intensifying *quam*): "that girl whom [he bought]".

130 *quanti* (genitive of indefinite price): "for how much [money]".

131 *uilis, -e* (adjective): "[for a] cheap [price]".

132 *haud istuc te rogo:* "that's not what I'm asking you."

133 *quot:* "how many" is answered by Thesprio with *tot:* "this many" (no doubt illustrating the number with his fingers).

134 *minis* (ablative of price) < *mina, -ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

135 *quadraginta* (indeclinable): "forty".

136 *adeo:* "precisely", "exactly".

137 *id adeo argentum:* "this exact amount of money".

138 *danista, -ae* (m.): "moneylender".

139 *apud Thebas:* "in Thebes".

140 *sumo, -ere, sumpsi, sumptum:* "obtain", "get".

141 *faenus, faenoris* (n.): "interest", "usury".

142 *nummus, -i* (m.): "coin" (possibly a *sestertius*, a small silver coin, theoretically equal to 2.5 grams of silver); *in dies minasque argenti singulas nummis:* "at the rate of a *sestertius* a day for each silver *mina*" (this is an extortionate rate of interest).

143 *papae:* an expression of surprise, or, as in this case, of horror.

144 *unā:* "at the same time", "along with him".

145 *intereo, interire, interiu / interii, interitus:* "perish", "die", "be ruined".

146 *basilice* (adverb): "royally", "completely".

147 *perdo, perdere, perdidi, perditus:* "ruin", "lose" (note that the same word is used in different ways here and at the end of this line, but the pun is difficult to replicate in English).

148 *satiust = satius est; satius = comparative form of satis:* "better".

149 *plus scire satiust quam loqui seruom hominem:* "it is enough for a slave to know more than he says [aloud]"; *seruom* = serum; *hominem* is in apposition to *seruom*.

150 *timidu's = timidus es.*

151 *trepidu, -are, -au, -atum:* "tremble", "be in a state of anxiety".

152 *uoltu = uultu* from *uultus, -us* (m.): "face", "expression". The manuscript tradition has *uoltum tuom*, which Lindsay retains, but the emendation to *uoltu tuo* makes more sense.

uideor uidere commeruisse<sup>153</sup> hic me apsentem<sup>154</sup> in te aliquid mali.<sup>155</sup>

**Epidicus:** potin<sup>156</sup> ut molestus ne sies?<sup>157</sup> **Thesprio:** abeo. **Epidicus:** asta,<sup>158</sup> abire<sup>159</sup> hinc non sinam.<sup>160</sup>

**Thesprio:** quid nunc me retines? **Epidicus:** amatne istam quam emit de praeda? **Thesprio:** rogas? deperit.<sup>161</sup>

**Epidicus:** deagetur<sup>162</sup> corium<sup>163</sup> de tergo meo.

65

**Thesprio:** plusque amat quam te umquam amauit. **Epidicus:** Iuppiter te perdiuit!<sup>164</sup>

**Thesprio:** mitte<sup>165</sup> nunciam,<sup>166</sup>

67a

nam ille me uotuit<sup>167</sup> domum ue-nire, ad Chaeribulum<sup>168</sup> iussit<sup>169</sup>

huc in proxumum;<sup>170</sup>

68a

ibi manere iussit, eo<sup>171</sup> uenturust<sup>172</sup> ipsus.<sup>173</sup> **Epidicus:** quid ita?<sup>174</sup>

**Thesprio:** dicam:

quia patrem priu'<sup>175</sup> conuenire se non uolt<sup>176</sup> neque conspicari,<sup>177</sup>

70

153 *commeruisse* (supply *te* as the accusative subject of *commeruisse*): "that you have gotten involved in" (+ accusative).

154 *apsente* = *absente; me apsentem* is an ablative absolute.

155 *aliquid mali* (genitive of the whole): "something bad".

156 *potin* = *potisne [es]*.

157 *potin ut molestus ne sies*: "can you not be annoying?", "can't you stop bothering me?" (*sies* = *sis*).

158 *asto, astare, astiti, -:* "wait", "stay", "stand near".

159 *abire* (supply *te* as the accusative subject of *abire*, introduced by *sinam*).

160 *sinam* (first-person singular future active indicative) < *sino, sinere, siui, situm*: "allow".

161 *depereo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum* (conjugated like *eo, ire*): "die", "be destroyed"; translate here: "fall desperately in love".

162 *deago, -ere, degi, -:* "remove"

163 *corium, -ii* (n.): "skin", "hide".

164 *perdiuit* = *perdat* < *perdo, perdere, perdidii, perditum*: "destroy", "ruin".

165 *mitto, -ere, misi, missum*: here translate as "let go".

166 *nunciam* = *nunc + iam* (emphatic form of *nunc*).

167 *uotuit* = *uetuit* < *ueteo, uetare, uetui, uetitus*: "forbid".

168 Chaeribulus, another young man, is the friend and neighbour of Stratippocles (the young master).

169 For *iussit reuse me... uenire* in order to complete the sense of the verb; similarly you need to supply *me* as object of *iussit* in line 69.

170 *proxumum* = *proximum*, here translate as "next door [house]".

171 *eo*: "there", "to that place".

172 *uenturust* = *uenturus est*.

173 *ipsus* = *ipse*.

174 *quid ita*: "why so?"

175 *priu'* = *prius*; translate with *quam* in line 71; *priu' ... quam*: "before"; "until".

176 *uolt* = *uult* < *uolo, uelle, uolui, -*.

177 *conspicor, conspicari, conspicatus sum*: "catch sight of", "see".

quam id argentum, quod debetur pro illa,<sup>178</sup> dinumerauerit.<sup>179</sup>

**Epidicus:** eu<sup>180</sup> edepol res turbulentas!<sup>181</sup> **Thesprio:** mitte me ut eam<sup>182</sup> nunciam.<sup>183</sup>

**Epidicus:** haecine<sup>184</sup> ubi scibit<sup>185</sup> senex,  
puppis<sup>186</sup> pereunda est<sup>187</sup> probe.<sup>188</sup>

**Thesprio:** quid<sup>189</sup> istuc ad

me attinet,

75

quo tu intereas<sup>190</sup> modo?

**Epidicus:** quia perire solus nolo, te cupio perire mecum,  
benevolens cum benevolente. **Thesprio:** abi in malam rem  
maxumam<sup>191</sup> a me

cum istac<sup>192</sup> condicione.<sup>193</sup> **Epidicus:** i sane,<sup>194</sup> — siquidem<sup>195</sup> festinas  
magis.<sup>196</sup>

**Thesprio:** numquam hominem quemquam<sup>197</sup> conueni unde<sup>198</sup>  
abierim<sup>199</sup> lubentius.<sup>200</sup> —

**Epidicus:** illic<sup>201</sup> hinc abiit. solus nunc es.<sup>202</sup> quo in loco haec res<sup>203</sup> sit  
uides

178 *illa* = the slave girl Stratippocles has just bought on credit.

179 *dinumero, dinumerare, dinumerauit, dinumeratus*: “pay out”.

180 *eu*: an exclamation, often of joy, but here of lamentation.

181 *res turbulentas* (accusative of exclamation): “what a terrible situation!”.

182 *eam < eo, ire, iui / ii, itum*: “go”.

183 *nunciam* = *nunc + iam*.

184 *haecine* = *haec*: “these things”; the suffix *-ne*, while identical in form to the interrogative suffix *-ne*, here functions as a firm statement or affirmation.

185 *scibit* = *sciet < scio, scire, sciui, scitum*.

186 *puppis, puppis* (f.): “ship”.

187 *pereunda est* (gerundive, passive periphrastic) < *pereo, perire, periui / perii, peritus*: “die”, “be ruined”; here translate as “sink” or “be shipwrecked”.

188 *probe*: “thoroughly”.

189 *quid istuc ad me attinet*: “why does that concern me?”, “what’s it to me?”.

190 *intereo, interire, interii, interitum*: “be ruined”, “die”.

191 *malam rem maxumam* is a euphemistic way of referring to the *malam crucem* (the cross on which a slave who was given the most extreme penalty would be crucified).

192 *istac* = *istā* (feminine ablative singular of *iste, ista, istud*).

193 *condicio, -onis* (f.): “option”, “proposal”.

194 *sane*: “certainly”, “however” (used here to add force to the imperative *i*).

195 *siquidem*: “if indeed”, “since”.

196 *festinas magis*: “you’re in such a hurry”.

197 *quemquam < quisquam, cuiusquam*: “anyone”, “any [man]”.

198 *unde*: here translate as “from whom”.

199 *abierim* (first-person singular perfect subjunctive active) < *abeo, -ire, -iui / -ii, -itum*: “go away”.

200 *lubentius* = *libentius*: “cheerfully”.

201 *illic* = *ille*.

202 Epidicus is talking to himself in this speech, hence the use of the second-person singular and the vocative *Epidice*.

203 *res, rei* (f.): “matter”, “situation”.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Epidice: nisi quid tibi <sup>204</sup> in tete <sup>205</sup> auxili <sup>206</sup> est, apsumptus es. <sup>207</sup> |     |
| tantae in te impendent <sup>208</sup> ruinae: <sup>209</sup> nisi suffulcis <sup>210</sup> firmiter,                  |     |
| non potes supsistere: <sup>211</sup> itaque in te inruont <sup>212</sup> montes mali. <sup>213</sup>                  |     |
| neque <sup>214</sup> ego nunc   | 85  |
| quo modo <sup>215</sup>   |     |
| me expeditum <sup>216</sup> ex impedito <sup>217</sup> faciam, consilium placet.                                      | 86  |
| ego miser   |     |
| perpuli <sup>218</sup>  |     |
| meis dolis senem <sup>219</sup> ut censeret suam <sup>220</sup> sese emere filiam:                                    | 88  |
| is suo  |     |
| filio   |     |
| fidicinam <sup>221</sup> emit, quam ipse <sup>222</sup> amat, quam abiens mandauit <sup>223</sup> mihi.               | 90  |
| si sibi nunc alteram  | 90a |
| ab legione adduxit animi caussa, <sup>224</sup> corium <sup>225</sup> perdidit.                                       |     |
| nam ubi senex   |     |
| senserit <sup>226</sup>   | 92a |
| sibi data esse uerba, <sup>227</sup> uirgis dorsum dispoliet meum. <sup>228</sup> —                                   |     |

204 *tibi* (dative of reference).

205 *tete* = *te + te* (the suffix *-te* adds emphasis to the pronoun).

206 *auxili* (genitive of the whole after *quid*): “[any] help”.

207 *apsumptus* = *absumptus* < *absumo, -ere, -sumpsi, -sumptus*: “annihilate”, “ruin”.

208 *impendeo, -ere*: “hang over”.

209 *ruina, -ae* (f.): “catastrophe”, “disaster”.

210 *suffulcio, suffulcire, suffulsi, suffultus*: “prop up” (supply *te* as a direct object).

211 *supsistere* = *subsistere* < *subsisto, -ere, -stisti, -:* “remain standing”.

212 *inruont* = *irruont* (third-person plural present indicative active) < *irruo, -ere, -ui, -utum*: “run headlong into”, “topple down on”, “crash down on”.

213 *mali* (genitive) < *malum, -i* (n.): “evil”, “trouble”, “bad luck”.

214 *neque* (translate with *consilium placet*): “a plan doesn’t seem good”, “there is no good plan”.

215 *quo modo*: “how”, “in what way”.

216 *expeditum* (perfect passive participle; agrees with *me*) < *expedio, expedire, expediui, expeditus*: “disengage,” “set free”.

217 *impedito* (perfect passive participle) < *impedio, impedio, impedire, impediui, impeditus*: “encumber”, “trap”. Here it modifies a missing ablative *me*; translate *quo modo me expeditum ex impedito faciam*: “how I can free myself from this predicament”.

218 *perpello, perpellere, perpuli, perpulsus*: “compel”, “prevail upon”.

219 *senem* “old man” refers to the old master Periphanes.

220 *suam... filiam* is the direct object of *emere*; *sese* is the accusative subject of *emere*.

221 This is the *fidicina* he mentioned in line 47.

222 *ipse* here refers to the young master Stratippocles.

223 After *mandauit* supply *ut emerem*.

224 *caussa* = *causa*.

225 *corium, -ii* (n.): “skin”, “hide”.

226 *sentio, sentire, sensi, sensum*: “realize”.

227 *sibi data esse uerba*: “that he has been tricked / lied to”.

228 *dispolio, -are, -aui, -atum*: “strip for flogging”; *uirgis dorsum dispoliet meum*: “he’ll strip my back for a flogging with rods / cudgels”.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| at enim tu  |     |
| praecaue. <sup>229</sup>  | 94a |
| at enim — bat enim! <sup>230</sup> nihil est istuc. <sup>231</sup> plane hoc corruptumst <sup>232</sup>                           | 95  |
| caput.  |     |
| nequam <sup>233</sup> homo es,  |     |
| Epidice.  | 96a |
| qui <sup>234</sup> lubidost <sup>235</sup> male loqui? — quia tute te<te> <sup>236</sup> deseris. <sup>237</sup> —                |     |
| quid faciam?  |     |
| men <sup>238</sup> rogas?   | 98a |
| tuquidem <sup>239</sup> antehac aliis solebas dare consilia mutua. <sup>240</sup>   |     |
| aliquid <sup>241</sup> aliqua <sup>242</sup> reperiundumst. <sup>243</sup> sed ego cesso <sup>244</sup> ire obuiam <sup>245</sup> | 100 |
| adulescenti, ut quid negoti <sup>246</sup> sit sciam? atque ipse illic <sup>247</sup> est.  |     |
| tristis est. cum Chaeribulo incedit aequali <sup>248</sup> suo.   |     |
| huc concedam, <sup>249</sup> orationem unde <sup>250</sup> horum placide <sup>251</sup> persequar. <sup>252</sup>                 |     |

229 *praecaueo, praecauere, praecaui, praecaustum*: “beware”.

230 *bat*: a comic word to rhyme with *at*, similar to the Yiddish-origin “shm-reduplication” we see in English phrases like “fancy-shmancy”.

231 *nihil est istuc*: “it’s no use”.

232 *corruptumst = corruptum est* (the subject is *caput*).

233 *nequam* (indeclinable): “worthless”.

234 *qui* (an old ablative form): “how”, “why”.

235 *lubidost = libido est = libido est*: “is it a pleasure [for me]”, “is there a desire [in me]”.

236 The suffix *-te* adds emphasis to the pronoun.

237 *desero, -ere, -serui, -sertus*: “abandon”, “give up [on]”.

238 *men = me + ne*.

239 *tuquidem = tu quidem*.

240 *mutuus, -a, -um*: “mutual”, “reciprocal”. This is difficult to translate here, but the idea seems to be that Epidicus used to give advice to others in the expectation of getting advice from them in return.

241 *aliquid*: “some [scheme]”, “some [solution]”.

242 *aliqua*: “somehow”.

243 *reperiundumst = reperiendum est*.

244 *cesso, -are, -aui, -atum* (intransitive): “hold back from”, “delay” (+ infinitive).

245 *obuiam* (adverb): “in the way”, “to meet” (+ dative).

246 *negoti = negotii* (genitive of the whole after *quid*): “[what sort] of trouble / situation”.

247 *illic = ille*.

248 *aequalis, -e*: “peer”, “friend of the same age”.

249 *concedam* (future indicative) <*concedo, -ere, -cessi, -cessum*>: “withdraw”, “move back”.

250 *unde*: “from which place”, “where”.

251 *placide* (adverb): “quietly”.

252 *persequor, -sequi, -cutus sum* (present subjunctive, either hortatory or purpose clause after a missing *ut*): “follow” (in the sense of “hear”), “note down”.

## 1.2 STRATIPPOCLES, CHAERIBVLVS, EPIDICVS

**Scene summary:** With Epidicus eavesdropping on the conversation, Stratippocles arrives with his friend Chaeribulus and complains to him about the debt he's incurred for his new slave girl. He gets angry at Chaeribulus for not being able to give him the money he needs, and then says he'll send the slave Epidicus to work at the mill if he doesn't find a way to pay his debt for him. Epidicus makes his presence known, and attempts to make Stratippocles aware of how much Epidicus has already risked on his behalf in buying Acropolitis for him with his father's money. Stratippocles feels no remorse, however, and just demands that Epidicus find a way to pay off his current debt and get rid of Acropolitis (whom Periphanes thinks is his daughter Telestis). Epidicus says that he knows of a rich soldier from Euboea who will buy Acropolitis and promises to find some way to pay off Stratippocles's debt. Stratippocles, Chaeribulus, and Epidicus all go into Chaeribulus's house.

**Stratippocles:** Rem tibi sum elocutus<sup>1</sup> omnem, Chaeribile, atque  
admodum<sup>2</sup>

meorum maerorum<sup>3</sup> atque amorum summam<sup>4</sup> edictaui<sup>5</sup> tibi. 105

**Chaeribulus:** praeter<sup>6</sup> aetatem et uirtutem stultus es, Stratippocles.  
idne pudet te, quia captiuam genere prognatam<sup>7</sup> bono

in<sup>8</sup> praeda es mercatus<sup>9</sup> quis erit uitio<sup>10</sup> qui id uortat tibi?

**Stratippocles:** qui<sup>11</sup> inuident omnis<sup>12</sup> inimicos mihi illoc<sup>13</sup> facto  
repperi,<sup>14</sup>

at pudicitiae eiius<sup>15</sup> numquam nec uim nec uitium<sup>16</sup> attuli. 110

1 *eloquor, eloqui, elocutus sum:* "tell in detail" (+ dative of person told).

2 *admodum* (adverb): "fully", "thoroughly".

3 *maeror, maeroris* (m.): "sadness", "misery". "woe".

4 *summa, -ae* (f.): "main point", "sum total".

5 *edicto, -are, -aui, -atum:* "tell", "lay out" (+ dative of person told).

6 *praeter:* "contrary to" (+ accusative).

7 *prognatus, -a, -um:* "descended from".

8 *in:* "amongst" (+ ablative *praedā*).

9 *mercor, -ari, -atus sum:* "buy".

10 *uitio qui id uortat tibi:* "who would blame you for it".

11 *qui:* "those who".

12 *omnīs = omnēs* (masculine accusative plural).

13 *illoc = illo.*

14 *reperio, reperire, repperi, repertum:* "find".

15 *eius = eius.*

16 *uitium, -ii* (n.): "crime", "violation".

17 *affero, afferre, attuli, allatum* (or *adfero, adferre, adtuli, adlatum*): "bring", "deliver", "use" (+ accusative).

**Chaeribulus:** iam istoc<sup>18</sup> probior<sup>19</sup> [es] meo quidem animo, quom<sup>20</sup> in amore temperes.<sup>21</sup>

**Stratippocles:** nihil agit qui diffidentem<sup>22</sup> uerbis solatur<sup>23</sup> suis; is est amicus, qui<sup>24</sup> in re dubia re iuuat, ubi rest<sup>25</sup> opus.

**Chaeribulus:** quid tibi me uis facere? **Stratippocles:** argenti<sup>26</sup> dare quadraginta<sup>27</sup> minas,<sup>28</sup>

quod danistae<sup>29</sup> detur, unde ego illud sumpsi<sup>30</sup> faenore.<sup>31</sup>

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**Chaeribulus:** si hercle<sup>32</sup> haberem <pollicerer>.<sup>33</sup> **Stratippocles:** nam quid te igitur retulit

beneficum esse oratione,<sup>34</sup> si ad rem<sup>35</sup> auxilium emortuom<sup>36</sup> est?

**Chaeribulus:** quin<sup>37</sup> edepol<sup>38</sup> egomet<sup>39</sup> clamore<sup>40</sup> differor,<sup>41</sup> difflagitor.<sup>42</sup>

**Stratippocles:** malim<sup>43</sup> istius modi<sup>44</sup> mihi amicos furno<sup>45</sup> mersos<sup>46</sup> quam foro.<sup>47</sup>

18 *istoc* = *isto*: “by that very fact”.

19 *probior* (masc. nom. sing. comparative): “[you are] more honourable” (supply *es*) <*probus*, -*a*, -*um*.

20 *quom* = *cum*.

21 *temporo*, -*are*, -*auī*, -*atus*: “control oneself”.

22 *diffido*, -*ere*, *diffisus sum*: “lack confidence”, “despair”.

23 *solor*, -*ari*, -*atus sum*: “console”, “comfort”.

24 *qui in re dubia re iuuat ubi re est opus*: “who, in difficult circumstances, gives actual help when there’s a need for it.”

25 *rest* = *re est*.

26 *argentum*, -*i* (n.): “silver”, “money”.

27 *quadraginta* (indeclinable): “forty”.

28 *mina*, -*ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

29 *danista*, -*ae* (m.): “moneylender”.

30 *sumo*, -*ere*, *sumpsi*, *sumptum*: “obtain”, “get”.

31 *faenus*, -*oris* (n.): “interest”; “usury”.

32 *hercle*: “by Hercules!” (see note 21 on page 136 for the use of *hercle* and *mehercle*).

33 *pollicerer* (apodosis of a present contrary-to-fact conditional sentence, with *si haberem* being the protasis): first-person singular imperfect subjunctive deponent <*polliceor*, *polliceri*, *pollicitus sum*: “offer”, “promise”.

34 *nam quid te igitur retulit te beneficum esse oratione*: “so what was the use of you being generous in your speech”.

35 *rem*: “the matter at hand”.

36 *emortuom* = *emortuum* <*emortuus*, -*a*, -*um*: “dead” (modifies *auxilium*).

37 *quin*: “but”, “really”.

38 *edepol*: “by Pollux” (a mild oath).

39 *egomet* = *ego* + *-met*: “I, myself”.

40 *clamore*: (in this instance) “verbal harassment by debt collectors”.

41 *differo*, *differre*, *distuli*, *dilatum*: “disturb”.

42 *difflagito*, *difflagitate*, *difflagitaui*, *difflagitatus*: “dun”, “harass for debt repayment”.

43 *malo*, *malle*, *malui*, -: “prefer”. Lindsay’s text gives this line as: *malim istiusmodi mi amicos forno occensos quam foro*, but Duckworth-Wheeler’s emendations make more sense here.

44 *modus*, -*i* (m.): “type”, “kind” (*istius modi* is a genitive of quality after *amicos*).

45 *furnus*, -*i* (m.): “oven”.

46 *mergo*, *mergere*, *mersi*, *mersum*: “plunge”, “immerse” (supply *esse*, with *amicos* as the accusative subject of the passive infinitive *mersum esse*).

47 *forum*, -*i* (n.): “forum” (where bankruptcies were dealt with before the praetor); the alliteration of *furno* and *foro* explains why Stratippocles takes such an extreme view of his

sed operam<sup>48</sup> Epidici nunc me<sup>49</sup> emere pretio pretioso<sup>50</sup> uelim. 120  
 quem<sup>51</sup> quidem ego hominem inrigatum<sup>52</sup> plagis<sup>53</sup> pistori<sup>54</sup> dabo,  
 nisi hodie priu'<sup>55</sup> comparassit<sup>56</sup> mihi quadraginta minas  
 quam argenti fuero elocutus<sup>57</sup> ei postremam syllabam.<sup>58</sup>  
**Epidicus:** salua res est: bene promittit, spero, seruabit fidem.<sup>59</sup> 125  
 sine meo sumptu<sup>60</sup> paratae iam sunt scapulis<sup>61</sup> symbolae.<sup>62</sup>  
 adgrediar<sup>63</sup> hominem. aduenientem peregre<sup>64</sup> erum<sup>65</sup> suom<sup>66</sup>  
 Stratippoclem<sup>67</sup>  
 impertit<sup>68</sup> salute seruos<sup>69</sup> Epidicus? **Stratippocles:** ubi is est?  
**Epidicus:** adest.  
 saluom hoc aduenisse<sup>70</sup> — **Stratippocles:** tam<sup>71</sup> tibi istuc<sup>72</sup> credo  
 quam mihi.  
**Epidicus:** benene usque ualuisti? **Stratippocles:** a morbo<sup>73</sup> ualui, ab  
 animo aeger fui.

indebted friends.

48 *opera, -ae* (f.): “service”, “help”.

49 *me* should perhaps be *mi/mili* (see Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 177).

50 *pretio pretioso* (ablative of price): “for a large amount of money”.

51 *quem* (connecting relative, modifying *hominem*): translate “that [man]”.

52 *inrigatum = irrigatum; irrigo, -are, -aui, -atum:* “beat soundly”.

53 *plaga, -ae* (f.): “blow”, “whiplash”.

54 *pistor, -is* (m.): “miller”. Flour mills were powered by treadmills turned by animals or humans. It was exhausting work, and being sent to work at a mill was a dreaded punishment. Lucius, a man turned into a donkey in Apuleius’s *Metamorphoses* (9.11–12), describes what it was like for him to be made to work the treadmill.

55 *priu' = prius; priu'* should be translated with *quam* in the next line; *priu'... quam:* “before”.

56 *nisi... comparassit:* “[unless] he gets hold of”.

57 *fuero elocutus = ero elocutus:* “I’ll tell (someone in the dative) in detail”. Perfect passive forms that normally use *sum, eram, or ero* (indicative) or *sim, essem* (subjunctive) sometimes instead use *fui, fueram, fuero* (indicative) and *fuerim, fuisse* (subjunctive) — see Bennett 102, notes 36, 37, [http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#NtA\\_36](http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#NtA_36)

58 *argenti... postremam syllabam:* “the last syllable of the [amount] of money”.

59 *spero, seruabit fidem:* “he’ll keep his word, I hope”.

60 *sumptus, -us* (m.): “expense”, “charge”.

61 *scapula, -ae* (f.): “shoulder”, “back”.

62 *symbola, -ae* (f.): the monetary contribution owed by participants in a group banquet, paid for by the subscribers; here translate as “contributions”, “donations”.

63 *adgrediar = aggrediar < aggredior, aggredi, aggressus sum:* “approach”.

64 *peregre* (adverb): “from abroad”.

65 *erus, -i* (m.): “master”.

66 *suom = suum.*

67 *Stratippoclem* (accusative singular).

68 *impertit salute:* “greets”.

69 *seruos = seruus.*

70 *saluom hoc aduenisse* (supply *gaudeo*; a formulaic greeting to someone who has returned from abroad, see line 7): “I’m happy to see you’re safely back again”.

71 *tam... quam:* “as much... as”.

72 *istuc:* “as far as that goes”.

73 *a morbo... ab animo:* “as far as illness goes... in my mind...”.

**Epidicus:** quod ad me attinuit,<sup>74</sup> ego curau: quod mandasti<sup>75</sup> <tu> 130  
 mihi,  
 impetratum est.<sup>76</sup> empta ancillast,<sup>77</sup> quod tute<sup>78</sup> ad me litteras  
 missiculabas.<sup>79</sup> **Stratippocles:** perdidisti omnem operam. **Epidicus:**  
 nam qui<sup>80</sup> perdi? **Stratippocles:** quia meo neque cara est cordi neque placet.<sup>81</sup>  
**Epidicus:** quid retulit<sup>82</sup>  
 mihi tanto opere<sup>83</sup> te mandare et mittere ad me epistulas?  
**Stratippocles:** illam amabam olim, nunc iam alia cura impendet<sup>84</sup> 135  
 pectori.  
**Epidicus:** hercle miserum est ingratum esse homini id quod facias  
 bene.<sup>85</sup>  
 ego quod bene feci male feci, quia amor mutauit locum.<sup>86</sup>  
**Stratippocles:** desipiebam<sup>87</sup> mentis<sup>88</sup> quom illa scripta mittebam tibi.  
**Epidicus:** men<sup>89</sup> piacularum<sup>90</sup> oportet fieri ob stultitiam tuam,  
 ut meum tergum tuae stultitiae subdas<sup>91</sup> succidaneum?<sup>92</sup> 140  
**Stratippocles:** quid<sup>93</sup> istic<sup>94</sup> uerba facimus? huic homini opust<sup>95</sup>  
 quadraginta minis  
 celeriter calidis,<sup>96</sup> danistae quas resoluat,<sup>97</sup> et cito.

74 *attineo, -ere, -ui, -attentum:* “concern”, “pertain to”.

75 *mandasti = mandauisti* <*mando, -are, -auis, -atum:* “order”, “entrust”.

76 *imperio, -are, -auis, -atus:* “achieve”, “get”, “obtain”.

77 *ancillast = ancilla est* <*ancilla, -ae* (f.): “female slave”, “slave girl”.

78 The suffix *-te* adds emphasis to the pronoun.

79 *missicul, -are, -auis, -atum:* “send often”, “keep sending”.

80 *qui:* “how”.

81 *cara est... placet* (*ancilla* is the subject of both verbs).

82 *quid retulit:* “what was the use” (completed by the accusative-infinitive construction).

83 *tanto opere:* “so much”.

84 *impendo, -ere:* “hang over”.

85 *miserum est ingratum esse homini id quod facias bene:* “it’s upsetting when a favour you do for someone is unappreciated”.

86 *amor mutauit locum:* “you’ve switched loves” (literally “your love changed place”).

87 *desipio, -ere, -ui, -:* “be foolish”, “be out of one’s right mind”.

88 *mentis* (genitive of respect).

89 *men = me + ne.*

90 *piacularis, -e:* “sacrificial victim”.

91 *subdo, -ere, -didi, -ditum:* “substitute”.

92 *succidaneus, -a, -um* (a rare word referring to another type of sacrificial victim): “substitute victim”.

93 *quid:* “why”.

94 *istic* (adverb): “now”, “here”, “there”.

95 *opust = opus est.*

96 *calidis:* “red hot” (apparently implying that the *minae* need to be quick in coming).

97 *resoluo, -ere, -solui, -solutum* (subjunctive in a relative clause of purpose): “pay”.

**Epidicus:** dic modo: unde auferre<sup>98</sup> me uis? quo a tarpezita<sup>99</sup> peto?

**Stratippocles:** unde lubet.<sup>100</sup> nam ni ante solem occasum<sup>101</sup> e lo<culis adferes><sup>102</sup>

meam domum ne inbitas:<sup>103</sup> tu te in pistrinum<sup>104</sup> <conferas.><sup>105</sup> 145

**Epidicus:** facile tu istuc<sup>106</sup> sine periclo<sup>107</sup> et cura, corde<sup>108</sup> libero fabulare;<sup>109</sup> noui<sup>110</sup> ego nostros:<sup>111</sup> mihi dolet<sup>112</sup> quom<sup>113</sup> ego uapulo.<sup>114</sup>

**Stratippocles:** quid tu nunc? patierin<sup>115</sup> ut ego me interimam?<sup>116</sup>

**Epidicus:** ne feceris.<sup>117</sup>

ego istuc<sup>118</sup> accedam<sup>119</sup> periculum<sup>120</sup> potius<sup>121</sup> atque audaciam.<sup>122</sup>

**Stratippocles:** nunc places, nunc ego te laudo. **Epidicus:** patiar ego 150 istuc quod lubet.<sup>123</sup>

**Stratippocles:** quid illa fiet fidicina igitur?<sup>124</sup> **Epidicus:** aliqua res reperibitur,<sup>125</sup>

aliqua ope exsoluam,<sup>126</sup> extricabor<sup>127</sup> aliqua. **Stratippocles:** plenus consili's.<sup>128</sup>

98 *aufero, -ferre, apstuli, ablatum:* "get", "take".

99 *tarpezita = trapezita, -ae* (m.): "moneylender".

100 *lubet = libet:* "it is pleasing"; *unde lubet:* "[borrow it] from wherever you want".

101 *occido, -ere, -cidi, -casum:* "set", "sink".

102 *ni ante solem occasum e lo<culis adferes>:* "unless you bring it from some stash before the sun has set".

103 *inbitas = ineas < ineo, -ire, -iui/ii, -itum:* "go into", "enter".

104 *pistrinum, -i* (n.): "flour mill" (where slaves or animals were made to push a treadmill for grinding grain into flour).

105 *se confero, conferre, contuli, collatum:* "take oneself"; "go".

106 *istuc:* "about that".

107 *periclo = periculo < periculum, i* (n.): "danger", "risk".

108 *cor, cordis* (n.): "heart".

109 *fabulare = fabularis < fabulor, -ari, -atus sum:* "speak".

110 *nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* "get to know", "know", "recognize".

111 *nostros* (substantive adjective): "our [fellow slaves]", "our [floggers]" (referring to the slaves whom Stratippocles would order to beat Epidicus).

112 *mihi dolet:* "I feel pain".

113 *quom = cum.*

114 *uapulo, -are, -au-i, -atum:* "be beaten", "get a beating".

115 *patierin = patierisne < patior, pati, passus sum:* "allow".

116 *interimo, -ere, interimi, interemptum:* "kill".

117 *ne feceris* (prohibitive subjunctive): "don't do [it]".

118 *istuc* (modifies *periculum*) = *istud*.

119 *accodo, -ere, -essi, -essum:* "approach", "face up to".

120 *periculum = periculum.*

121 *potius:* "rather [than let you kill yourself]".

122 *audacia, -ae* (f.): "daring plan".

123 *patiar ego istuc quod lubet:* "I'll endure whatever you want [me to]".

124 *quid illa fiet fidicina igitur:* "so what will be done with the lyre-player?"

125 *reperibitur = reperiatur.*

126 *exsoluo, -ere, -i, -utum:* "solve", "deliver", "free", "discharge" (supply *te* as the direct object of *exsoluam* and *extricabor*).

127 *extricor, -ari, -atus sum:* "disentangle", "free", "release".

128 *consili's = consili es; consilium, -i/-ii* (n.): "scheming".

noui ego te. **Epidicus:** est Euboicus<sup>129</sup> miles locuples,<sup>130</sup> multo auro  
potens,<sup>131</sup>  
qui ubi tibi<sup>132</sup> istam<sup>133</sup> emptam esse scibit<sup>134</sup> atque hanc adductam<sup>135</sup>  
alteram,<sup>136</sup>  
continuo<sup>137</sup> te orabit ultro<sup>138</sup> ut illam<sup>139</sup> tramittas<sup>140</sup> sibi. 155  
sed ubi illa est quam tu adduxisti<sup>141</sup> tecum? **Stratippocles:** iam<sup>142</sup> faxo<sup>143</sup>  
hic<sup>144</sup> erit.  
**Chaeribulus:** quid hic nunc agimus?<sup>145</sup> **Stratippocles:** eamus intro  
huc ad te,<sup>146</sup> ut hunc hodie diem  
luculente<sup>147</sup> habeamus. — 148 **Epidicus:** ite intro, ego de re argentaria<sup>149</sup>  
iam senatum<sup>150</sup> conuocabo in corde consiliarium,<sup>151</sup>  
quo<sup>152</sup> potissimum<sup>153</sup> indicatur<sup>154</sup> bellum, unde argentum auferam. 160  
Epidice, uide quid agas, ita res subito haec obiectast<sup>155</sup> tibi;  
non enim nunc tibi dormitandi neque cunctandi<sup>156</sup> copia<sup>157</sup> est.

129 *Euboicus, -a, -um:* “Euboean”, “from (or serving as a soldier on) the island of Euboea”.

130 *locuples, -pletis:* “wealthy”.

131 *multio auro potens:* “with a lot of buying power”.

132 *tibi* (dative of reference): “for you”, “on your behalf”.

133 *istam* (refers to the *fidicina*, the first girl Stratippocles was in love with).

134 *scibit* = *sciet* < *scio, scire, sciui, scitum:* “know”.

135 *adductam* (supply *esse*): “[that the other girl] has been brought [as well]”.

136 *hanc... alteram* (refers to the second girl whom Stratippocles has just brought home).

137 *continuo* (adverb): “immediately”.

138 *ultra* (adverb): “voluntarily”, “on his own initiative”.

139 *illam* (refers to the *fidicina*).

140 *tramitto, -ere, -misi, -missum:* “send over”, “hand over”.

141 *adduco, -ere, adduxi, adductum:* “bring”.

142 *iam:* “already”; translate here: “soon”.

143 *faxo* (alternative form of the first-person singular future indicative active of *facio, -ere*): “I’ll make [it happen]”, “I promise”, “definitely”.

144 *hic:* “here”.

145 *quid hic nunc agimus:* “what should we do now?” (despite the indicative mood this works best as a deliberative question).

146 *ad te:* “to your house”.

147 *luculente* (adverb): “excellently”, “well”, “agreeably”.

148 *habeamus:* “spend”, “pass”, “keep” [this day].

149 *de re argentaria:* “regarding the money situation”.

150 Epidicus uses the metaphor of the senate to refer to his own internal deliberations as to what course he should take.

151 *consiliarius, -a, -um* (modifies *senatum*): “advice-giving”.

152 *quo* = *cui* (dative because of the compound verb *indicatur*): “[against] whom”.

153 *potissimum* = *potissimum* (adverb): “especially”.

154 *indico, -ere, indixi, indictum:* “publicly declare”.

155 *obiectast* = *obiecta est* < *obicio/obiciio, -ere, obieci, obiectum:* “throw at”, “assign” (+ dative).

156 *dormitandi... cunctandi* (gerunds): “dozing... delaying”.

157 *copia, -ae* (f.): “opportunity”.

adeundum.<sup>158</sup> senem oppugnare<sup>159</sup> certumst<sup>160</sup> consilium mihi.<sup>161</sup>  
 ibo intro atque adulescenti dicam nostro erili<sup>162</sup> filio,  
 ne hinc foras<sup>163</sup> exambulet<sup>164</sup> neue<sup>165</sup> obuiam<sup>166</sup> ueniat seni. —

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158 *adeundum* (gerundive; supply *est*): “it must be done!”.

159 *oppugno, -are, -aui, -atum*: “fight against”, “make an attack on”.

160 *certumst* = *certum est*.

161 *senem oppugnare certumst consilium mihi*: “my plan is settled: I’ll make an attack on the old man”.

162 *erilis, -e*: “relating to the *erus* (master)”.

163 *foras* (adverb): “out of doors”.

164 *exambulo, -are, -aui, -atum*: “stroll out”, “walk out”.

165 *neue*: “and so that... not”.

166 *obuiam* (adverb): “into the presence of” (+ dative).

# ACTVS II

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## 2.1 APOECIDES, PERIPHANES

**Scene summary:** The two old men, Periphanes and his friend Apoecides, come out of Periphanes's house (which is next door to Chaeribulus's). Their conversation tells us that the widowed Periphanes is planning on marrying a woman (whom, we later find out, is called Philippa), the mother of his illegitimate daughter Telestis, but he's worried about how his son Stratippocles will react.

**Apoecides:** Plerique<sup>1</sup> homines, quos quom<sup>2</sup> nil<sup>3</sup> refert<sup>4</sup> pudet,

ubi pudendum est<sup>5</sup> ibi eos deserit<sup>6</sup> pudor,

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quom usust<sup>7</sup> ut pudeat.<sup>8</sup>

is<sup>9</sup> adeo<sup>10</sup> tu's.<sup>11</sup> quid est quod<sup>12</sup> pudendum siet,<sup>13</sup>

genere gnatam<sup>14</sup> bono<sup>15</sup> pauperem<sup>16</sup> domum

ducere te uxorem?<sup>17</sup>

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1 *plerusque, pleraque, plerumque*: “many”, “most”.

2 *quom* = *cum*.

3 *nil* = *nihil*.

4 *quos quom nihil refert pudet*: “who feel shame about something that doesn't [actually] matter”.

5 *pudendum est* (impersonal use of the gerundive in passive periphrastic): “[when] they ought to feel shame”.

6 *desero, -ere, -serui, -seratum*: “abandon”.

7 *usust* = *usus est* (impersonal; = *opus est*): “there is need”.

8 *ut pudeat* (impersonal verb in a substantive clause after *usus est*; see Bennett 295.6, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect295>): “that there should be shame”; translate here: “that he should feel shame”.

9 *is*: translate here: “this sort of man”.

10 *adeo*: “precisely”, “exactly”.

11 *tu's* = *tu es*.

12 *quid est quod*: “what is there that”.

13 *siet* = *sit*.

14 *gnatam* = *natam* < *nata, -ae* (f.): “daughter”.

15 *genere bono* (ablative of separation, see Bennett 215): “from a good family”.

16 *pauper, pauperis*: “poor”, “poverty-stricken”.

17 *domum ducere... uxorem*: (literally) “to lead a wife home”; translate here: “marry”.

praesertim<sup>18</sup> eam, qua ex<sup>19</sup> tibi commemores<sup>20</sup> hanc quae domist<sup>21</sup>  
filiam prognatam.<sup>22</sup>

171–2

**Periphanes:** reuereor filium.<sup>23</sup> **Apoecides:** at pol<sup>24</sup> ego te credidi<sup>25</sup>  
uxorem, quam tu extulisti,<sup>26</sup> pudore exsequi,<sup>27</sup>

quoiius<sup>28</sup> quotiens sepulcrum uides, sacrificas<sup>29</sup>

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ilico<sup>30</sup> Orco<sup>31</sup> hostiis,<sup>32</sup> neque adeo iniuria,<sup>33</sup>

quia licitumst<sup>34</sup> eam tibi uiuendo<sup>35</sup> uincere. **Periphanes:** oh!<sup>36</sup>

Hercules<sup>37</sup> ego fui, dum illa mecum fuit;

neque sexta aerumna<sup>38</sup> acerbior Herculi<sup>39</sup> quam<sup>40</sup> illa mihi obiectast.<sup>41</sup>

**Apoecides:** pulchra edepol<sup>42</sup> dos<sup>43</sup> pecuniast.<sup>44</sup> **Periphanes:** quae  
quidem pol non maritast.<sup>45</sup>

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18 *praesertim*: “especially”.

19 *qua ex = ex qua*: “from whom”.

20 *commemoro, -are, -auī, -atus* (subjunctive because it is a subordinate clause within the indirect discourse of lines 169–170, see Bennett 314): “mention”, “say”.

21 *domist = domi est* (locative).

22 *hanc... filiam prognatam* (supply *esse*; indirect discourse after *commemores*): “that this daughter... was born”.

23 *reuereor filium*: “I have respect for my son”, “I’m afraid my son [won’t like it]”.

24 *pol*: “by Pollux”.

25 *te credidi... exsequi* (indirect discourse).

26 *ecfero/effero, ecferre/efferre, extuli, elatus*: “carry out for burial”, “bury”.

27 *pudore exsequi*: literally “to follow with decency”; translate here: “to show respect to” (+ accusative).

28 *quoiius = cuius*.

29 *sacrificas = sacrificā < sacrificō, -are, -auī, -atum*: “sacrifice”, “offer a sacrifice”.

30 *ilico*: “on the spot”, “immediately”.

31 *Orcus, -i* (m.): Orcus, god of death and the underworld.

32 *hostia, -ae* (f.): “sacrificial victim”, “animal sacrifice”.

33 *neque adeo iniuria*: “and rightly too”.

34 *licitumst = licitum est < licet, licuit, licitum est* (impersonal): “it was lawful”, “it was permitted” (+ dative of the person to whom it was permitted, in this case *tibi*).

35 *uiuendo* (gerund; ablative of means).

36 *oh* (exclamation of surprise, either happy or unhappy): here translate as “ugh!”.

37 *Hercules, -is* (m.): “Hercules”, or perhaps here “a Hercules”.

38 *aerumna, -ae* (f.): “distress”, “hardship”, “labour”, “task”; the Sixth Labour of Hercules, according to common Roman versions, was that of the belt of Amazon Hippolyta (Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 218).

39 *Herculi* (dative).

40 *quam illa mihi obiectast*: “than that [labour that] was assigned to me”.

41 *obiectast = obiecta est* (*sexta aerumna* is the subject of *obiectast*): “thrown (at); translate here: “assigned (to)”.

42 *edepol*: “by Pollux”.

43 *dos, dotis* (f.): “dowry”.

44 *pecuniast = pecunia est*.

45 *quae quidem pol non maritast*: “yes, by Pollux – at least, it would be if it came without marriage” (*maritast = marita est*).

## 2.2 EPIDICVS, APOECIDES, PERIPHANES

**Scene summary:** Epidicus comes out and sees the old men before they see him. He overhears Periphanes planning a marriage for Stratippocles and worrying about a rumour that Stratippocles has been devoting himself to a young lyre-playing slave-woman (we know she is Acropolitis). Epidicus hits on a scheme to cheat Periphanes out of the money needed to repay Stratippocles's debt. He pretends he's been searching for them all over town to tell them the news that the legion has arrived home from the war in Thebes, and that he has overheard two women who say that Stratippocles was planning on borrowing the money to buy, and then manumit, his lyre-playing girlfriend. Periphanes is very upset at his son for ruining his credit and wasting money like this, and gladly takes Epidicus's advice, which is to arrange a marriage for Stratippocles to some unnamed woman, and to buy Acropolitis himself but arrange for her to be sent out of the city and out of Stratippocles's reach. Epidicus persuades Periphanes not to involve himself personally in the purchase of the slave woman (ostensibly to ensure that Stratippocles won't find out that his own father has bought her), and promises him that he'll recoup the money and even make a profit by selling her on to a wealthy Rhodian soldier (perhaps the same soldier as the Euboean one Epidicus mentioned act 1, scene 2). Periphanes agrees to send his friend Apoecides with Epidicus to carry out the purchase.

**Epidicus: St!<sup>1</sup>**

tacete, habete animum bonum.<sup>2</sup>

liquido<sup>3</sup> exeo foras<sup>4</sup> auspicio, aui<sup>5</sup> sinistra;<sup>6</sup> 183–4

acutum cultrum habeo, senis<sup>7</sup> qui<sup>8</sup> exenterem<sup>9</sup> marsuppium.<sup>10</sup> 185

sed ecum<sup>11</sup> ipsum ante<sup>12</sup> aedis<sup>13</sup> conspicor<sup>14</sup> <cum> Apoecide

1 *st:* "sh", "shush" (command to be silent).

2 *animum bonum:* "good courage".

3 *liquidus, -a, -um:* "clear".

4 *foras* (adverb): "outside".

5 *auis, -is* (f.): "bird".

6 *sinistra = sinistra* (ablative feminine singular, modifying *aui*) < *sinister, -tra, -trum:* "left". (Birds seen flying by on the left were usually considered to be a favourable omen).

7 *senex, senis* (m.): "old man".

8 *qui = quo* (ablative of means).

9 *exentero, -are, -aui, -atus:* "disembowel"; (in the context of a purse or store of money) "empty". Epidicus's imagery here suggests that Periphanes and his *marsuppium* are going to be cut open like an animal sacrifice in Roman religious ritual.

10 *marsuppium, -ii* (n.): "purse", "moneybag".

11 *ecum = ecce + hunc:* "look, there he is!".

12 *ante* (preposition + accusative): "in front of".

13 *aedis/aedes, -is* (f.): "building", "house" (often used in the plural, as here).

14 *conspicor, -ari, -atus sum:* "notice", "see".

qualis<sup>15</sup> uolo uetulos<sup>16</sup> duo.  
 iam ego me conuortam<sup>17</sup> in hirudinem<sup>18</sup> atque eorum exsugebo<sup>19</sup>  
 sanguinem,  
 senati<sup>20</sup> qui columen<sup>21</sup> cluent.<sup>22</sup>

**Apoeclides:**<sup>23</sup> continuo<sup>24</sup> ut maritus<sup>25</sup> fiat. **Periphanes:** laudo                    190  
 consilium tuom.<sup>26</sup>

nam ego illum audiui in amore<sup>27</sup> haerere<sup>28</sup> apud nescioquam<sup>29</sup>  
 fidicinam,  
 id<sup>30</sup> ego excrucior.<sup>31</sup> **Epidicus:** di hercle omnes me adiuuant, augent,  
 amant:  
 ipsi hiquidem<sup>32</sup> mihi dant uiam, quo pacto<sup>33</sup> ab se<sup>34</sup> argentum auferam.  
 age nunciam<sup>35</sup> orna<sup>36</sup> te, Epidice, et palliolum<sup>37</sup> in collum<sup>38</sup> conice<sup>39</sup>  
 itaque adsimulato<sup>40</sup> quasi<sup>41</sup> per urbem totam hominem quaesueris.<sup>42</sup>        195

15 *qualis* (masc. plural accusative): “of the kind”.

16 *uetulus*, -a, -um: “elderly”. There may be a pun here that continues Epidicus’s sacrificial imagery, since *uetulos* sounds like *uitulos* (“calves”), animals used in religious sacrifice (see Gellar-Goad 2012 and Barrios-Lech 2014).

17 *conuorto/conuerto*, -ere, -ti, -sum: “turn [oneself] into”.

18 *hirudo*, -inis (f.): “leech”.

19 *exsugeo*, -ere (variant form of *ex(s)ugo*, -ere, *exsuxi*, *exsuctum*): “suck out”.

20 *senati* = *senatus* (genitive singular of *senatus*, -ūs).

21 *columen*, -inis (n.): “pillar” (here in the sense of “most valuable member”).

22 *cluo*, -ere, -,-,: “be calling”; “be said to be”.

23 There may be some lines missing here, in which Apoeclides probably tried to persuade Periphanes that if he married off his son Stratippocles it would leave Periphanes free to remarry.

24 *continuo* (adverb): “immediately”.

25 *maritus*, -a, -um: “married”.

26 *tuom* = *tuum*.

27 *in amore* = *in amore*.

28 *haereo*, -ere, *haesi*, *haesum*: “hang around (someone)”, “keep near/close to (someone)”.

29 *nescioquam* = *nescio quam*.

30 *id* (accusative of inner object): “[I’m upset about] it”.

31 *excrucio*, -are, -auī, -atūm: literally “crucify”, but here “torture”, “upset”.

32 *hiquidem* = *hi quidem*.

33 *pactum, pacti* (n.): “manner”, “way”.

34 *se* (refers to the old men).

35 *nunciam* = *nunc* + *iam* (emphatic form of *nunc*).

36 *orno*, -are, -auī, -atūm: “dress up”, “equip”; translate here: “get ready”.

37 *palliolum*, -i (n.): “little pallium”, “little Greek cloak”, “hood”.

38 *collum*, -i (n.): “neck”.

39 *conicio*, -ere, *conieci*, *coniectum*: “throw over” (Epidicus gathers up the loose folds of his *palliolum*, and throws them around his neck or over his shoulder in order to look the part of a slave running to carry out an errand for his master).

40 *adsimulato* (second-person singular future imperative active) < *adsimulo*, -are, -auī, -atūm: “act the part”, “pretend”.

41 *quasi* (adverb): “as though” (followed by the subjunctive mood).

42 *quaesueris* (second-person singular perfect active subjunctive) < *quaero*, -ere, *quaesui*, *quaesitum*: “seek”, “look for”.

age, si quid agis.<sup>43</sup> di inmortales!<sup>44</sup> utinam conueniam<sup>45</sup> domi<sup>46</sup>  
 Periphanem, per omnem urbem quem sum defessus<sup>47</sup> quaerere:<sup>48</sup>  
 per medicinas,<sup>49</sup> per tostrinas,<sup>50</sup> in gymnasio atque in foro,  
 per myropolia<sup>51</sup> et lanienas<sup>52</sup> circumque argentarias.<sup>53</sup>  
 rogitando sum raucus<sup>54</sup> factus, paene in cursu concidi.<sup>55</sup> 200  
**Periphanes:** Epidice! **Epidicus:** Epidicum quis est qui reuocat?  
**Periphanes:** ego sum, Periphanes.  
**Apoecides:** et ego Apoecides sum. **Epidicus:** et egoquidem<sup>56</sup> sum  
 Epidicus. sed, ere,<sup>57</sup> optuma<sup>58</sup>  
 uos uideo opportunitate<sup>59</sup> ambo aduenire. **Periphanes:** quid rei est?<sup>60</sup>  
**Epidicus:** mane, <mane>, sine<sup>61</sup> respirem quaeso.<sup>62</sup> **Periphanes:**  
 immo<sup>63</sup> adquiesce.<sup>64</sup> **Epidicus:** animo malest.<sup>65</sup>  
**Apoecides:** recipe anhelitum.<sup>66</sup> **Periphanes:** clementer,<sup>67</sup> requiesce. 205  
**Epidicus:** animum aduortite.<sup>68</sup>  
 a legione omnes remissi sunt domum<sup>69</sup> Thebis.<sup>70</sup> **Apoecides:** <quis  
 hoc>  
 scit factum? **Epidicus:** ego ita dico factum esse. **Periphanes:** scin<sup>71</sup> tu  
 istuc?<sup>72</sup> **Epidicus:** scio.

43 *age, si quid agis:* “act, if you’re going to act”, “if you’re going to do anything, do it”.

44 *inmortales = immortales.*

45 *conuenio, -ire, -ueni, -uentum:* “meet”, “meet with”.

46 *domi* (locative case).

47 *defetiscor, -isci, defessus sum:* “become exhausted”, “be worn out”.

48 *quaerere* (this infinitive is used where later Latin would use a gerund).

49 *medicinus, -a, um; medicinas* modifies a missing *tabernas:* “doctor’s [offices]”.

50 *tostrinas = tonstrinas < tonstrinus, -a, -um:* “barber [shops]”, “hairdressers’ [establishments]”

51 *myropolium, -ii* (n.): “perfumer’s shop”.

52 *laniena, lanienae* (f): “butcher’s shop”.

53 *argentarius, -a, -um:* “bankers [counters]”.

54 *raucus, -a, -um:* “hoarse”.

55 *concido, -ere, concidi, concisum:* “faint”, “collapse”.

56 *egoquidem = ego quidem.*

57 *erus, -i* (m.): “master”.

58 *optumā = optimā.*

59 *optumā opportunitate* (ablative of time when).

60 *quid rei est:* “what’s the matter?”.

61 *sino, -ere, siui, situm:* “allow”, “let” (+ subjunctive).

62 *quaeso:* “please”.

63 *immo:* “by all means”, “indeed”; “on the contrary”, “by no means”.

64 *adquiesco / acquiesco, -ere, -eui, -etum:* “rest”, “take a break”.

65 *animo malest* (= *animo male est*): “I’m feeling faint”.

66 *anhelitus, -ūs* (m.): “breath”, “breathing”.

67 *clementer* (adverb): “calmly”, “gradually”.

68 *animum aduortite:* “pay attention”.

69 *domum* (accusative of place to which; no need for a preposition with *domus*): “home[ward]”.

70 *Thebis* (ablative of place from which): “from Thebes”.

71 *scin = scisne.*

72 *istuc = istud.*

**Periphanes:** qui<sup>73</sup> tu scis? **Epidicus:** quia ego ire uidi milites plenis<sup>74</sup> uiis;<sup>75</sup>

arma referunt et iumenta<sup>76</sup> ducunt. **Periphanes:** nimi'<sup>77</sup> factum bene!

**Epidicus:** tum captiuorum quid<sup>78</sup> ducunt secum! pueros, uirgines, binos,<sup>79</sup> ternos,<sup>80</sup> alius quinque; fit concursus<sup>81</sup> per uias, filios suos quisque<sup>82</sup> uisunt.<sup>83</sup> **Periphanes:** hercle rem gestam bene!<sup>84</sup>

**Epidicus:** tum meretricum<sup>85</sup> numerus tantus quantum in urbe omni fuit

obuiam<sup>86</sup> ornatae<sup>87</sup> occurrebant suis quaequaes<sup>88</sup> amatoribus, eos captabant.<sup>89</sup> id adeo<sup>90</sup> qui<sup>91</sup> maxume animum aduorterim?<sup>92</sup>

pleraque<sup>93</sup> eae sub uestimentis secum habebant retia.<sup>94</sup>

quom<sup>95</sup> ad portam<sup>96</sup> uenio, atque ego illam illi uideo<sup>97</sup> praestolarier<sup>98</sup> et cum ea tibicinae<sup>99</sup> ibant quattuor. **Periphanes:** quicum,<sup>100</sup> Epidice?

210

215

73 *qui:* "how".

74 *plenus, -a, -um:* "full", "crowded".

75 *plenis uiis* (ablative of the way by which; see Bennett 218.9, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect218>).

76 *iumentum, -i* (n.): "mule", "pack animal".

77 *nimi' = nimis:* "very".

78 *captiuorum quid:* "what about the prisoners".

79 *binos* (< *binus, -a, -um*): "in twos".

80 *ternos* (< *ternus, -a, -um*): "in threes".

81 *concursus, -ūs* (m.): "collision", "traffic jam".

82 *quisque* (although *quisque* is singular, it should be taken as the plural subject of *uisunt*).

83 *uiso, uisere, uisi, uisum:* "go to see", "look at".

84 *rem gestam bene* (*rem gestam* is an accusative of exclamation): "things have gone well!".

85 *meretrix, meretricis* (f.): "courtesan", "prostitute", "[hired] girlfriend".

86 *obuiam* (adverb): "into the presence of", "to meet" (+ dative).

87 *orno, -are, -auī, -atūm:* "dress up", "adorn".

88 *quaequaes = quaeque:* "each" < *quique, quaeque, quidque/quicque/quodque*.

89 *captabant:* "they were on the hunt for", "they were going to make [them] their prisoners" < *capto, -are, -auī, -atūm*.

90 *adeo:* "precisely", "exactly".

91 *qui:* "how?".

92 *animum aduorterim:* "[how] did I notice?".

93 *plerusque, pleraque, plerumque:* "many", "most".

94 *retia, -ae* (f.): "net" (nets were used in hunting, and some Roman women, or perhaps just Roman sex workers, wore net tunics underneath their outer garments).

95 *quom = cum.*

96 *porta, -ae* (f.): "gate", "city gate".

97 *uideo* (historical present).

98 *praestolarier = praestolari < praestolor, -ari, -atus sum:* "wait for" (+ dative of person waited for).

99 *tibicina, -ae* (f.): "female player of a tibia (a reed instrument originally made from the shin bone of an animal)".

100 *quicum = quācum* (feminine ablative singular of the interrogative pronoun).

- Epidicus:** cum illa quam tuo<sup>101</sup> gnatus<sup>102</sup> annos multos deamat,<sup>103</sup>  
deperit,<sup>104</sup>
- 220
- ubi<sup>105</sup> fidemque<sup>106</sup> remque<sup>107</sup> seque teque properat perdere;<sup>108</sup>  
ea praestolabatur<sup>109</sup> illum apud portam. **Periphanes:** uiden<sup>110</sup>  
ueneficam?<sup>111</sup>
- Epidicus:** sed uestita,<sup>112</sup> aurata,<sup>113</sup> ornata<sup>114</sup> ut<sup>115</sup> lepide,<sup>116</sup> ut concinne,<sup>117</sup>  
ut noue!<sup>118</sup>
- Periphanes:** quid erat induta?<sup>119</sup> an regillam<sup>120</sup> induculam<sup>121</sup> an  
mendiculam?<sup>122</sup>
- Epidicus:** impluuiatam,<sup>123</sup> ut istae faciunt uestimentis nomina.
- Periphanes:** utin<sup>124</sup> impluuium<sup>125</sup> induta fuerit?<sup>126</sup> **Epidicus:** quid  
istuc<sup>127</sup> tam mirabile est?

101 *tuo' = tuos = tuus.*

102 *gnatus = natus < natus, -i* (m.): "son".

103 *deamo, -are, -auī, -atum:* "adore".

104 *depereo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum* (conjugated like *eo, ire*): "die", "be destroyed"; translate here: "fall desperately in love".

105 *ubi = in qua:* "in whom", "because of whom".

106 *fidem:* "credit".

107 *rem:* "fortune".

108 *ubi = in qua:* "in whom", "because of whom".

109 *praestolabatur < praestolor, -ari, -atus sum:* "wait for" (+ dative of person waited for).

110 *uiden = uidesne.*

111 *uenefica, -ae* (f.): "poisoner"; translate here: "witch".

112 *uestio, -ire, -iui, -itum:* "be dressed up".

113 *auro, -are, -auī, -atum:* "gild", "adorn with gold jewelry".

114 *ornata < orno, -are, -auī, -atum:* "dress up", "adorn".

115 *ut:* "how" (exclamatory).

116 *lepide* (adverb): "charmingly" < *lepidus, -a, -um.*

117 *concinne* (adverb): "neatly", "elegantly" < *concinus, -a, -um.*

118 *noue* (adverb) < *nousus, -a, -um:* "freshly", "unusually"; translate here: "wearing the latest fashion".

119 *induo, -ere, -ui, -utum:* "clothe", "dress oneself in" (+ accusative *quid*).

120 *regillam:* "royal", "regal", "queenly" (a rare word probably invented by Plautus < *regius, -a, -um*).

121 *induculam:* possibly meaning "lingerie", "underwear" (also probably invented by Plautus < *induo*).

122 *mendiculam:* "beggarly", "meager" (also probably invented by Plautus < *mendicus, -a, -um*; opposite of *regillam*).

123 *impluuiatam:* "the Skylight", "Rain-shoot" (either another comic invention of Plautus, or a name for a style or colour of garment < *impluuium, -i*, see below).

124 *utin = ut(i) + -ne.*

125 *impluuium, -ii* (n.): "skylight" (the *impluuium* was the square opening in the roof of a Roman house's main room; the word was also used to refer to the shallow trough in the floor underneath that collected the rain water, also called the *compluuium*). The joke is that Periphanes foolishly interprets Epidicus's description of the woman's *impluuiatam* dress (whatever *impluuiatam* meant, see note 123 above) as referring to the woman actually wearing the *impluuium* of a house.

126 *induta fuerit = induta sit* (perfect passive subjunctive) < *induo, -ere, indui, indutum.*

127 *istuc = istud.*

quasi<sup>128</sup> non fundis<sup>129</sup> exornatae<sup>130</sup> multae incedant<sup>131</sup> per uias.  
 at tributus<sup>132</sup> quom<sup>133</sup> imperatus est, negant<sup>134</sup> pendi<sup>135</sup> potis;<sup>136</sup>  
 illis quibu'<sup>137</sup> tributus maior penditur, pendi potest.<sup>138</sup>  
 quid istae quae<sup>139</sup> uestei<sup>140</sup> quotannis<sup>141</sup> nomina inueniunt noua?  
 tunicam rallam,<sup>142</sup> tunicam spissam,<sup>143</sup> linteolum caesicum,  
 indusiatam, patagiatam, caltulam aut crocotulam,  
 supparum aut — subnimium, ricam, basilicum<sup>144</sup> aut exoticum,<sup>145</sup>  
 cumatile aut plumatile, carinum aut cerinum — gerrae<sup>146</sup> maxumae!<sup>147</sup>  
 cani<sup>148</sup> quoque etiam ademptumst<sup>149</sup> nomen. **Periphanes:** qui?<sup>150</sup>  
**Epidicus:** uocant Laconicum.<sup>151</sup>  
 haec uocabula<sup>152</sup> auctiones<sup>153</sup> subigunt<sup>154</sup> ut faciant uiros.

230

235

128 *quasi* (adverb): “as though” (followed by the subjunctive mood).129 *fundis*, *-i* (m.): “estate”.130 *exorno*, *-are*, *-auī*, *-atum* (similar to *orno*, *-are*, see above).131 *incedo*, *-ere*, *-incessi*, *incessum*: “walk”, “march along”.132 *tributus*, *-us* (m.) = *tributum*, *-i* (n.): “tax payment”.133 *quom* = *cum*.134 *negant* (the subject of *negant* is the male clients of the prostitutes, not the women themselves).135 *pendo*, *-ere*, *pependi*, *pensum*: “pay”.136 *potis* = *potis esse* = *posse*.137 *quibu'* = *quibus*.138 *illis quibus tributus maior penditur, pendi potest*: “they can pay the bigger tax, the one they pay over to those women, though”.139 *quid, estae quae...:* “what is it with those women who...”.140 *uestei* = *uesti* < *uestis*, *-is* (f.): “clothing”.141 *quotannis* (*quot + annus, -i*): “every year”, “over the years”.142 *rallam* (word found only in Plautus, so the following definition is based on educated guesswork): “thin”. The words that follow are also found only in Plautus, and their definitions are similarly guessed at, though there is little doubt about most of them: *linteolum*: “made of linen”; *caesicum*: “blue”; *indusiatam*: “under[-tunic]”; *patagiatam*: “with an embroidered edge”; *caltulam*: “short under-tunic”; *crocotulam*: “saffron-yellow”; *supparum* (a word of Oscan origin): “linen robe”; *subnimium* (a joke word based on the former word sounding like the Latin *sub + parum*) “slightly-too-much”; *ricam*: “veil”; *cumatile*: “sea-coloured”; *plumatile*: “feather-patterned”; *carinum*: “nut-brown”; *cerinum*: “wax-dyed” (Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 244–247).143 *spissus, -a, -um*: “thick”.144 *basilicuī, -a, -um*: “royal”, “regal”.145 *exoticus, -a, -um*: “foreign”.146 *gerrae, -arum* (f. pl.): “nonsense”.147 *maxumae* = *maximae*.148 *cani* (dative singular) < *canis, -is* (m./f.): “dog”.149 *ademptumst* = *ademptum est* < *adimo, -ere, ademi, ademptum*: “take” (+ dative of person/thing from whom it is taken).150 *qui*: “in what way”, “what do you mean”.151 *Laconicus, -a, -um*: “Spartan” (apparently “Spartan” could refer both to a well-known dog breed from the Greek state of Sparta, and a fabric or style of clothing from Sparta).152 *uocabulum, -i* (n.): “name”.153 *auctio, auctionis* (f.): “auction”, “public sale”.154 *subigo, -ere, -subegi, subactum*: “compel”, “force”.

**Apoecides:** quin<sup>155</sup> tu ut<sup>156</sup> occipisti<sup>157</sup> loquere?<sup>158</sup> **Epidicus:** occepere<sup>159</sup> aliae mulieres  
 duea sic post<sup>160</sup> me fabulari<sup>161</sup> inter sese<sup>162</sup> — ego abscessi<sup>163</sup> sciens<sup>164</sup> paullum<sup>165</sup> ab illis, dissimulabam<sup>166</sup> earum operam<sup>167</sup> sermoni dare;  
 nec satis exaudibam,<sup>168</sup> nec sermonis<sup>169</sup> fallebar<sup>170</sup> tamen,  
 que loquerentur. **Periphanes:** id lubidost<sup>171</sup> scire. **Epidicus:** ibi<sup>172</sup> 240  
 illarum altera  
 dixit illi quicum<sup>173</sup> ipsa ibat — **Periphanes:** quid? **Epidicus:** tace ergo,  
 ut audias —  
 postquam illam sunt conspicatae,<sup>174</sup> quam tuo<sup>175</sup> gnatus deperit:<sup>176</sup>  
 “quam<sup>177</sup> facile et quam fortunate euenit<sup>178</sup> illi, opsecro,<sup>179</sup>  
 mulieri quam liberare uolt<sup>180</sup> amator!” “quisnam<sup>181</sup> is est?”  
 inquit<sup>182</sup> altera illi. ibi<sup>183</sup> illa nominat Stratippoclem 245  
**Periphanei**<sup>184</sup> filium. **Periphanes:** perii<sup>185</sup> hercle! quid ego ex te audio?

155 *quin*: “but”.156 *ut*: “as” (+ indicative).157 *occipio, -ere, occipi, occiput*: “begin”.158 *loquere* = *loqueris* (second-person singular future indicative deponent) < *loquor, loqui, locutus sum*.159 *occipere* (third-person plural perfect active indicative) < *occipio, -ere, occipi, occiput*: “begin”.160 *post*: “behind”.161 *fabulor, -ari, -atus sum*: “talk”, “chat”.162 *sese* = *se*.163 *abscedo, -ere, abscessi, abscessum*: “withdraw”, “step back”.164 *sciens* < *scio, scire, sciui, scitum*: “knowingly”, “intentionally”.165 *paullum* = *paulum*: “a little [bit]”, “a little way”.166 *dissimulo, -are, -auis, -atum*: “pretend... not”.167 *operam dare*: “pay attention to”, “to listen to” (+ dative).168 *exaudibam* = *exaudiebam* < *exaudio, -ire, -iui/ii, -itum*: “hear clearly”, “understand”.169 *nec sermonis fallebar*: “their conversation wasn’t hidden from me”, “I didn’t miss their conversation” (*sermonis* is genitive “of respect” after *fallebar* < *fallo, -ere, fefelli, falsus*: “deceive”, “disappoint” used in the middle voice sense here).170 *fallo, -ere, fefelli, falsus*: “deceive”, “disappoint”.171 *lubidost* = *libido est*.172 *ibi*: “then”.173 *quicum* = *quācum*: “with whom”.174 *conspicor, -ari, -atus sum*: “catch sight of” (+ accusative).175 *tuo*’ = *tuos* = *tuus*.176 *deperit* < *depereo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum* (conjugated like *eo, ire*): “die”, “be destroyed”, “fall desperately in love”.177 *quam... quam*: “how... how” (+ adverbs).178 *euēnit* (present tense).179 *opsecro*: “please”, “for goodness’ sake”.180 *uolt* = *uult* < *uolo, uelle, uolui, —*.181 *quisnam* < *quisnam, quidnam* (a more emphatic version of *quis, quid*).182 *inquit*: “says”.183 *ibi*: “then”.184 *Periphanei* (genitive of *Periphanes*).185 *pereo, perire, periui / perii, peritum*: “die”, “be ruined”, “be lost”.

**Epidicus:** hoc quod actumst.<sup>186</sup> egomet<sup>187</sup> postquam id illas audiui  
loqui,<sup>188</sup>

coepi<sup>189</sup> rusum<sup>190</sup> uorsum<sup>191</sup> ad illas pauxillatim<sup>192</sup> accedere,<sup>193</sup>  
quasi retruderet<sup>194</sup> hominum me uis<sup>195</sup> inuitum. **Periphanes:** intellego.

**Epidicus:** ibi<sup>196</sup> illa interrogauit illam: "qui<sup>197</sup> scis? quis id dixit tibi?" 250  
"quin<sup>198</sup> hodie adlatae<sup>199</sup> tabellae sunt ad eam a Stratippocle,  
eum<sup>200</sup> argentum sumpsisse<sup>201</sup> apud Thebas ab danista faenore,  
id paratum et sese ob eam rem<sup>202</sup> id ferre." **Periphanes:** certo ego  
occidi!<sup>203</sup>

**Epidicus:** haec sic aibat.<sup>204</sup> se audiuisse ex eapse<sup>205</sup> atque epistula.

**Periphanes:** quid ego faciam? nunc consilium a te expetesso,<sup>206</sup> 255  
Apocedes.

**Apocedes:** reperiamus<sup>207</sup> aliquid<sup>208</sup> calidi,<sup>209</sup> conducibilis<sup>210</sup> consili.<sup>211</sup>

186 *actumst = actum est < ago, -ere, egi, actum; hoc quod actumst:* "what was done", "what happened".

187 *egomet = ego + -met:* "I, myself".

188 *loqui < loquor; illas* is the accusative subject of this infinitive, and *id* is its direct object.

189 *coepi rursum uorsum ad illas pausillatim accedere:* "I began to get gradually closer to them by slowing down", "I began to slow down little by little so as to let them get closer".

190 *rusum = rursum:* "back", "again".

191 *uorsum = uersum:* "towards".

192 *pauxillatim = paulatim:* "little by little", "gradually".

193 *accoedo, -ere, accessi, accessum:* "approach", "go near".

194 *retrudo, -ere, -trusi, -trusum:* "thrust back", "force back".

195 *uis, uis* (f.): "strength", "force"; *hominum... uis:* "force of people", "crowd".

196 *ibi:* "then".

197 *qui = quo:* "how".

198 *quin:* "but".

199 *affero, afferre, attuli, allatum* (or *adfero, adferre, adtuli, adlatum*): "bring", "deliver", "use" (+ accusative).

200 *eum... sese* (Plautus is inconsistent with his pronouns here: *eum* is the accusative subject of the infinitive *sumpsisse*, and refers to Stratippocles, as does the reflexive *sese* (accusative subject of *ferre*) in the next line).

201 *eum argentum sumpsisse apud Thebas ab danista faenore* (see line 53).

202 *ob eam rem:* "for this/that reason", "for this/that purpose".

203 *occido, -ere, occidi, occasus:* "fall down", "be ruined".

204 *aibat = aiebat:* "[she] claimed".

205 *eapse = ea ipsa.*

206 *expetesso, -ere, -, -:* "want", "long for".

207 *reperiamus < reperio, reperire, reperti, repertum:* "find".

208 *aliquid:* "some sort of" (+ genitive).

209 *calidus, -a, -um:* literally "hot", but here translate as "quick", "speedy".

210 *conducibilis, -e:* "wise", "advisable".

211 *consilium, -ii* (n.): "plan", "suggestion".

nam ille quidem aut iam<sup>212</sup> hic<sup>213</sup> aderit,<sup>214</sup> credo hercle, aut iam<sup>215</sup>  
 adest. **Epidicus:** si aequom<sup>216</sup> siet<sup>217</sup>  
 me plus sapere<sup>218</sup> quam uos, dederim uobis consilium catum<sup>219</sup>  
 quod laudetis, ut ego opino,<sup>220</sup> uterque — **Periphanes:** ergo ubi id<sup>221</sup>  
 est, Epidice?  
**Epidicus:** atque ad eam rem<sup>222</sup> conducibile. **Apoecides:** quid<sup>223</sup> istuc<sup>224</sup> 260  
 dubitas dicere?  
**Epidicus:** uos priores<sup>225</sup> esse oportet, nos posterius<sup>226</sup> dicere,  
 qui plus sapitis. **Periphanes:** heia uero!<sup>227</sup> age dice. **Epidicus:** at  
 deridebitis.<sup>228</sup>  
**Apoecides:** non edepol faciemus. **Epidicus:** immo<sup>229</sup> si placebit utitor,<sup>230</sup>  
 consilium si non placebit, reperitote<sup>231</sup> rectius.<sup>232</sup>  
 mihi istic<sup>233</sup> nec seritur<sup>234</sup> nec metitur,<sup>235</sup> nisi ea quae tu uis uolo. 265  
**Periphanes:** gratiam habeo;<sup>236</sup> fac particeps<sup>237</sup> nos tuae sapientiae.  
**Epidicus:** continuo<sup>238</sup> arbitretur<sup>239</sup> uxor tuo gnato atque ut fidicinam

212 *iam*: “soon”.213 *hic*: “here”.214 *adsum, adesse,adfui,adfuturus*: “be present”.215 *iam*: “already”.216 *aequom = aequum*: “right”, “fair”.217 *siet = sit*.218 *sapio, -ere, sapiui, -*: “to be sensible”, “to be wise”.219 *catus, -a, -um*: “clever”, “prudent”, “wise”.220 *opino = opinor < opinor, -ari, -atus sum*: “suppose”, “think”.221 *id* refers to *consilium*.222 *ad eam rem*: “for this very situation”.223 *quid*: “why”.224 *istuc = istud*.225 *prior, prius*: “first”.226 *posterior* (adverb): “afterwards”, “second”.227 *heia uero* (expresses amused doubt): “ha!”, “yeah, right”.228 *derideo, -ere, derisi, derisum*: “laugh [at]”, “make fun [of]”.229 *immo*: “OK then”, “indeed”.230 *utitor* (second-person singular future active imperative of *utor*; normally *utor* takes the ablative, but here it takes the accusative direct object *consilium*).231 *reperitote* (second-person plural future active imperative) < *reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum*: “find”.232 *rectius* (comparative adjective neuter accusative singular) < *rectus, -a, -um*: “a better one”, “a better [plan]”.233 *istic* (adverb): “in this matter”.234 *sero, -ere, seui, satum* (impersonal use): “sow”, “plant”, “beget”, “conceive”.235 *meto, -ere, messui, messum* (impersonal use): “reap”, “harvest”; *mihi istic nec seritur nec metitur* appears to be proverbial, meaning “I’ve got no stake here”, “I’m not personally involved”.236 *gratiam habeo*: “thank you”.237 *particeps, participis* (m.): “sharer”, “partaker”.238 *continuo* (adverb): “immediately”.239 *arbitro, -are, -auit, -atum* (subjunctive after a missing *fac ut*): “select” (the verb is normally deponent in Classical Latin, but active in Plautus).

illam quam is uolt liberare, quae illum corruptit<sup>240</sup> tibi,  
 ulciscare<sup>241</sup> atque ita curetur, usque ad mortem<sup>242</sup> ut seruiat.<sup>243</sup>

**Apocedes:** fieri oportet. **Periphanes:** facere cupio quiduis<sup>244</sup> dum<sup>245</sup> id 270  
 fiat modo. **Epidicus:** em!<sup>246</sup>

nunc occasiost<sup>247</sup> faciundi, priu' quam<sup>248</sup> in urbem aduenerit,  
 sicut<sup>249</sup> cras hic aderit, hodie non uenit. **Periphanes:** qui<sup>250</sup> scis?

**Epidicus:** scio.

quia mihi alias dixit qui illinc<sup>251</sup> uenit mane<sup>252</sup> hic adfore.<sup>253</sup>

**Periphanes:** quin tu eloquere,<sup>254</sup> quid faciemus? **Epidicus:** sic  
 faciundum censeo,<sup>255</sup>

quasi<sup>256</sup> tu cupias liberare fidicinam animi gratia<sup>257</sup> 275

quasique ames uehementer tu illam. **Periphanes:** quam ad rem istuc  
 refert?<sup>258</sup> **Epidicus:** rogas?

ut enim praestines<sup>259</sup> argento, priu' quam<sup>260</sup> ueniat filius,  
 atque ut<sup>261</sup> eam te<sup>262</sup> in libertatem<sup>263</sup> dicas emere — **Periphanes:**  
 intellego.

240 *corrumpo, -ere, corrupi, corruptum:* “ruin”, “corrupt”.

241 *ulciscare* (second-person singular present subjunctive passive) < *ulciscor, -ari, ultus sum:* “punish”, “take revenge on”.

242 *usque ad mortem:* “till [her] dying day”, “for the rest of [her] life”.

243 *seruio, -ire, seruui, seruitum:* “be a slave”.

244 *quiduis:* “anything you like”.

245 *dum:* “so long as”.

246 *em:* “there!”; translate here: “OK, look”.

247 *occasiost = occasio est:* “there's an opportunity to” (+ genitive gerundive).

248 *priu' quam = prius quam:* “before”.

249 *sicut:* “as”, “since”.

250 *qui = quo:* “how”.

251 *illinc:* “from there”.

252 *mane* (adverb): “in the morning”.

253 *adfore = adjuturum esse.*

254 *eloquere = eloqueris* (second-person singular present deponent indicative): “you are explaining”, “you are stating”.

255 *censeo, -ere, censui, censem:* “think”, “recommend”.

256 *quasi* (adverb): “as though” (followed by the subjunctive mood).

257 *animi gratia:* “for your own sake”.

258 *quam ad rem istuc refert:* “how will that help”.

259 *praestino, -are, -auī, -atum:* “buy”, “purchase”.

260 *priu' quam = prius quam.*

261 *ut... dicas* (substantive clause of purpose): “[arrange it] so that you [can] say”.

262 *te...dicas emere* (indirect discourse): “you [can] say that you bought...”.

263 *in libertatem:* “in order to free her”.

**Epidicus:** ubi erit empta,<sup>264</sup> ut<sup>265</sup> aliquo<sup>266</sup> ex urbe amoueas,<sup>267</sup> nisi  
quid<sup>268</sup> tuast<sup>269</sup>

secu'<sup>270</sup> sententia. **Periphanes:** immo<sup>271</sup> docte!<sup>272</sup> **Epidicus:** quid tu        280  
autem, Apoecides?

**Apoecides:** quid ego<sup>273</sup> iam nisi te commentum<sup>274</sup> nimis<sup>275</sup> astute<sup>276</sup>  
intellego?<sup>277</sup>

**Epidicus:** iam igitur amota ei<sup>278</sup> fuerit<sup>279</sup> omnis consultatio<sup>280</sup>  
nuptiarum,<sup>281</sup> ne grauetur<sup>282</sup> quod uelis.<sup>283</sup> **Periphanes:** uiue<sup>284</sup> sapiis<sup>285</sup>  
et placet. **Epidicus:** tum tu igitur calide<sup>286</sup> quidquid acturu's<sup>287</sup> age.

**Periphanes:** rem<sup>288</sup> hercle loquere.<sup>289</sup> **Epidicus:** et repperi<sup>290</sup> haec te        285  
qui<sup>291</sup> apscedat<sup>292</sup> suspicio.<sup>293</sup>

264 *emo, -ere, emi, emptum:* “buy”.

265 *ut... amoueas* (substantive clause of purpose): “[arrange it] so that you remove”.

266 *aliquo:* “[to] somewhere”.

267 *amoueo, -ere, -amoui, amotum:* “remove”.

268 *quid:* “with respect to anything”; translate here: “in any way”.

269 *tuast = tua est.*

270 *secu' = secus* (adverb): “otherwise”, “contrary”, “different”.

271 *immo:* “by all means”, “indeed”; “on the contrary”, “by no means”.

272 *docte:* “very clever[ly done]”.

273 *quid ego = quid ego dicam.*

274 *commentum = commentum esse < comminiscor, -i, commentus sum:* “devise”, “invent a story”.

275 *nimis:* “too much”, “exceedingly” (both meanings are implied here in a play on words, since Apoecides thinks he’s praising Epidicus for such an excellent deception against Stratippocles, but the audience knows that Epidicus is actually deceiving the old men).

276 *astute < astutus, -a, -um:* “clever”, “sly”.

277 *intellego, -ere, -exi, ectum:* “understand”; translate here: “realize”.

278 *ei* (dative after compound verb *amouere*, referring to Stratippocles): “[from] him”.

279 *amota ... fuerit* (future perfect; see note 57 in Act 1, scene 2).

280 *consultatio, -onis* (f.): “hesitation”, “deliberation”.

281 *nuptiae, -arum* (f. pl.): “marriage”, “wedding”.

282 *grauor, -ari, -atus sum:* “be annoyed at”, “be upset at”.

283 *uelis* (subjunctive by attraction to the mood of *grauetur*; see Bennett 324.1, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect324>).

284 *uiue* (adverb) < *uius, -a, -um:* “very”.

285 *sapis < sapio, -ere, sapiui, -:* “to be sensible”, “to be wise”.

286 *calide* (adverb) < *calidus, -a, -um;* “quickly”.

287 *acturu's = acturus es* (active periphrastic, with a meaning similar to *ages*).

288 *rem:* translate here as “truth”, “reality”.

289 *loquere = loqueris* (present indicative).

290 *repperi:* “I have found [out]”.

291 *qui = quo:* “how”.

292 *apscedat = abscedat < abscedo, -ere, -abscessi, abscessum:* “go away”; translate here: “be diverted from”.

293 *suspicio, -onis* (f.): “suspicion”, “mistrust”.

**Periphanes:** sine<sup>294</sup> me scire. **Epidicus:** scibis,<sup>295</sup> audi. **Apoecides:** sapit  
hic pleno pectore.<sup>296</sup>

**Epidicus:** opus est<sup>297</sup> homine qui illo<sup>298</sup> argentum deferat<sup>299</sup> pro fidicina;  
nam te nolo neque opu'<sup>300</sup> factost.<sup>301</sup> **Periphanes:** quid<sup>302</sup> iam?

**Epidicus:** ne te censeat<sup>303</sup>

fili<sup>304</sup> caussa<sup>305</sup> facere — **Periphanes:** docte! **Epidicus:** quo illum ab illa  
prohibeas:

ne qua<sup>306</sup> ob<sup>307</sup> eam suspicionem difficultas euenat.<sup>308</sup>

290

**Periphanes:** quem hominem inueniemus ad eam rem utilem?

**Epidicus:** hic<sup>309</sup> erit optumus,<sup>310</sup>

hic poterit cauere<sup>311</sup> recte, iura qui et leges tenet.<sup>312</sup>

**Periphanes:** Epidico habeas gratiam.<sup>313</sup> **Epidicus:** sed ego istuc<sup>314</sup>  
faciam sedulo:<sup>315</sup>

ego illum conueniam<sup>316</sup> atque adducam huc ad te, quoiiast,<sup>317</sup> fidicinam<sup>318</sup>

atque argentum ego cum hoc<sup>319</sup> feram. **Periphanes:** quanti<sup>320</sup> emi<sup>321</sup>

295

potest minimo? **Epidicus:** illane?

294 *sine* < *sino*, -ere, *siui*, *situm*: “allow”, “let”.

295 *scibis* = *scies*, < *scio*, *scire*, *sciui*, *scitum*: “know”.

296 *pleno pectore* (ablative of manner): literally: “with full heart/mind”; translate here: “through and through”; the *pectus* was where wisdom was thought to be located in the body, rather than, as we might believe, the brain.

297 *opus est* (impersonal): “there is need for”, “we need” (+ ablative of thing/person needed).

298 *illo*: “to that place”.

299 *defero*, *deferre*, *detuli*, *delatum*: “deliver”, “bring”, “get”.

300 *opu'* = *opus*.

301 *neque opus factost* = *neque opus facto est*: “and there is no need [for you] to do it.

302 *quid*: “why”.

303 *censeat* (the subject is the pimp from whom Periphanes would be buying the lyre-player).

304 *fili* = *fili*.

305 *caussa* = *causa*.

306 *qua*: “in any way”.

307 *ob*: “because of” (+ accusative).

308 *euenat* = *eueniat* < *euenio*, -ire, -eni, -entum: “arise”, “come about”, “turn out”.

309 *hic*: “this man” (referring to Apoecides).

310 *optumus* = *optimus*.

311 *caueo*, -ere, *caui*, *cautum*: “be careful”.

312 *teneo*, -ere, *tenui*, *tentum*: “hold”, “grasp”; translate here: “understand”.

313 *habeas gratiam*: “you should thank” (+ dative of person thanked).

314 *istuc* = *istud*.

315 *sedulo* (adverb): “industriously”, “carefully”, “zealously”.

316 *conuenio*, -ire, -eni, -entum: “meet”, “go to meet”.

317 *quoiiast* = *quoia* *quo est* = *cuia est* (from the archaic adjective *quoitus/quoius/cuius*, -a, -um, related to the genitive singular of *qui*, *quae*, *quod*): “whose [property] she is”.

318 The manuscript tradition, followed by Lindsay’s text, has *fidicina*, but the emendation to *fidicinam* works better.

319 *hoc* (refers to Apoecides).

320 *quanti... minimo* (genitive of indefinite price and ablative of indefinite price, respectively): “for how little”, “what is the least amount for which”.

321 *emi* (present passive infinitive) < *emo*, -ere, *emi*, *emptum*: “buy”.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| ad quadraginta <sup>322</sup> fortasse <sup>323</sup> eam posse emi minimo <sup>324</sup> minis. <sup>325</sup> |     |
| uerum si plus dederis referam, nihil in ea re captiost. <sup>326</sup>  |     |
| atque id non decem occupatum <sup>327</sup> tibi erit argentum dies. <sup>328</sup>                             |     |
| <b>Periphanes:</b> quidum? <sup>329</sup> <b>Epidicus:</b> quia enim mulierem alias illam                       |     |
| adulescens deperit, <sup>330</sup>  |     |
| auro opulentus, magnus miles Rhodius, <sup>331</sup> raptor hostium,  | 300 |
| gloriosus: <sup>332</sup> hic emet illam de te et dabit aurum lubens. <sup>333</sup>                            |     |
| face <sup>334</sup> modo, est lucrum <sup>335</sup> hic tibi amplum. <sup>336</sup> <b>Periphanes:</b> deos     |     |
| quidem oro. <b>Epidicus:</b> impetas. <sup>337</sup>  |     |
| <b>Apoecides:</b> quin <sup>338</sup> tu is <sup>339</sup> intro atque huic argentum promis? <sup>340</sup> ego |     |
| uisam <sup>341</sup> ad forum.  |     |
| Epidice, eo <sup>342</sup> ueni. <b>Epidicus:</b> ne abitas <sup>343</sup> priu' <sup>344</sup> quam ego ad te  |     |
| uenero.   |     |
| <b>Apoecides:</b> usque <sup>345</sup> opperiar. <sup>346</sup> — <b>Periphanes:</b> sequere tu                 |     |
| intro. — <b>Epidicus:</b> i numera, <sup>347</sup>  |     |
| nil <sup>348</sup> ego te moror. <sup>349</sup>   | 305 |

322 *quadraginta* (indeclinable): "forty".

323 *fortasse*: "it's possible that" (+ accusative-infinitive construction).

324 *minimo* (adverb): "at the lowest"

325 *minis* (ablative of price) < *mina*, -ae (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

326 *captiost* = *captio est*; *captio*, -onis (f.): "trickery", "deceit".

327 *occupo*, -are, -aui, -atum: "invest", "lay out [money]", "use".

328 *non decem... dies* (accusative of duration of time): "not [even] for ten days".

329 *quidum* = *qui dum*: "how does it happen that...?", "what makes you say that?", "how so?".

330 *deperit* < *depereo*, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum: "he is madly in love with" (+ accusative).

331 It is unclear whether or not this *miles Rhodius* is the same as the *miles Euboicus* of line 153; Duckworth believes not, and that the *miles Rhodius* is invented by Epidicus (Duckworth-Wheeler 1940: 273).

332 *gloriosus*, -a, -um: "boastful", "self-glorifying" (soldiers in Plautus always have this characteristic, see his play entitled *Miles Gloriosus*).

333 *lubens* = *libens*: "willingly".

334 *face* = *fac*.

335 *lucrum*, -i (n.): "profit".

336 *amplus*, -a, -um: "big", "substantial".

337 *impetro*, -are, -aui, atum: "achieve", "get", "obtain".

338 *quin*: "why... not?", "why don't you...?".

339 *is* < *eo*, *ire*, *iui/ii*, *itum*.

340 *promo*, -ere *prompsi/promsi*, *promptum*: "bring out".

341 *uiso*, -ere, *uisi*, *uisum*: "go to", "visit" (+ *ad*).

342 *eo*: "to that place".

343 *abeo*, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum: "go away".

344 *priu'* = *prius*.

345 *usque*: "constantly", "the whole time".

346 *opperior*, -iri, -itus sum: "wait", "wait for".

347 *numero*, -are, -aui, -atum: "count out" (referring to the money).

348 *nil* = *nihil*; here translate as: "not at all".

349 *moror*, -ari, *moratus sum*: "delay".

## 2.3 EPIDICVS

**Scene summary:** While the two old men are indoors getting the money, Epidicus rejoices at how well he's fooling them. He says that, in the place of Acropolitis, whom he's supposed to be buying, he'll hire a different lyre-player. This new lyre-player was to have been hired to play the lyre for a religious sacrifice Periphanes had planned to do, but now Epidicus will coach her to play the part of Acropolitis.

**Epidicus:** nullum esse opinor<sup>1</sup> ego agrum in agro Attico  
 aeque<sup>2</sup> feracem<sup>3</sup> quam hic est noster Periphanes:  
 quin<sup>4</sup> ex occluso<sup>5</sup> atque opsignato<sup>6</sup> armario<sup>7</sup>  
 decutio<sup>8</sup> argenti tantum quantum mihi lubet.<sup>9</sup>  
 quod pol ego metuo si senex rescuerit<sup>10</sup>310  
 ne ulmos<sup>11</sup> parasitos<sup>12</sup> faciat quae<sup>13</sup> usque<sup>14</sup> attondeant.<sup>15</sup>  
 sed me una turbat<sup>16</sup> res ratioque,<sup>17</sup> Apoecidi  
 quam<sup>18</sup> ostendam fidicinam aliquam conducticiam.<sup>19</sup>  
 atque id quoque habeo: mane<sup>20</sup> me iussit senex  
 conducere<sup>21</sup> aliquam fidicinam sibi huc domum,315  
 dum rem diuinam<sup>22</sup> faceret, cantaret<sup>23</sup> sibi;

1 *opinor, opinari, opinatus sum:* “suppose”, “imagine”.

2 *aeque* (adverb): “equally”, “to the same extent”.

3 *ferax, feracis:* “fruitful”, “fertile”.

4 *quin:* “really”.

5 *occludo, -ere, -occlusi, occludum:* “closed up”, “locked up”.

6 *opsignato = obsignato < obsigno, -are, -auī, -atum:* “seal”, “seal up”.

7 *armarium, -ii* (n.): “chest”, “cupboard”.

8 *decutio, decutere, decussi, decussus:* “shake out”, “dislodge”.

9 *lubet = libet.*

10 *resciuerit* (perfect subjunctive) < *rescisco, -ere, -resciui, -rescitum:* “learn”, “find out”.

11 *ulmus, -i* (f.): “elm [rod]”.

12 *parasitus, -i* (m.): “[human] parasite”, “hanger-on” (a *parasitus* referred to someone who would hang around wealthy friends in the hopes of getting a meal; the elm rods would be made into “parasites” in the sense that they would never be far from Epidicus’s hide, i.e. Epidicus would be given a severe beating).

13 *quae* (relative pronoun, the antecedent of which is *ulmos*).

14 *usque* (adverb): “continuously”, “without interruption”.

15 *attondeo, -ere, attondi, attonsum:* “clip”, “shear”; translate here: “thrash”.

16 *turbo, -are, -auī, -atum:* “disturb”, “concern”.

17 *ratio, -onis* (f.): “matter”, “consideration”.

18 *quam* (adverb): “how”.

19 *conducticius, -a, -um:* “hired”, “rented”.

20 *mane* (adverb): “in the morning”, “this morning”.

21 *conduco, -ere, -xi, -ctum:* “bring”, “hire”.

22 *rem diuinam:* “religious activity”, “sacrifice”.

23 *canto, -are, -auī, -atum:* “play [music]” (supplying *ut* will help make better sense of the subjunctive).

ea conductetur atque ei praemonstrabitur<sup>24</sup>  
quo pacto fiat subdola<sup>25</sup> aduorsus<sup>26</sup> senem.  
ibo intro, argentum accipiam ab damnoso<sup>27</sup> sene. —

---

24 *ei praemonstrabitur*: “it will be taught to her beforehand” <*praemonstro*, *-are*, *-aui*, *-atum*: “show beforehand”, “direct [in advance]”, “guide [in advance]”.

25 *subdolus*, *-a*, *-um*: “sly”, “deceitful”.

26 *aduorsus* = *aduersus* (preposition + accusative): “toward”, “against”.

27 *damnosus*, *-a*, *-um*: “wasteful” (Epidicus calls the old man “wasteful” presumably because he ought to be smart enough not to be cheated by Epidicus).



# ACTVS III

### 3.1 STRATIPPOCLES, CHAERIBVLVS

**Scene summary:** While Epidicus is in Periphanes's house getting the money to purchase the supposed Acropolitis, Stratippocles and Chaeribulus come onstage. Stratippocles expresses his worry that Epidicus won't be able to find a way to pay off his debt, and loses his temper with Chaeribulus for being unable to help.

**Stratippocles:** Expectando<sup>1</sup> exedor<sup>2</sup> miser atque exenteror<sup>3</sup> 320  
quo modo mi<sup>4</sup> Epidici blanda dicta euenant.<sup>5</sup>  
nimi'<sup>6</sup> diu maceror.<sup>7</sup> sitne quid necne sit<sup>8</sup>  
scire cupio. **Chaeribulus:** per<sup>9</sup> illam tibi copiam<sup>10</sup>  
copiam parare<sup>11</sup> aliam licet: sciui equidem in principio ili-  
co<sup>12</sup> nullam tibi esse in illo<sup>13</sup> copiam. **Stratippocles:** interii<sup>14</sup> hercle 325  
ego!  
**Chaeribulus:** apsurde<sup>15</sup> faci'<sup>16</sup> qui angas<sup>17</sup> te animi,<sup>18</sup> si hercle ego  
illum semel prendero,<sup>19</sup>

1     *expecto, -are, -aui, -atum*: "wait".

<sup>2</sup> *exedo, -ere, -edi, -esum*: “eat up”, “consume”.

<sup>3</sup> *exentero, -are, -aui, -atum*: "disembowel"; here translate as "torture".

$$4 \quad mi = mihi.$$

<sup>5</sup> *euenant = eueniant < euenio, -ire, -eni, - entum: "arise", "come about", "turn out".*

$$6 \quad nimi' = nimis.$$

<sup>7</sup> *macero, -are, -aui, -atum*: "make wet", "soak"; translate here: "wear down", "worry".

<sup>8</sup> *sitne qui necne sit*: "if it's going to happen or not".

<sup>9</sup> *per*: "as for", "as far as [that assistance] is conc-

10 *copia, -ae* (f.): "resources", "wealth", "assistance".

11 *paro, -are, -aui, -atum*: "prepare"

12 *ilico* (adverb): "immediately"

13 *illo* (referring to Epidicus).

14 *interii* < *intereo*, *interire*, *interiui* / *interii*, *interitus*: “perish”,

15    *apsurde = ai*

16 faci' = facis.

17    *ango, -ere, anxi, anctum*: "ch-

18 *animi* (genitive of respect).

- numquam inridere<sup>20</sup> nos illum inultum<sup>21</sup> sinam seruom hominem. 327–8
- Stratippocles:** quid<sup>22</sup> illum ferre uis qui, tibi<sup>23</sup> quo<sup>24</sup> diuitiae domi<sup>25</sup> maxumae sunt,
- is<sup>26</sup> nummum<sup>27</sup> nullum habes nec sodali<sup>28</sup> tuo in te copiast.<sup>29</sup> 330
- Chaeribulus:** si hercle habeam pollicear<sup>30</sup> lubens,<sup>31</sup> uerum aliquid aliqua aliquo modo
- alicunde<sup>32</sup> ab aliqui<sup>33</sup> aliqua tibi spes est fore<sup>34</sup> mecum fortunam.<sup>35</sup>
- Stratippocles:** uae tibi, muricide<sup>36</sup> homo! **Chaeribulus:** qui<sup>37</sup> tibi lubet<sup>38</sup> mihi male loqui?
- Stratippocles:** quipp'<sup>39</sup> tu mi<sup>40</sup> aliquid aliquo modo alicunde ab aliquibus<sup>41</sup> blatis<sup>42</sup>
- quod nusquamst,<sup>43</sup> neque ego id immitto<sup>44</sup> in auris<sup>45</sup> meas, 335
- nec mihi plus adiumenti<sup>46</sup> ades<sup>47</sup> quam ille qui numquam etiam natust.<sup>48</sup>

20 *inrideo, -ere, -isi, -isum:* “laugh at”, “make fun of”.

21 *inultus, -a, -um:* “unpunished”.

22 *quid:* “what”.

23 *tibi* is dative by attraction to *quoi*; translate as a nominative.

24 *quoi = cui.*

25 *domi* (locative).

26 *is* (repeating the subject *qui* in line 329): here translate as “you, who...”.

27 *nummus, -i* (m.): “coin”.

28 *sodalis, -is* (m.): “companion”, “friend”, “mate”.

29 *copiast = copia est.*

30 *polliceor, polliceri, pollicitus sum:* “offer”, “promise”.

31 *lubens = libens:* “willingly”.

32 *alicunde* (adverb): “from some source or other”, “from somewhere”.

33 *aliqui = aliquo.*

34 *fore = futuram esse:* “that there will be”.

35 *uerum aliquid aliqua aliquo modo / alicunde ab aliqui aliqua tibi spes est fore mecum fortunam:* “but there’s some hope of something somehow in some way from some source from someone — that there’ll be good luck for you and me”.

36 *muricidus, -a, -um* (a rare word, the meaning of which isn’t entirely clear): “stupid”, “cowardly”.

37 *qui:* “why”.

38 *lubet = libet.*

39 *quipp’ = quippe:* “obviously”.

40 *mi = mihi.*

41 *aliquibus = aliquis.*

42 *blatio, -ire, -,-:* “babble”, “blather”.

43 *nusquamst = nusquam est:* “[which] is nowhere”, “[which] doesn’t exist anywhere”.

44 *immitto, -ere, -misi, -missum:* “admit”, “let in”.

45 *auris = aures < auris, -is* (f.): “ear”.

46 *adiumentum, -i* (n.): “help”, “support”; *adiumenti* is a genitive of the whole after *plus* (translate *nec mihi plus adiumenti ades quam ille qui numquam etiam natust:* “you’re standing by me but [you’re] no more help than someone who was never born”).

47 *adsum, adesse, affui, affuturus:* “be near”, “be at hand”, “stand by”.

48 *natust = natus est < nascor, nasci, natus est:* “be born”.

### 3.2 EPIDICVS, STRATIPPOCLES, CHAERIBVLVS

**Scene summary:** Epidicus joins the two young men and tells Stratippocles that he's tricked Periphanes into giving him fifty *minae*, supposedly to buy Acropolistis. He says that he plans on tricking the pimp, who had sold him Acropolistis two days earlier, into telling Periphanes that he's now just sold a lyre-player to Epidicus for the fifty *minae*. Epidicus gives the money to Stratippocles and explains the two deceptions he's played on Periphanes (firstly tricking him into thinking Acropolistis is his daughter Telestis so that he buys her, and secondly tricking him into giving him the purchase price for Acropolistis which will instead be used to pay Stratippocles's debt). Epidicus tells Stratippocles that Periphanes is arranging to get him married, and Stratippocles says he'll never agree to get married while his (new) girlfriend is alive. Epidicus tells Stratippocles that he'll hire a different lyre-player to pretend to be Acropolistis.

**Epidicus:** fecisti iam officium tuom,<sup>1</sup> me meum nunc facere oportet.  
 per<sup>2</sup> hanc curam quieto<sup>3</sup> tibi licet esse — hoc quidem iam periit.<sup>4</sup>  
 ni quid tibi hinc in spem referas,<sup>5</sup> oppido<sup>6</sup> hoc<sup>7</sup> pollinctum est;<sup>8</sup>  
 crede modo mihi: sic ego ago, sic egerunt nostri.<sup>9</sup>

340

pro di inmortales,<sup>10</sup> mihi hunc diem dedistis luculentum!<sup>11</sup>

ut<sup>12</sup> facilem atque impetrabilem!<sup>13</sup> sed ego hinc migrare<sup>14</sup> cesso,<sup>15</sup>

1 *tuom* = *tuum*.

2 *per*: "through", "by means of".

3 *quietus, -a, -um*: "calm".

4 *hoc quidem iam periit* (Epidicus says this without Periphanes or the young men hearing): "indeed, he's lost this [the money] already".

5 *niquid tibi hinc in spem referas*: "don't go hoping otherwise".

6 *oppido* (adverb): "very much", "completely".

7 *hoc* (again refers to the money Epidicus has been given by Periphanes).

8 *pollingo, -ere, pollinxi, pollinctum*: "wash a corpse", "prepare a body for burial".

9 *nostri*: "our people", "my ancestors" (given that slaves were considered, by slave-owners, no longer to have parents or ancestors, this may be Epidicus's resistance to the deracination (uprooting from native family) of slaves; more frivolously, Epidicus may also be referring to how the class of slaves has always behaved, or may be making a reference, as a comic *seruos callidus*, about how *serui callidi* in the tradition of Roman Comedy have always behaved — see Barbiero's forthcoming book: chapter 5).

10 *inmortales* = *immortales*.

11 *luculentus, -a, -um*: "bright", "brilliant".

12 *ut*: "how".

13 *impetrabilis, -e*: "pleasing", "successful".

14 *migro, -are, -auis, -atum*: "depart", "get going".

15 *cesso, -are, -auis, -atum*: "be remiss", "delay", "cease from".

ut importem<sup>16</sup> in coloniam<sup>17</sup> hunc <meo> auspicio<sup>18</sup> commeatum.<sup>19</sup>

mihi cesso quom<sup>20</sup> sto. sed quid hoc? ante aedis<sup>21</sup> duo sodales<sup>22</sup>

erum et Chaeribulum conspicor.<sup>23</sup> quid hic agitis? accipe hoc sis.<sup>24</sup>

345

**Stratippocles:** quantum<sup>25</sup> hic inest? **Epidicus:** quantum sat<sup>26</sup> est et plus satis:<sup>27</sup> superfit.<sup>28</sup>

decem minis<sup>29</sup> plus attuli<sup>30</sup> quam tu danistae debes.

dum<sup>31</sup> tibi ego placeam atque opsequar<sup>32</sup> meum tergum flocci facio.<sup>33</sup>

**Stratippocles:** nam quid<sup>34</sup> ita? **Epidicus:** quia ego tuom<sup>35</sup> patrem faciam parenticidam.<sup>36</sup>

**Stratippocles:** quid istuc est uerbi?<sup>37</sup> **Epidicus:** nil moror<sup>38</sup> uetera<sup>39</sup> et uolgata<sup>40</sup> uerba.

350

“peratum ductare” tatt ego follitum ductitabo.<sup>41</sup>

16 *importo, -are, -aui, -atum:* “bring”, “carry”.

17 *colonia, -ae* (f.): “settlement” (*coloniae* were towns established by the Romans, often in newly-conquered territory so that the *colonia*’s new population of former Roman citizens could be counted on to defend Roman interests in the area; Epidicus’s reference to bringing supplies to the *colonia* is a military metaphor, implying that his efforts to cheat the old man for the young man’s benefit are the equivalent of a military stratagem).

18 *meo auspicio:* “under my own auspices” (the Romans took the auspices, or readings of what the gods wanted them to do, before important actions such as military maneuvers or, in this case, bringing stolen money to Stratippocles).

19 *commeatus, -i* (m.): “provisions”, “supplies” (this is an army metaphor).

20 *quom = cum.*

21 *aedis <aedis/es, -is* (f.): “building”, “house” (often used in the plural, as here).

22 *sodalis, -is* (m.): “companion”, “friend”, “mate”.

23 *conspicor, conspicari, conspicatus sum:* “catch sight of”, “see”.

24 *sis = si uis:* “please”, “if you please”.

25 *quantus, -a, um:* “how much”, “as much as”.

26 *sat = satis* (adverb): “enough”.

27 *plus satis = plus quam satis.*

28 *superfio, superfieri, superfactus sum:* “be left over”, “be more than enough”.

29 *decem minis* (ablative of degree of difference; see Bennett 223).

30 *affero, afferre, attuli, allatum* (or *adfero, adferre, adtuli, adlatum*): “bring”, “deliver”, “use” (+ accusative).

31 *dum:* “provided that”.

32 *opsequar = obsequar < obsequor, -i, obsecutus sum:* “humour”, “submit to” (+ dative).

33 *flocci facere:* “to make no account of”, “not to care a straw for” (+ accusative).

34 *quid:* “why”.

35 *tuom = tuum.*

36 *parenticida, -ae* (f.): “parricide”, “murderer of one’s parent” (Plautus probably invented this word).

37 *quid istuc est uerbi:* “what sort of word is that”.

38 *nil moror:* “I don’t care about”

39 *uetus, -eris* (adjective): “old-fashioned”, “ancient”.

40 *uolgatus, -a, -um:* “commonly used”.

41 “peratum ductare” tatt ego follitum ductitabo (the *obeli*, or daggers, appear on either side of the word “*tat*” here because the Latin text is corrupt, and it’s not obvious how to emend this rather confusing line, which refers in some way to *pera, -ae* (f.): “bag”, “wallet” and to *follis, -is* (m.): “moneybag”. The line relates to *parenticidam* in line 349 in that a person convicted of having

nam leno<sup>42</sup> omne argentum apstulit<sup>43</sup> pro fidicina (ego resolui,<sup>44</sup>  
 manibus his<sup>45</sup> denumeraui<sup>46</sup>) pater suam natam quam<sup>47</sup> esse credit;  
 nunc iterum ut fallatur<sup>48</sup> pater tibique auxilium apparetur<sup>49</sup>  
 inueni;<sup>50</sup> nam ita suasi<sup>51</sup> seni atque hanc habui orationem                            355  
 ut quom<sup>52</sup> rediisses,<sup>53</sup> ne tibi eiius<sup>54</sup> copia<sup>55</sup> esset. **Stratippocles:**  
 eugae!<sup>56</sup>

**Epidicus:** ea iam domist<sup>57</sup> pro<sup>58</sup> filia. **Stratippocles:** <iam> teneo.<sup>59</sup>

**Epidicus:** nunc auctorem<sup>60</sup>  
 dedit mi<sup>61</sup> ad hanc rem Apoecidem, is apud forum manet<sup>62</sup> me  
 +quasiquae amarett caueat.<sup>63</sup> **Stratippocles:** hau<sup>64</sup> male. **Epidicus:**  
 iam ipse | cautor<sup>65</sup> captusst.<sup>66</sup>

ipse in meo collo tuo<sup>67</sup> pater cruminam<sup>68</sup> collocauit;<sup>69</sup>                            360  
 is adornat,<sup>70</sup> adueniens<sup>71</sup> domi extemplo<sup>72</sup> ut maritus<sup>73</sup> fias.

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killed his parent was traditionally punished by being sewn into a sack, possibly along with various animals, and drowned).

42 *leno, -onis* (m.): “pimp”, “brothel keeper”.

43 *apstulit* = *abstulit* < *aifero, auferre, abstuli, ablatum*: “take away”.

44 *resoluo, -ere, resolui, resolutum*: “release”; translate here: “pay”.

45 *manibus his* (ablative of means).

46 *denumero, -are, -aui, -atum*: “pay in full”, “pay down”.

47 *quam* (accusative of respect): “for [her], whom”, “the one that”.

48 *fallo, -ere, fefelli, falsum*: “deceive”, “cheat”.

49 *apparo, -are, -aui, -atum*: “prepare”, “provide”.

50 *inuenire + ut* (+ subjunctive): “to devise a plan to”.

51 *suadeo, -ere, suasi, suasum*: “persuade” (+ dative of person persuaded).

52 *quom* = *cum*.

53 *rediisse* < *redeo, -ire, -ii, -itum*: “return”, “come back”.

54 *eius* = *eius*.

55 *eius copia*: “access to her”.

56 *eugae* (exclamation): “good”, “well done”.

57 *domist* = *domi est*.

58 *pro*: “in place of”.

59 *teneo, -ere, tenui, tentum*: “hold”, “grasp”; translate here: “understand”.

60 *auctor, -oris* (m.): translate here “adviser” (describing *Apoecidem*).

61 *mi* = *mihi*.

62 *maneo -ere, mansi, mansum*: “remain”, “stay”; translate here: “wait for”.

63 *+quasiquae amarett caueat* (the text is corrupt, as evidenced by the *obeli*, or daggers, surrounding “*quasique amaret*”; translate as “supposedly to keep an eye on things”).

64 *hau* = *haud*: “not”.

65 *cautor, -oris* (m.): “cautious/wary person”.

66 *captust* = *captus est*.

67 *tuo'* = *tuos* = *tuus*.

68 *crumina, -ae* (f.): “pouch”, “purse”, “small moneybag”.

69 *colloco, -are, -aui, -atum*: “put”, “[put in] place”.

70 *adorno, -are, -aui, -atum*: “get ready”, “prepare”.

71 *adueniens* agrees with the subject of *fias*.

72 *extemplo*: “immediately”.

73 *maritus, -a, -um*: “married”.

**Stratippocles:** uno persuadebit modo,<sup>74</sup> si illam quae adducta est  
mecum

mihi adempsit<sup>75</sup> Orcus.<sup>76</sup> **Epidicus:** nunc ego hanc astutiam<sup>77</sup>  
institui.<sup>78</sup>

deueniam<sup>79</sup> ad lenonem domum<sup>80</sup> egomet<sup>81</sup> solus, eum ego docebo,  
si quid<sup>82</sup> ad eum adueniam,<sup>83</sup> ut sibi esse datum<sup>84</sup> argentum dicat      365  
pro fidicina, argenti minas<sup>85</sup> se habere quinquaginta.<sup>86</sup>

(quippe<sup>87</sup> ego qui nudius tertius<sup>88</sup> meis manibus denumerau<sup>89</sup>

pro illa tua amica quam pater suam filiam esse retur):<sup>90</sup>

ibi<sup>91</sup> leno sceleratum<sup>92</sup> caput suom<sup>93</sup> inprudens<sup>94</sup> alligabit,<sup>95</sup>

quasi pro illa argentum acceperit quae tecum adducta nunc est.      370

**Stratippocles:** uorsutior<sup>96</sup> es quam rota<sup>97</sup> figularis. **Epidicus:** iam ego  
parabo<sup>98</sup>

aliquam dolosam<sup>99</sup> fidicinam, nummo<sup>100</sup> conducta quae sit,<sup>101</sup>

74 *uno persuadebit modo:* “In [only] one way will [my father] persuade [me]”.

75 *adempsit* (old form of the future tense) < *adimo*, -*ere*, *ademi*, *ademptum*: “take” (+ dative of person/thing from whom it is taken).

76 *Orcus*, -*i* (m.): Orcus, god of death and the underworld.

77 *astutia*, -*ae* (f.): “trick”, “stratagem”.

78 *instituo*, -*ere*, -*ui*, -*utum*: “set up”, “prepare”.

79 *deuenio*, -*ire*, -*ueni*, -*uentum*: “come to”, “reach”.

80 *ad lenonem domum:* “to the pimp, at his house”.

81 *egomet* = *ego* + *-met*: “I, myself”.

82 *si quid:* “if at all”.

83 *si quid ad eum adueniam:* “if I go see him at all” (the text may be corrupt, but probably Epidicus means that, if he has to bring Periphanes and/or Apocedes to the pimp to verify his story, the pimp will back him up).

84 *esse datum... se habere* (both infinitives in indirect discourse after *dicat*).

85 *mina*, -*ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

86 *quinquaginta* (indeclinable): “fifty”.

87 *quippe:* “obviously”.

88 *nudiustertius* = *nudius tertius*; *nudius* = *num/nunc dies* (always paired with an ordinal number): “it is now the ... day since” (because the Romans counted inclusively, *nudiustertius* means “the day before yesterday”).

89 *denuero*, -*are*, -*aui*, -*atum*: “pay in full”, “pay down”.

90 *reor*, *reri*, *ratus sum*: “think”, “suppose”, “believe”.

91 *ibi:* “then”.

92 *scleratus*, -*a*, -*um*: “criminal”, “wicked”.

93 *suom* = *suum*.

94 *inprudens* = *imprudens*: “unaware”, “unsuspecting”.

95 *adligabit* = *alligabit* < *alligo*, -*are*, -*aui*, -*atum*: “implicate/involve in”.

96 *uorsutior* = *uersutior*, comparative form < *uersutus*, -*a*, -*um*: “clever”, “ingenious”.

97 *rota figularis:* “potter’s wheel”.

98 *paro*, -*are*, -*aui*, -*atum*: “prepare”, “provide”, “obtain”.

99 *dolosus*, -*a*, -*um*: “crafty”, “cunning”, “deceitful”.

100 *nummus*, -*i* (m.): “coin”.

101 *conduco*, -*ere*, -*xi*, -*ctum*: “bring”, “hire”.

quae se emptam<sup>102</sup> simulet,<sup>103</sup> quae senes duo docte<sup>104</sup> ludificetur.<sup>105</sup>  
 eam ducet simul<sup>106</sup> Apoecides ad tuom<sup>107</sup> patrem. **Stratippocles:** ut  
 parate!<sup>108</sup>

**Epidicus:** eam permeditatam,<sup>109</sup> meis dolis<sup>110</sup> astutisque<sup>111</sup> onustam<sup>112</sup> 375  
 mittam. sed nimi'<sup>113</sup> longum<sup>114</sup> loquor, diu me estis demorati.<sup>115</sup>  
 haec scitis iam ut futura sint. abeo. — **Stratippocles:** bene ambulato.<sup>116</sup>

**Chaeribulus:** nimi' doctus illic<sup>117</sup> ad male faciendum.<sup>118</sup>

**Stratippocles:** me equidem certo<sup>119</sup>  
 seruauit<sup>120</sup> consiliis suis. **Chaeribulus:** abeamus intro hinc ad me.<sup>121</sup>

**Stratippocles:** atque aliquanto<sup>122</sup> lubentius<sup>123</sup> quam aps<sup>124</sup> te sum 380  
 egressus<sup>125</sup> intus,<sup>126</sup>  
 uirtute atque auspicio Epidici cum praeda<sup>127</sup> in castra redeo. —

102 *emo, -ere, emi, emptum:* "buy".

103 *simulo, -are, -aui, -atum:* "pretend".

104 *docte* (adverb < *doctus, -a, -um*): "cleverly".

105 *ludificor, -ari, -atus sum:* "make fun of", "fool".

106 *simul:* "[together] with him".

107 *tuom* = *tuum*.

108 *ut parate:* "how well prepared [you are]", "what good planning".

109 *permeditatus, -a, -um:* "well-prepared", "well-trained".

110 *dolus, -i* (m.): "trick".

111 *astutias* < *astutia, -ae* (f.): "trick", "stratagem".

112 *onustus, -a, -um:* "burdened", "laden"; translate here: "full of".

113 *nimi'* = *nimis*.

114 *longum* (adverb): "for [too] long".

115 *demoror, -ari, -atus sum:* "detain", "cause delay".

116 *ambulato* (second-person singular future imperative active) < *ambulo, -are, -aui, atum*.

117 *illic* = *ille*.

118 *nimi' doctus illic ad male faciendum:* "that guy is too good at double-dealing".

119 *certo:* "certainly".

120 *seruo, -are, -aui, -atum:* "save".

121 *ad me:* "[to] my house".

122 *aliquanto* (adverb): "by some amount", "a bit".

123 *lubentius* = *libentius:* "cheerfully".

124 *aps* = *a*.

125 *egredior, -i, egressus sum:* "come out", "go out".

126 *intus:* "within", "inside".

127 *praeda, -ae* (f.): "booty", "[war] prize".

### 3.3 PERIPHANES, APOECIDES, SERVOS

**Scene summary:** Periphanes admits in a soliloquy that he himself behaved badly when he was younger, so he shouldn't judge his son Stratippocles too harshly. Apoecides arrives with the hired lyre-player whom he believes is Acropolistis. Periphanes directs a slave to lead her into his house but instructs the slave to keep this low-class sex worker well away from the woman he believes is his virginal daughter Telestis. Apoecides raves about Epicicus's cleverness at (as he thinks) tricking the hired lyre-player into thinking she'd merely been hired for the day instead of having been bought.

**Periphanes:** non oris<sup>1</sup> caussa<sup>2</sup> modo homines aequom<sup>3</sup> fuit  
 sibi habere speculum<sup>4</sup> ubi os contemplarent<sup>5</sup> suom,<sup>6</sup> 385  
 sed qui perspicere<sup>7</sup> possent [cor<sup>8</sup> sapientiae,  
 igitur perspicere ut possint] cordis copiam;<sup>9</sup>  
 ubi id inspexissent,<sup>10</sup> cogitarent<sup>11</sup> postea<sup>12</sup>  
 uitam ut uixissent olim in adulescentia.  
 fuit conducibile<sup>13</sup> hoc quidem mea sententia.<sup>14</sup>  
 uel<sup>15</sup> [quasi]<sup>16</sup> ego[met],<sup>17</sup> qui dudum<sup>18</sup> fili<sup>19</sup> caussa cooperam<sup>20</sup>  
 ego me excruciare<sup>21</sup> animi,<sup>22</sup> quasi quid<sup>23</sup> filius 390

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1 *os, oris* (n.): "face".

2 *caussa* = *causa*.

3 *aequom* = *aequum*: "right", "fair".

4 *speculum, -i* (n.): "mirror".

5 *contemplo, -are, -auī, -atum*: "observe", "contemplate".

6 *suom* = *suum*.

7 *perspicio, -ere, perspexi, perspectum*: "see through", "examine", "observe".

8 *cor, cordis* (n.): "heart" (square brackets enclose text that may not be entirely authentic).

9 *copia, -ae* (f.): "resources", "fulness".

10 *inspicio, -ere, inspexi, inspectum*: "examine", "inspect", "consider".

11 *cogito, -are, -auī, -atum*: "think", "consider", "reflect on".

12 *postea* (adverb): "afterwards".

13 *conducibilis, -e*: "wise", "advisable".

14 *meā sententiā*: "in my opinion".

15 *uel*: "or", "actually", "indeed", "even", "if you prefer".

16 *quasi* (adverb): "as if", "just as though".

17 *ego[met]* = *ego + -met*: "I, myself".

18 *dudum* (adverb): "a little while ago", "formerly".

19 *fili* = *fili*.

20 *coepio, -ere, coepi, coeptum*: "begin".

21 *excrucio, -are, -auī, -atum*: literally "crucify", but here "torture", "upset".

22 *animi* (genitive of respect).

23 *quid* = *aliquid*: "[with respect to] something", "in some way".

meu'<sup>24</sup> deliquisset<sup>25</sup> med<sup>26</sup> erga<sup>27</sup> aut [quasi] non pluruma<sup>28</sup>  
malefacta mea essent solida<sup>29</sup> in adulescentia.

profecto<sup>30</sup> deliramus<sup>31</sup> interdum<sup>32</sup> senes.

sed meu'<sup>33</sup> sodalis<sup>34</sup> it<sup>35</sup> cum praeda<sup>36</sup> Apoecides.

uenire saluom<sup>37</sup> mercatorem<sup>38</sup> gaudeo.<sup>39</sup>

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quid fit?<sup>40</sup> **Apoecides:** di deaeque te adiuuant. **Periphanes:** omen  
placet.

**Apoecides:** quin omni omnis<sup>41</sup> suppetunt<sup>42</sup> res<sup>43</sup> prospere.<sup>44</sup>

sed tu þanc iubest intro<sup>45</sup> abduci.<sup>46</sup> **Periphanes:** heus!<sup>47</sup> foras  
exite huc aliquis.<sup>48</sup> duce<sup>49</sup> istam intro mulierem.

atque audin?<sup>50</sup> **Seruos:** quid uis? **Periphanes:** caue<sup>51</sup> siris<sup>52</sup> cum  
filia

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24 *meu' = meus.*

25 *delinquo, -ere, deliqui, delictum:* "fail", "do wrong".

26 *med = me.*

27 *erga:* "towards", "in relation to", "against".

28 *pluruma = plurima.*

29 *solidus, -a, -um:* "substantial", "serious".

30 *profecto* (adverb): "certainly".

31 *deliro, -are, -aui, -atum:* literally "deviate from the straight line"; translate here: "be crazy", "be out of one's wits", "be silly".

32 *interdum* (adverb): "sometimes", "now and then".

33 *meu' = meus.*

34 *sodalis, -is* (m.): "companion", "friend", "mate".

35 *it < eo, ire, iui/i, itum.*

36 *praeda, -ae* (f.): "booty", "[war] prize".

37 *saluom = saluum.*

38 *mercator, -oris* (m.): "trader", "merchant", "buyer".

39 *uenire saluom... gaudeo* (see line 7): Periphanes is being humorous by greeting Apoecides as though he has been away on a long voyage. He addresses him as *mercator* because he's been on a shopping trip, though the audience knows that Apoecides has not been directly involved in the supposed purchase at all.

40 *quid fit:* "how goes it".

41 *omnis = omnes.*

42 *suppeto, -ere, -iui, -itus* (+ dative): "be at hand", "be equal to", "be sufficient for", "agree with".

43 *res* (nominative plural) < *res, rei.*

44 *prospere* (adverb from *prosperus, -a, -um:* "fortunate", "favourable"). Lindsay's emendation of the manuscript tradition to *prosperae* here is less convincing than the original *prospere*.

45 *intro:* "[to the] inside", "[to the] indoors".

46 *abduco, -ere, abduxii, abductum:* "lead away".

47 *heus:* "hey!" (used to try to get someone's attention).

48 *exite... aliquis* (the singular *aliquis* is often paired with the plural imperative *exite*).

49 *duce* (the original form of the second-person singular present imperative active of *duco, -ere* (later *duc*).

50 *audin = audis + ne:* "do you hear".

51 *caueo, -ere, caui, cautum:* "guard against", "ensure that... not".

52 *siris = siueris* (perfect subjunctive second-person singular) < *sino, -ere, siui, situm:* "allow".

mea copulari<sup>53</sup> hanc neque conspicere.<sup>54</sup> iam tenes?<sup>55</sup>

in aediculam<sup>56</sup> istanc<sup>57</sup> sorsum<sup>58</sup> concludi<sup>59</sup> uolo.

diuortunt<sup>60</sup> mores uirgini longe ac lupae.<sup>61</sup>

**Apoecides:** docte et sapienter dicis. num<quam> nimi'<sup>62</sup> potest

pudicitiam<sup>63</sup> quisquam<sup>64</sup> suae seruare filiae.

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edepol ne<sup>65</sup> istam \* temperi<sup>66</sup> gnato tuo

sumu'<sup>67</sup> praemercati.<sup>68</sup> **Periphanes:** quid<sup>69</sup> iam? **Apoecides:** quia  
dixit mihi

iam dudum<sup>70</sup> se alius tuom<sup>71</sup> uidisse hic filium:

hanc edepol rem<sup>72</sup> apparabat.<sup>73</sup> **Periphanes:** plane hercle hoc  
quidem est.

**Apoecides:** ne<sup>74</sup> tu habes seruom<sup>75</sup> graphicum<sup>76</sup> et quantius preti,<sup>77</sup>

non carust<sup>78</sup> auro contra.<sup>79</sup> ut ille fidicinam

fecit tnesciret esse emptam tibi!<sup>80</sup>

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53 *copulor, -ari, copulatus sum:* “associate”.

54 *conspicio, -ere, conspexi, conspectum:* “look at”.

55 *teneo, -ere, tenui, tentum:* “hold”, “grasp”, “understand”.

56 *aedicula, -ae* (f.): “[small] room”, “[small] house”.

57 *istanc = istam.*

58 *sorsum = seorsum* (adverb <*seorsus, -a, -um*>): “separately”, “apart”.

59 *concludo, -ere, conclusi, conclusum:* “confine”, “limit”, “shut up”.

60 *diuerto/diuerto, -ere, -ti, -sum:* “differ”, “be dissimilar”.

61 *lupa, -ae:* “female wolf”; translate here: “prostitute”.

62 *nimi' = nimis.*

63 *pudicitia, -ae* (f.): “modesty”, “purity”.

64 *quisquam, quaequam, quicquam/quidquam:* “anyone, anything”, “someone, something”.

65 *ne* (interjection followed by a personal or demonstrative pronoun): “really”, “indeed”.

66 *temperi = tempori* (adverb): “at the right time”, “in time”, “seasonably”.

67 *sumu' = sumus.*

68 *praemercor, -ari, -atus sum:* “buy before (+ someone in the dative)”.

69 *quid:* “why”.

70 *dudum:* (adverb): “a little while ago”, “formerly”.

71 *tuom = tuum.*

72 *hanc... rem* (referring to Stratippocles's planned purchase of the *fidicina*).

73 *apparo, -are, -auui, -atum:* “get ready”.

74 *ne* (interjection followed by a personal or demonstrative pronoun): “really”, “indeed”.

75 *seruom = seruum.*

76 *graphicus, -a, -um:* “picture-perfect”, “artistic”, “clever”.

77 *quantius preti = quanti uis preti* (genitive of price): “of whatever price you want”, “priceless”, “worth any price”.

78 *carust = carus est.*

79 *non carust auro contra:* “he's worth his weight in gold” (*auro contra:* “when weighed against gold”).

80 *ut ille fidicinam / fecit tnesciret esse emptam tibi* (the text is corrupt but means something like “how he managed to keep the lyre-player from realizing she'd been bought for you”).

ita ridibundam<sup>81</sup> atque hilaram<sup>82</sup> huc adduxit simul.<sup>83</sup>

**Periphanes:** mirum hoc qui<sup>84</sup> potuit fieri. **Apoecides:** te pro filio  
facturum dixit rem esse diuinam<sup>85</sup> domi,

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quia Thebis<sup>86</sup> saluos<sup>87</sup> redierit.<sup>88</sup> **Periphanes:** recte<sup>89</sup> institit.

**Apoecides:** immo<sup>90</sup> ipsus<sup>91</sup> illi<sup>92</sup> dixit conductam esse<sup>93</sup> eam  
quae<sup>94</sup> hic administraret<sup>95</sup> ad rem diuinam tibi.<sup>96</sup>

[facturum hoc dixit rem esse diuinam tibi domi]<sup>97</sup>

ego illic<sup>98</sup> med<sup>99</sup> autem sic adsimulabam:<sup>100</sup> quasi

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stolidum,<sup>101</sup> combardum<sup>102</sup> me faciebam.<sup>103</sup> **Periphanes:** Immo ita  
debet.<sup>104</sup>

**Apoecides:** res<sup>105</sup> magna amici apud forum agitur,<sup>106</sup> ei uolo

ire aduocatus.<sup>107</sup> **Periphanes:** at quaeso,<sup>108</sup> ubi erit otium,<sup>109</sup>

reuortere<sup>110</sup> ad me extemplo.<sup>111</sup> **Apoecides:** continuo<sup>112</sup> hic ero. —

81 *ridibundus, -a, um:* "laughing".

82 *hilarus, -a, -um:* "light-hearted".

83 *simul:* "[together] with him".

84 *qui* (an old ablative form): "how", "why".

85 *rem... diuinam:* "religious activity", "sacrifice".

86 *Thebis* (locative).

87 *saluos = saluus.*

88 *redierit* (third-person singular perfect subjunctive active < *redeo, -ire, -iui/ii, -itum*).

89 *insisto, -ere, institi, -:* "set about", "proceed"; *recte institit:* "he handled it well", "he did the right thing".

90 *immo:* "by all means", "indeed", "on the contrary", "by no means".

91 *ipsus = ipse.*

92 *illi* (dative, referring to the *fidicina*).

93 *conduco, -ere, -xi, -ctum:* "bring", "hire".

94 *quaes = ut ea* (relative clause of purpose).

95 *administro, -are, -auis, -atum:* "administer"; translate here: "assist".

96 *tibi* (dative of reference after *administraret*).

97 [facturum hoc dixit rem esse diuinam tibi domi] (this line, essentially repeating line 415, probably doesn't belong here).

98 *illic:* "there".

99 *med = me.*

100 *adsimulo, -are, -auis, -atum:* "pretend".

101 *stolidus, -a, -um:* "slow", "obtuse".

102 *combardus, -a, -um:* "stupid".

103 *me faciebam:* "I made myself [look/act]".

104 *immo ita decet:* "you acted exactly as you should", "indeed that was appropriate"; translate here: "very appropriate".

105 *res, rei* (f.): "matter"; translate here: "[legal] case".

106 *ago, -ere, egi, actum:* "do", "act"; translate here: "conduct".

107 *aduocatus, -i* (m.): "advocate", "witness".

108 *quaeso:* "please".

109 *otium, -ii* (n.): "leisure", "[a] break", "spare moment".

110 *reuorto/reuerto, -ere, -ti, -sum:* "come back", "return".

111 *extemplo* (adverb): "immediately".

112 *continuo* (adverb): "immediately".

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Periphanes:</b> nihil homini amicost <sup>113</sup> opportuno <sup>114</sup> amicius. <sup>115</sup><br>sine tuo labore quo uelis actumst <sup>116</sup> tamen.<br>ego si adlegassem <sup>117</sup> aliquem ad hoc negotium<br>minus hominem doctum minu'que <sup>118</sup> ad hanc rem callidum, <sup>119</sup><br>os sublitum esset, <sup>120</sup> itaque me albis dentibus <sup>121</sup><br>meu' <sup>122</sup> derideret <sup>123</sup> filius meritissumo. <sup>124</sup><br>atque haec stultia <i>stiast</i> <sup>125</sup> me illi uitio <sup>126</sup> uortere <sup>127</sup><br>egomet <sup>128</sup> quod factitau <i>i</i> <sup>129</sup> in adulescentia,<br>quom <sup>130</sup> militabam. <sup>131</sup> pugnis memorandis <sup>132</sup> meis <sup>133</sup><br>eradibam <sup>134</sup> hominum auris, <sup>135</sup> quando occeperam. <sup>136</sup><br>sed quis illic <sup>137</sup> est quem huc aduenientem conspicor <sup>138</sup><br>suam qui undantem <sup>139</sup> chlamydem <sup>140</sup> quassando <sup>141</sup> facit? | 425<br>430<br>435 |
|--|-------------------|

113 *amicost* = *amicus est*.

114 *opportunus*, -a, -um: "useful".

115 *amicius* (comparative adjective from *amicus*, -a, -um; neuter nominative singular agreeing with *nihil*).

116 *actumst* = *actum est*.

117 *adlegassem* = *adlegauisset* (first-person singular pluperfect subjunctive active < *adlego*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "dispatch", "send [someone] to do a job").

118 *minu'que* = *minusque*.

119 *callidus*, -a, -um: "clever", "shrewd", "ingenious".

120 *os sublitum esset*: "he would have been deceived" (again, the audience would have found this irony hilarious, but Periphanes has no idea that both he and Apocedes are the ones being tricked). *alicui os sublinere* literally means "to smear someone's face", but figuratively means "to make a fool of someone", "outwit someone".

121 *albis dentibus*: literally "with white teeth"; figuratively "by laughing out loud".

122 *meu'* = *meus*.

123 *derideo*, -ere, *derisi*, *derisum*: "laugh [at]", "make fun [of]".

124 *meritissumo* = *meritissimo* (superlative adverb): "most justly", "very deservedly".

125 *stultia*stiast** = *stultitia est*.

126 *uitium*, -ii (n.): "fault", "vice", "defect".

127 *atque haec stultia*stiast* me illi uitio uortere*: "and it's stupid for me to blame him".

128 *egomet* = *ego + -met*: "I, myself".

129 *factito*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "do frequently", "practice".

130 *quom* = *cum*.

131 *milito*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "serve as a soldier", "perform military service", "serve in the army", "make war".

132 *memoro*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "remember", "reminisce", "speak of", "mention".

133 *pugnis memorandis meis*: "because of talking about my battles", "from reminiscing about my war stories".

134 *eradico*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "root out", "eradicate".

135 *auris*, -is (f.): "ear".

136 *occipio*, -ere, -cepi, -ceptum: "begin".

137 *illic* = *ille*.

138 *auris*, -is (f.): "ear".

139 *undo*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "wave", "billow".

140 *chlamys*, *clamydos/is* (f.): "[Greek] cloak", "[military] cloak".

141 *quasso*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "shake repeatedly", "flourish", "swagger".

### 3.4 MILES, PERIPHANES

**Scene summary:** A swaggering soldier arrives looking for Periphanes. After a comic exchange of boastful military claims, the soldier says that he wants to buy the slave woman that he hears Periphanes has just bought. He had been planning to buy her, manumit her, and make her his concubine, and now wants to buy her back from Periphanes. Periphanes agrees to sell her for sixty *minae* (ten more than he thinks he paid for her).

**Miles:** Cae<sup>1</sup> praeterbitas<sup>2</sup> ullas aedis<sup>3</sup> quin roges,<sup>4</sup>  
senex hic ubi habitat Periphanes Platenius.  
incertus tuom<sup>5</sup> caue ad me rettuleris<sup>6</sup> pedem.<sup>7</sup>

**Periphanes:** adulescens, si istunc<sup>8</sup> hominem quem tu quaeritas<sup>9</sup>                  440  
tibi commostrasso,<sup>10</sup> ecquam<sup>11</sup> aps<sup>12</sup> te inibo gratiam?<sup>13</sup>

**Miles:** uirtute belli armatus promerui<sup>14</sup> ut mihi  
omnis mortal is agere deceat gratias.

**Periphanes:** non repperisti,<sup>15</sup> adulescens, tranquillum locum  
ubi tuas uirtutes explices<sup>16</sup> ut postulas.<sup>17</sup>                  445  
nam strenuiori<sup>18</sup> deterior<sup>19</sup> si praedicat<sup>20</sup>  
suas pugnas, de illius<sup>21</sup> illae fiunt sordidae.<sup>22</sup>  
sed istum quem quaeris Periphanem Platenium

1 *caueo, -ere, caui, cautum:* “be careful”.

2 *praeterbitas* = *praetereas* < *praetereo, -ire, -iui/ii, -itum:* “go by”, “go past”, “pass by”.

3 *aedis/aedes, -is* (f.): “building”, “house” (often used in the plural, as here).

4 *quin roges:* “without asking”.

5 *tuom* = *tuum*.

6 *rettuleris* (second-person singular perfect subjunctive active) < *refero, referre, rettuli, relatum:* “carry back”, “bring back”.

7 *incertus tuom caue ad me rettuleris pedem:* “make sure you don’t return without finding it out”.

8 *istunc* = *istum*.

9 *quaerito, -are, -aui, -atum:* “seek”, “look for”.

10 *commostrasso* = *commonstrasso* (alternative future tense of *commo(n)stro, -are, -aui, -atum*); *si...* *commostrasso:* “if I show”, “if I point [him] out”.

11 *equi, equae/ecqua, ecquod:* “is there any”, “some sort of”.

12 *aps* = *a*.

13 *ecquam abs te inibo gratiam:* “will I put you under an obligation”, “will you be grateful to me”.

14 *promereo, -ere, promerui, promeritum:* “deserve”, “earn”.

15 *reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum:* “find”.

16 *explico, -are, -aui, -atum:* “show off”, “display”.

17 *postulo, -are, -aui, -atum:* “claim”, “require”, “ask for”, “want”.

18 *strenuori* (dative singular comparative adjective) < *strenuus, -a, -um:* “active”, “vigorous”.

19 *deterior, -ius* (nominative singular comparative adjective): “lesser”, “weaker”.

20 *praedico, -are, -aui, -atum:* “announce”, “proclaim”, “boast about”.

21 *de illius* (referring to the *strenuori* of line 446): “in contrast with the other man’s military achievements”.

22 *sordidus, -a, -um:* “low”, “humble”, “pathetic”.

ego sum, si quid uis.<sup>23</sup> **Miles:** nemp'<sup>24</sup> quem in adulescentia  
memorant<sup>25</sup> apud reges armis, arte duellica 450  
diuitias<sup>26</sup> magnas indeptum?<sup>27</sup> **Periphanes:** immo,<sup>28</sup> si audias  
meas pugnas, fugias manibus dimissis<sup>29</sup> domum.  
**Miles:** pol ego magis unum<sup>30</sup> quaero meas<sup>31</sup> quoi<sup>32</sup> praedicem<sup>33</sup>  
quam illum qui memoret suas<sup>34</sup> mihi. **Periphanes:** hic non est locus;  
proin<sup>35</sup> tu alium quaeras quoi centones<sup>36</sup> sarcias.<sup>37</sup> 455  
**Miles:** animum aduorte<sup>38</sup> ut quod<sup>39</sup> ego ad te aduenio intellegas.  
meam amicam audiui te esse mercatum.<sup>40</sup> **Periphanes:** attatae!<sup>41</sup>  
nunc demum scio ego hunc qui sit: quem dudum<sup>42</sup> Epidicus  
mihi praedicauit militem. adulescens, itast<sup>43</sup>  
ut dicis, emi.<sup>44</sup> **Miles:** uolo te uerbis pauculis<sup>45</sup> 460  
si tibi molestum<sup>46</sup> non est. **Periphanes:** non edepol scio  
molestum necne<sup>47</sup> sit, nisi dicis quid uelis.  
**Miles:** mihi illam ut tramittas,<sup>48</sup> argentum accipias. **Periphanes:**  
adest?<sup>49</sup>

23 *si quid uis:* "if you want anything".

24 *nemp' = nempe:* "really".

25 *memoro, -are, -auit, -atum:* "remember", "reminisce", "speak of", "mention".

26 *diuitiae, -arum* (f. pl.): "wealth".

27 *indipiscor, indipisci, indeptus sum:* "overtake"; translate here: "acquire".

28 *immo:* "by all means", "indeed"; "on the contrary", "by no means".

29 *manibus dimissi:* literally "with hands let loose"; translate here: "as fast as you could run".

30 *unum = quandam:* "someone".

31 *meas = meas pugnas.*

32 *quoi = cui.*

33 *praedico, -are, -auit, -atum:* "announce", "proclaim", "boast about".

34 *suas = suas pugnas.*

35 *proin* (adverb): "therefore", "so then".

36 *cento, -onis* (m.): "garment or blanket made from patchwork".

37 *sarcio, -ire, sarsi, sartum:* "patch", "mend", "restore"; *qui centones sarcias:* literally "for whom you can mend your patchwork cloth"; translate here: "to whom you can tell your [tall] tales", "who'll listen to your story-telling".

38 *animum aduorte:* "pay attention".

39 *quod* (accusative of the inner object): "about which", "regarding which".

40 *mercior, -ari, -atus sum:* "buy".

41 *attatae* (an expression of surprise or amazement).

42 *dudum* (adverb): "a little while ago", "formerly".

43 *itast = ita est.*

44 *emo, -ere, emi, emptum:* "buy" (supply *eam* or *amicam* as the direct object).

45 *pauculus, -a, -um* (diminutive of *paucus, -a, -um*); *uolo te uerbis pauculis* (supply *conloqui*): "I want to have a few little words with you".

46 *molestus, -a, -um:* "annoying", "[a] bother".

47 *necne:* "whether... or not".

48 *tramittas = transmittas < transmittio, -ere, -misi, -missum:* "hand over" (supply *uolo* before *ut tramittas* and [*ut*] *accipias*).

49 *adest:* "is it here", "do you have [the money] with you".

**Miles:** nam quid<sup>50</sup> ego apud te uera<sup>51</sup> parcam<sup>52</sup> proloqui?

ego illam uolo hodie facere libertam<sup>53</sup> meam

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mihi concubina<sup>54</sup> quae sit. **Periphanes:** te apsoluam<sup>55</sup> breui.<sup>56</sup>

argenti quinquaginta<sup>57</sup> mihi illa empta est minis,<sup>58</sup>

si sexaginta<sup>59</sup> mihi denumerantur<sup>60</sup> minae,

tuas possidebit<sup>61</sup> mulier faxo<sup>62</sup> ferias,<sup>63</sup>

atque ita profecto<sup>64</sup> ut<sup>65</sup> eam ex hoc exoneres<sup>66</sup> agro.<sup>67</sup>

**Miles:** estne empta mihi istis legibus?<sup>68</sup> **Periphanes:** habeas licet.

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**Miles:** conciliausti<sup>69</sup> pulchre.<sup>70</sup> **Periphanes:** heus!<sup>71</sup> foras<sup>72</sup> educite<sup>73</sup>

quam introduxitis<sup>74</sup> fidicinam. atque etiam fides,<sup>75</sup>

ei quae accessere,<sup>76</sup> tibi addam<sup>77</sup> dono<sup>78</sup> gratis.<sup>79</sup>

50 *quid:* "why".

51 *uerus, -a, -um:* "true".

52 *parco, -ere, pepercī, parsūm:* "refrain from".

53 *liberta, ae* (f.): "freedwoman", "former slave".

54 *concubina, -ae* (f.): "concubine", "common-law wife", "mistress", "girlfriend" (in Rome, concubines were free or freedwomen who lived in a marriage-like relationship with a man of usually higher status. Any children they produced were considered illegitimate; they did not enter their father's *patria potestas*, and they inherited their mother's legal status, whatever that might be).

55 *apsoluam* = *absoluam* < *absoluo, -ere, absolui, absolutum:* "free", "let [someone] off".

56 *breui* (adverb): "quickly", "soon".

57 *quinquaginta* (indeclinable): "fifty".

58 *mina, -ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

59 *sexaginta* (indeclinable): "sixty".

60 *denuero, -are, -auī, -atum:* "pay in full", "pay down".

61 *possideo, -ere, possedi, possessum:* "be master of", "possess", "take possession of"; translate here: "occupy".

62 *faxo* (alternative form of the first-person singular future indicative active of *facio, -ere*): "I'll make [it happen]"; translate here: "I promise".

63 *feriae, -arum* (f. pl.): "religious festival", "holiday"; translate here: "leisure time".

64 *profecto* (adverb): "certainly".

65 *ita... ut* (+ subjunctive): "on condition that".

66 *exonero, -are, -auī, -atum:* "remove".

67 *ager, agri* (m.): "field"; translate here: "land" (here it refers either to "Attic land", meaning the territory around Athens where the play is supposedly set, or "my land", meaning Periphanes's property).

68 *lex, legis* (f.): "law"; translate here: "condition" (*istis legibus* is an ablative of attendant circumstances: "under those conditions").

69 *concilio, -are, -auī, -atum:* "bring together"; translate here: "buy".

70 *pulchre* (adverb): "excellently" (*conciliausti pulchre:* "you've made a good bargain").

71 *heus:* "hey!" (used to try to get someone's attention).

72 *foras* (adverb): "out of doors".

73 *educo, -ere, eduxi, eductum:* "lead out", "bring out".

74 *introduco, -ere, -duxi, -ductum:* "lead in", "lead inside".

75 *fides, fidium* (f. pl.): "lyre".

76 *accedo, -ere, -cessi, -cessum:* "go with" (+ dative).

77 *addo, -ere, addidi, additum:* "add".

78 *dono:* "as a gift".

79 *gratis:* "as a favour", "for nothing", "for free".

### 3.4a PERIPHANES, MILES, FIDICINA

**Scene summary:** When the soldier sees the hired lyre-player instead of Acropolistis, he tells Periphanes that it's the wrong woman, and Periphanes begins to realize that Epidicus has cheated him. The hired lyre-player tells him that she has been a freedwoman for five years and was told she was being hired to play her lyre for an old man who would be performing a religious sacrifice. She also says that she knows the real Acropolistis, who has, she says, recently been freed by Stratippocles. Periphanes expresses shame and anger at how well Epidicus had tricked him.

**Periphanes:** age accipe hanc sis.<sup>1</sup> **Miles:** quae te intemperiae<sup>2</sup> 475  
tenent?<sup>3</sup>

quas tu mihi tenebras<sup>4</sup> trudis?<sup>5</sup> quin<sup>6</sup> tu fidicinam  
produc*i*<sup>7</sup> intus<sup>8</sup> iubes? **Periphanes:** haec ergo est fidicina.  
hic alia nullast.<sup>9</sup> **Miles:** non mihi nugari<sup>10</sup> potes.  
quin tu huc producis fidicinam Acropolistidem?<sup>11</sup>

**Periphanes:** haec inquamst.<sup>12</sup> **Miles:** non haec inquamst. non 480  
nouisse<sup>13</sup> me  
meam rere<sup>14</sup> amicam posse? **Periphanes:** hanc, inquam, filius  
meu'<sup>15</sup> deperibat<sup>16</sup> fidicinam. **Miles:** haec non est ea.  
**Periphanes:** quid? non est? **Miles:** non est. **Periphanes:** unde haec  
igitur gentiumst?<sup>17</sup>

equidem hercle argentum pro hac dedi. **Miles:** stulte datum<sup>18</sup>

1 *sis = si uis:* “please”, “if you please”.

2 *intemperia, -ae* (f.): “insanity” “foolishness”.

3 *teneo, -ere, tenui, tentum:* “hold”, “possess”.

4 *tenebrae, -arum* (f. pl.): “darkness”, “concealment”.

5 *trudo, -ere, trusi, trusum:* “thrust”, “push”, “drive”, “force”; *quas tu mihi tenebras trudis:* “what concealment are you pushing on me”; translate here: “what trick are you playing on me”.

6 *quin:* “why... not?”, “why don’t you...?”.

7 *produco, -ere, -duxi, -ductum:* “bring out”.

8 *intus:* “from within”, “from inside”.

9 *nullast = nulla est.*

10 *nugor, -ari, nugatus sum:* “trick [someone]”, “act like a fool”.

11 *Acropolistis, Acropolistidis* (f.): the name of the first lyre-player that Stratippocles had told Epidicus to buy for him while he was away on campaign. Epidicus has, as you remember, told Periphanes that she was his illegitimate daughter (see line 88).

12 *haec inquamst = haec inquam est:* “I say that this is she”, “she’s the one, I tell you”.

13 *nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* “get to know”, “know”, “recognize”.

14 *rere* (second-person singular present passive indicative) < *reor, reri, ratus sum:* “reckon”, “think”, “believe”.

15 *meu’ = meus.*

16 *depereo, -ire, -iui/-ii, -tum* (conjugated like *eo, ire*): “die”, “be destroyed”, “fall desperately in love”.

17 *unde haec igitur gentiumst?:* “where in the world did she come from then?”

18 *datum = datum esse* (its accusative subject is *argentum*).

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| reor, <sup>19</sup> peccatum <sup>20</sup> largiter. <sup>21</sup> <b>Periphanes:</b> immo <sup>22</sup> haec east. <sup>23</sup> | 485 |
| nam seruom misi qui illum sectari <sup>24</sup> solet   |     |
| meum gnatum: <sup>25</sup> is ipse hanc destinauit <sup>26</sup> fidicinam.   |     |
| <b>Miles:</b> em <sup>27</sup> istic <sup>28</sup> homo te articulatim <sup>29</sup> concidit, <sup>30</sup> senex,               |     |
| tuo' seruos. <sup>31</sup> <b>Periphanes:</b> quid "concidit"? <b>Miles:</b> sic suspicio <i>st</i> , <sup>32</sup>               |     |
| nam pro fidicina haec cerua <sup>33</sup> supposita <sup>34</sup> est tibi.   | 490 |
| senex, tibi os est sublitum <sup>35</sup> plane et probe.   |     |
| ego illam requiram <sup>36</sup> iam ubi ubi <sup>37</sup> est. bellator, uale. —   |     |
| <b>Periphanes:</b> eugae, <sup>38</sup> eugae! Epidice, frugi's, <sup>39</sup> pugnasti, <sup>40</sup> homo es,                   |     |
| qui me emunxisti <sup>41</sup> mucidum, <sup>42</sup> minimi preti. <sup>43</sup>   |     |
| mercatus <sup>44</sup> te hodie est de lenone <sup>45</sup> Apoecides?  | 495 |
| <b>Fidicina:</b> fando <sup>46</sup> ego istunc hominem numquam audiui ante hunc  |     |
| diem  |     |
| neque me quidem emere quisquam ulla pecunia   |     |
| potuit: plus iam sum libera quinquennium. <sup>47</sup>   |     |

19 *reor, reri, ratus sum:* "think", "suppose", "believe".

20 *peccatum, -i* (n.): "mistake" (supply *fuisse*, the subject of which would be the purchase of the wrong *fidicina*).

21 *largiter* (adverb): "in abundance", "greatly".

22 *immo:* "by no means".

23 *east = ea est.*

24 *sector, sectari, sectatus sum:* "follow continually", "attend".

25 *gnatum = natum < natus, -i* (m.): "son".

26 *destino, -are, -aui, -atum:* "arrange the purchase of".

27 *em* (expression of surprise, in a good or bad sense): "hah!".

28 *istic* (adverb): "now", "here", "there".

29 *articulatim:* "limb from limb", "point by point", "in detail".

30 *concido, -ere, concidi, concisum:* "cut to pieces", "kill", "destroy".

31 *tuo' seruos = tuus seruus.*

32 *suspicio est; sic suspicio*st*:* "that's what I suspect".

33 *cerua, -ae* (f.): "doe", "deer".

34 *supposita = subposita < subpo*n*o, -ere, -posui, -positum:* "substitute".

35 *tibi os est sublitum:* "you've been deceived"; *alicui os sublinere* literally means "to smear someone's face", but figuratively means "to make a fool of someone", "outwit someone".

36 *requiro, -ere, requisi*ui*, requisitum:* "require", "seek", "ask for".

37 *ubi ubi:* "wherever".

38 *eugae* (exclamation): "good", "well done" (here meant ironically: "well that's just PERFECT!").

39 *frugi's = frugi es; frugi* (indeclinable adjective): "worthy", "frugal", "virtuous" (this is an attribute often applied to slaves who thriflily save up money in their *peculia* (personal savings) in order that they might eventually buy their own freedom).

40 *pugnasti = pugnauisti < pugno, -are, -aui, -atum:* "fight".

41 *emungo, -ere, emunxi, emunctum:* "wipe/blow the nose"; "cheat".

42 *mucidus, -a, -um:* "sniveling", "snotty".

43 *minimi preti* (genitive of price after *me... mucidum*): "of little value", "worthless".

44 *mercor, -ari, -atus sum:* "buy".

45 *leno, -onis* (m.): "pimp", "brothel keeper".

46 *fando* (gerund) <*for, fari, fatus sum:* "speak", "say"; here translate *fando:* "by report".

47 *quinquennium, -ii/-i* (n.): "for five years", "a period of five years".

**Periphanes:** quid tibi negotist<sup>48</sup> meae domi igitur? **Fidicina:** audies.  
 conducta<sup>49</sup> ueni ut fidibus<sup>50</sup> cantarem seni, 500  
 dum rem diuinam<sup>51</sup> faceret. **Periphanes:** fateor<sup>52</sup> me omnium  
 hominum esse Athenis Atticis minimi preti.<sup>53</sup>  
 sed tu nouistin<sup>54</sup> fidicinam Acropolistidem?  
**Fidicina:** tam facile quam me.<sup>55</sup> **Periphanes:** ubi habitat? **Fidicina:**  
 postquam<sup>56</sup> liberast<sup>57</sup>  
 ubi habitet dicere admodum<sup>58</sup> incerte scio.<sup>59</sup> 505  
**Periphanes:** eho<sup>60</sup> an libera illa est? quis eam liberauerit  
 uolo scire, si scis. **Fidicina:** id quod audiui audies.  
 Stratippoclem aiunt Periphanei<sup>61</sup> filium  
 apsentem<sup>62</sup> curauisse<sup>63</sup> ut fieret libera.  
**Periphanes:** perii<sup>64</sup> hercle si istaec<sup>65</sup> uera sunt; planissume.<sup>66</sup> 510  
 meum exenterauit<sup>67</sup> Epidicus marsupium.<sup>68</sup>  
**Fidicina:** haec sic audiui. numquid<sup>69</sup> me uis ceterum?<sup>70</sup>  
**Periphanes:** malo cruciatu<sup>71</sup> ut pereas atque abeas cito.<sup>72</sup>  
**Fidicina:** fides<sup>73</sup> non reddis?<sup>74</sup> **Periphanes:** neque fides neque tibias.<sup>75</sup>

48 *negotist* = *negotii est* < *negotium*, -i/ii (n.): “business”.

49 *conduco*, -ere, -xi, -ctum: “bring”, “hire”.

50 *fides, fidium* (f. pl.): “lyre”.

51 *rem diuinam*: “religious activity”, “sacrifice”.

52 *fateor, fateri, fassus sum*: “admit”, “confess”.

53 *minimi preti* (genitive of price): “of little value”, “worthless”.

54 *nouistin* = *nouisti+ne* < *nosco*, -ere, *noui*, *notum*: “get to know”, “know”, “recognize”.

55 *tam facile quam me*: “as well as I know myself”.

56 *postquam*: “after”, “since”.

57 *liberast* = *libera est* < *libero*, -are, -aui, atum: “set free”, “emancipate”.

58 *admodum* (adverb): “fully”, “thoroughly”.

59 *ubi habitet dicere admodum incerte scio*: “to tell [you] where she’s living, I don’t really know for sure”; “I’m really not sure where she’s living”.

60 *eho* (an exclamation of surprise, amazement, anger, or a preface to giving someone an order or request).

61 *Periphanei* (genitive).

62 *apsentem* = *absentem*.

63 *curo*, -are, -aui, -atum: “arrange”, “see/attend to”, “take care of”.

64 *pereo*, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum: “die”, “be ruined”, “be lost”.

65 *istaec* = *ista*.

66 *planissime* = *planissime*: “totally”.

67 *exentero*, -are, -aui, -atum: “disembowel”; (in the context of a purse or store of money) “empty”.

68 *marsupium*, -ii (n.): “purse”, “moneybag”.

69 *numquid* (a strengthened form of *num*): “surely... not?”, “can it be that...?”.

70 *numquid me uis ceterum*: “can I do anything else for you?”.

71 *cruciatus, -us* (m.): “torture”, “crucifixion”.

72 *malo cruciatu ut pereas atque abeas cito*: “[I want you] to get out of here and go die on a cross”.

73 *fides, -iūm* (f. pl.): “lyre”.

74 *reddo*, -ere, *reddidi*, *redditum*: “return”, “give back”.

75 *tibia, -ae* (f.): “flute”, “woodwind instrument” (originally made from the tibia or shin bone of an animal).

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| propera <sup>76</sup> sis <sup>77</sup> fugere hinc si te di amant. <b>Fidicina:</b> abiero. <sup>78</sup>      | 515 |
| flagitio <sup>79</sup> cum maiore post reddes tamen. <sup>80</sup> —  |     |
| <b>Periphanes:</b> quid nunc? qui in tantis positus sum <sup>81</sup> sententias <sup>82</sup>                  |     |
| eamne ego sinam <sup>83</sup> impune? <sup>84</sup> immo <sup>85</sup> etiam si alterum                         |     |
| tantum <sup>86</sup> perdendumst, <sup>87</sup> perdam potius quam <sup>88</sup> sinam                          |     |
| me impune inrisum esse, <sup>89</sup> habitum <sup>90</sup> depeculatui. <sup>91</sup>                          | 520 |
| ei! <sup>92</sup> seic <sup>93</sup> data esse uerba <sup>94</sup> praesenti <sup>95</sup> palam! <sup>96</sup> |     |
| ac me minoris <sup>97</sup> facio pree <sup>98</sup> illo, qui omnium   |     |
| legum atque iurum fector, <sup>99</sup> condictor <sup>100</sup> cluet, <sup>101</sup>                          |     |
| is etiam sese sapere <sup>102</sup> memorat. <sup>103</sup> malleum <sup>104</sup>                              |     |
| sapientiorem uidi excusso <sup>105</sup> manubrio. <sup>106</sup>   | 525 |

- 76 *properā* (second-person singular present imperative active) < *propero, -are, -auī, -atum*: “be quick”, “hurry”, “go quickly”).
- 77 *sis* (second-person singular present subjunctive active) < *sum, esse*; used here to emphasize the peremptory nature of Periphanes’s command and is best not translated literally (see Lindsay 1904: 58–59).
- 78 *abiero* (first-person singular future perfect indicative active) < *abeo, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum*.
- 79 *flagitium, -ii* (n.): “shame”, “scandal”.
- 80 *flagitio cum maiore post reddes tamen*: “but you’ll give it [the lyre] back with the big scandal [I’ll spread around]”, “but you’ll give it back or I’ll make trouble for you”.
- 81 *pono, -ere, posui, positum*: “put”, “place”, “set”.
- 82 *sententia, -ae* (f.): “judgment”, “opinion”.
- 83 *sino, sinere, siuī, situm*: “allow”.
- 84 *impune* (adverb): “with impunity”, “without punishment”.
- 85 *immo*: “by no means”.
- 86 *alterum tantum*: “as much again”, “as large a sum”.
- 87 *perdendumst = perdendum est* < *perdo, -ere, perdidi, perditum*: “ruin”, “lose”.
- 88 *potius quam*: “rather than”.
- 89 *inrisum = irrisum < irrideo, -ere, irrisi, irrisum*: “make fun of”, “laugh at”.
- 90 *habitum [esse]*: “to be regarded as”.
- 91 *habitum [esse] peculatui*: “to have been held as source of plunder”, “to have been cheated”.
- 92 *ei* (exclamation): “oh”.
- 93 *seic = sic*.
- 94 *data esse uerba*: “to have been tricked / lied to” (see note 227 in Act 1, scene 1).
- 95 *praesens, praesentis* (*praesenti* agrees with a missing *mīhi*): “at hand”, “present”, “in person”.
- 96 *palam* (adverb): “openly”.
- 97 *minoris* (genitive of value): “of less worth”, “lowlier”.
- 98 *prae*: “in front of”.
- 99 *fector, -oris* (m.): “maker”.
- 100 *condictor, -oris* (m.): “one who fixes or arranges”.
- 101 *clueo, -ere*: “be spoken of”, “hear oneself called”.
- 102 *sapiō, -ere, sapiui, -*: “to be sensible”, “to be wise”.
- 103 *memoro, -are, -auī, -atum*: “remember”, “reminisce”, “speak of”, “mention”.
- 104 *malleus, -ei* (m.): “hammer”.
- 105 *excutio, -ere, excussi, excussum*: “shake out or off”; translate here: “knock off”.
- 106 *manubrium, -ii* (n.): “handle”.



# ACTVS IV

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## 4.1 PHILIPPA, PERIPHANES

**Scene summary:** Philippa, the mother of Telestis, arrives on stage, expressing anxiety and sadness because her daughter has been taken captive. She is looking for Periphanes, and finally sees him. They eventually recognize each other, having not seen each other for many years. Periphanes remembers his part in the affair (during which he had helped her out financially) as having been more generous than Philippa does, since she was left with a child to bring up and no husband. Periphanes tells Philippa the good news that he has their daughter Telestis safe in his house, and he calls for her to be brought outside to see her mother.

**Philippa:** Si quid est homini<sup>1</sup> miseriarum<sup>2</sup> quod miserescat,<sup>3</sup>  
miser ex animost.<sup>4</sup>

id ego experior,<sup>5</sup> quo<sup>i</sup><sup>6</sup> multa in unum locum confluont<sup>7</sup> quae  
meum pectu<sup>8</sup> pulsant<sup>9</sup>

simul: multiplex<sup>10</sup> aerumna<sup>11</sup> exercitam<sup>12</sup> habet,

paupertas, pauor<sup>13</sup> territat<sup>14</sup> mentem animi,

530

neque ubi meas conlocem<sup>15</sup> spes<sup>16</sup> habeo mi usquam<sup>17</sup> munitum<sup>18</sup> locum.

1 *homini* (dative of possession with *est*).

2 *miseria, -ae* (f.): "suffering", "misery".

3 *miseresco, -ere*: "have compassion".

4 *animost* = *animo est; si quid est homini miseriarum quod miserescat, miser ex animost*: "if a person suffers so much that she pities herself, she is well and truly pitiable".

5 *experior, -iri, expertus sum*: "put to the test", "experience".

6 *quo<sup>i</sup>* = *cui*.

7 *confluont* = *confluent* < *confluo, -ere, -fluxi, -*: "flow together".

8 *pectu'* = *pectus* < *pectus, pectoris* (n.): "breast", "chest"; translate here: "heart".

9 *pulso, -are, -aui, -atum*: "beat", "strike", "hammer".

10 *multiplex, -ploris*: "having many folds", "having many parts".

11 *aerumna, -ae*: "distress", "hardship", "labour", "task".

12 *exerceo, -ere, -ui, -itum*: "occupy", "exercise", "disturb".

13 *pauor, -oris* (m.): "fear", "panic".

14 *territio, -are, -aui, -atum*: "intimidate", "keep in a state of fear".

15 *conlocem* = *collocem* < *colloco, -are, -aui, -atum*: "place", "position".

16 *spes* (feminine accusative plural) < *spes, spei*.

17 *usquam*: "anywhere".

18 *munitus, -a, -um*: "safe".

ita gnata<sup>19</sup> mea hostiumst<sup>20</sup> potita<sup>21</sup> neque ea nunc ubi sit scio.

**Periphanes:** quis illaec<sup>22</sup> est mulier timido pectore<sup>23</sup> peregre<sup>24</sup> adueniens

quae ipsa se miseratur?<sup>25</sup> **Philippa:** in his dictust<sup>26</sup> locis habitare mihi

Periphanes. **Periphanes:** me nominat haec; credo ego illi<sup>27</sup> hospitio<sup>28</sup> 535  
usu'<sup>29</sup> uenit.

**Philippa:** peruelim<sup>30</sup> mercedem<sup>31</sup> dare qui monstret eum mi  
hominem [aut] ubi habitet.

**Periphanes:** noscito<sup>32</sup> ego hanc, nam uideor nescio ubi<sup>33</sup> mi<sup>34</sup>  
uidisse prius.

estne ea an non east<sup>35</sup> quam animus retur<sup>36</sup> meus?

**Philippa:** di boni! uisitaui<sup>37</sup> \* \* antidhac?<sup>38</sup>

**Periphanes:** certo<sup>39</sup> east \* \*

540

quam in Epidauro

540a

pauperculam<sup>40</sup> memini<sup>41</sup> comprimere<sup>42</sup>

540b

**Philippa:** plane hicine<sup>43</sup> est

qui mi in Epidauro uirgini primu'<sup>44</sup> pudicitiam<sup>45</sup> perpulit.<sup>46</sup>

541a

19 *gnata* = *nata, -ae* (f.): "daughter".

20 *hostiumst* = *hostium est; hostis, -is* (m.): "stranger", "foreigner".

21 *hostiumst potita:* "[she] has been captured by the enemy".

22 *illaec* = *illa*.

23 *pectore* < *pectus, pectoris* (see above).

24 *peregre* (adverb): "to/from abroad".

25 *miseror, -ari, -atus sum:* "pity", "feel sorry for".

26 *dictust* = *dictus est*.

27 *illi* (feminine dative singular, referring to Philippa).

28 *hospitium, -ii* (n.): "hospitality".

29 *usu' = usus; usu' uenit* (+ ablative): "there is need for", "it is necessary".

30 *peruolo, peruelle, peruolui* (stronger form of *uolo*).

31 *merces, mercedis* (f.): "pay", "reward".

32 *noscito, -are, -auī, -atum:* "recognize", "try to recognize".

33 *nescio ubi:* "I don't know where".

34 *mi* = *mihi*.

35 *east* = *ea est*.

36 *reor, reri, ratus sum:* "think", "suppose", "believe".

37 *uisito, -are, -auī, -atum:* "see", "go to see".

38 *antidhac* = *antehac* (adverb): "before this time", "in the past"; *uisitaui ... antidhac?*: "have I seen [this man] before?".

39 *certo:* "certainly".

40 *pauperculus, -a, -um:* "poor little" (diminutive of *pauper, pauperis*).

41 *memini, -isse:* "remember" (only the perfect tense forms exist).

42 *comprimo, -ere, -pressi, -pressum:* "press together", "restrain"; translate here: "have sex with" (from a male point of view), "sexually penetrate".

43 *hicine:* "here".

44 *primu' = primus*.

45 *pudicitia, -ae* (f.): "chastity", "virginity".

46 *perpello, perpellere, perpuli, perpulsum:* "compel", "constrain", "prevail upon".

**Periphanes:** quae meo compressu<sup>47</sup> peperit<sup>48</sup> filiam quam domi nunc habeo.

quid si<sup>49</sup> adeam<sup>50</sup> — **Philippa:** hau scio<sup>51</sup> an congregias<sup>52</sup> — **Periphanes:** si haec east. **Philippa:** sin is est homo, sicut<sup>53</sup> anni multi dubia<sup>54</sup> dant. **Periphanes:** longa dies<sup>55</sup> meum incertat<sup>56</sup> animum.

sin<sup>57</sup> east quam incerte autumo,<sup>58</sup> hanc congregiar astu.<sup>59</sup>

545

**Philippa:** muliebris<sup>60</sup> adhibenda<sup>61</sup> mihi malitia<sup>62</sup> nunc est.

**Periphanes:** compellabo.<sup>63</sup> **Philippa:** orationis aciem<sup>64</sup> contra<sup>65</sup> conferam.<sup>66</sup>

**Periphanes:** salua sies.<sup>67</sup> **Philippa:** salutem<sup>68</sup> accipio mihi et meis.<sup>69</sup>

**Periphanes:** quid ceterum?

**Philippa:** saluos<sup>70</sup> sis: quod credidisti<sup>71</sup> reddo.<sup>72</sup> **Periphanes:** haud accuso<sup>73</sup> fidem.<sup>74</sup>

nouin<sup>75</sup> ego te? **Philippa:** si ego te noui, animum inducam<sup>76</sup> ut tu noueris.<sup>77</sup>

550

47 *compressus, -us* (m.): “pressing together”; translate here: “sexual intercourse” (by a man), “sexual penetration”.

48 *pario, -ere, peperi, paritum/partum:* “give birth to”.

49 *quid si:* “what if”.

50 *adeo, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum:* “approach”.

51 *hau = haud:* “not”, “not at all”.

52 *congregias* (alternative second-person singular present subjunctive active < *congregior, -iri, congressus sum:* “approach”).

53 *sicut:* “as”, “since”.

54 *dubius, -a, -um:* “uncertain”.

55 *dies, diei* (f.): “day”; translate here: “period of time”.

56 *incerto, -are, -aui, -atum:* “make unsure/uncertain”.

57 *sin = si + -ne.*

58 *autumo, -are, -aui, -atum:* “affirm”, “think/believe”.

59 *astus, -us* (m.): “cunning”, “cleverness”.

60 *muliebris, muliebre:* “womanly”, “feminine”.

61 *adhibeo, -ere, adhibui, adhibitum:* “summon”, “use”.

62 *malitia, -ae* (f.): “malice”, “artfulness”, “cunning”.

63 *compello, -are, -aui, -atum:* “address”, “speak to”.

64 *orationis aciem:* “the sharp edge of my eloquence/speech”.

65 *contra:* “against [him]”.

66 *confero, -ferre, -tuli, -latum:* “direct”, “aim”.

67 *sies = sis.*

68 *salus, salutis* (f.): “greeting”, “wishes for good health”.

69 *meis = meis familiaribus:* “for my family”.

70 *saluos = saluus.*

71 *credo, -ere, credidi, creditum:* “believe”, “trust”; translate here: “lend”.

72 *quod credidisti reddo:* “I return [the greeting] that you lent me”.

73 *accuso, -are, -aui, -atum:* “find fault with”.

74 *fides, fidei* (f.): “faith”, “trustworthiness”; translate here: “credit”.

75 *nouin = noui + -ne < nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* “get to know”, “know”, “recognize”.

76 *induco, -ere, -dux, -ductum:* “induce”, “influence”.

77 *si ego te noui, animum inducam ut tu noueris:* “if I know you, I’ll persuade myself that you know me”.

**Periphanes:** ubi te uisitau? **Philippa:** inique<sup>78</sup> iniuriu's.<sup>79</sup>  
**Periphanes:** quid iam? **Philippa:** quia  
 tuae memoriae interpretari<sup>80</sup> me aequom<sup>81</sup> censes.<sup>82</sup> **Periphanes:**  
 commode<sup>83</sup>  
 fabulata's.<sup>84</sup> **Philippa:** mira<sup>85</sup> memoras,<sup>86</sup> <Periphane.<sup>87</sup>>  
**Periphanes:** em<sup>88</sup> istuc<sup>89</sup> rectius.<sup>90</sup>  
 meministin?<sup>91</sup> **Philippa:** memini id quo dudum memini. **Periphanes:** at in  
 Epidauro — **Philippa:** ah! guttula<sup>92</sup>  
 pectus ardens mihi aspersisti.<sup>93</sup> **Periphanes:** uirgini pauperculae      555  
 tuaeque matri me leuare<sup>94</sup> paupertatem?<sup>95</sup> **Philippa:** tun<sup>96</sup> is es  
 qui per<sup>97</sup> uoluptatem tuam in me aerumnam<sup>98</sup> obseuisti<sup>99</sup> grauem?  
**Periphanes:** ego sum. salue. **Philippa:** salua<sup>100</sup> sum quia te esse  
 saluom<sup>101</sup> sentio.<sup>102</sup>  
**Periphanes:** cedo<sup>103</sup> manum. **Philippa:** accipe; aerumnosam<sup>104</sup> et  
 miseriarum<sup>105</sup> compotem<sup>106</sup>

78 *inique* (adverb < *iniquus, -a, -um*): “unjustly”, “unfairly”.

79 *iniuriu's = iniurius es*: “you're being unfair” (Plautus sometimes pairs an adjective and adverb that mean essentially the same thing).

80 *interpretor, -ari, -atus sum*: “explain”, “interpret”; translate here: “assist”, “jog [your memory]” (+ dative *tuae memoriae*).

81 *aequom = aequum*.

82 *censeo, -ere, censui, censitum*: “think”, “recommend”.

83 *commode* (adverb): “rightly”, “appropriately”, “skillfully”.

84 *fabulata's = fabulata es < fabulor, -ari, -atus sum*: “speak”.

85 *mirus, -a, -um*: “amazing”, “surprising”.

86 *memoro, -are, -aui, -atum*: “remember”, “reminisce”, “speak of”, “mention”.

87 *Periphane* (vocative).

88 *em* (expression of surprise, in a good or bad sense): “there!”, “hah!”.

89 *istuc = istud*.

90 *rectius* (comparative adverb from *rectus, -a, -um*): “more rightly”.

91 *meministin = meministi + -ne < memini, meminisse*: “remember” (only the perfect tense forms exist).

92 *guttulā* (ablative singular) < *guttula, -ae* (f.): “little drop”.

93 *aspergo, -ere, aspersi, aspersum*: “sprinkle”.

94 *me leuare* (accusative-infinitive construction after *meministin* in line 554).

95 *meministin... in Epidauro... uirgini pauperculae tuaeque matri me leuare paupertat*: “do you remember that in Epidaurus I lightened the poverty of a penniless young girl and of your mother”.

96 *tun = tu + -ne*.

97 *per*: “for the sake of” (+ accusative).

98 *aerumna, -ae* (f.): “distress”, “hardship”, “labour”, “task”.

99 *obsero, -ere, obseui, obsitum*: “sow”, “plant”, “bring”.

100 *salua... saluom* (*Philippa* takes *Periphanes*'s greeting *salue* literally).

101 *saluom = saluum*.

102 *sentio, -ire, sensi, sensum*: “perceive”.

103 *cedo* (archaic singular imperative related to *do, dare*): “give”.

104 *aerumnosus, -a, -um* (adjectival form of *aerumna, -a* see above).

105 *miseria, -ae* (f.): “suffering”, “misery”.

106 *compos, compotis*: “in possession of”; translate here: “afflicted with” (+ genitive).

mulierem retines.<sup>107</sup> **Periphanes:** quid est quod<sup>108</sup> uoltus<sup>109</sup> tte  
turbat<sup>110</sup> tuos?<sup>111</sup>

**Philippa:** filiam quam ex te suscep<sup>112</sup> — **Periphanes:** quid eam?<sup>113</sup>

**Philippa:** eductam<sup>114</sup> perdidi.<sup>115</sup>

hostium est potita.<sup>116</sup> **Periphanes:** habe animum lenem et tranquillum.  
tace.

domi meae<sup>117</sup> eccam<sup>118</sup> saluam et sanam. nam postquam audiui ilico<sup>119</sup>  
e meo seruo illam esse captam, continuo<sup>120</sup> argentum dedi  
ut emeretur.<sup>121</sup> ille eam rem adeo<sup>122</sup> sobrie<sup>123</sup> et frugaliter<sup>124</sup>

accurauit<sup>125</sup> ut — ut ad alias res est impense<sup>126</sup> inprobus.<sup>127</sup>

**Philippa:** fac uideam,<sup>128</sup> sei<sup>129</sup> mea,<sup>130</sup> sei saluam <me> uis.<sup>131</sup>

**Periphanes:** echo!<sup>132</sup> istinc,<sup>133</sup> Canthara,<sup>134</sup>  
iube Telestidem<sup>135</sup> huc prodire<sup>136</sup> filiam ante<sup>137</sup> aedis<sup>138</sup> meam,  
ut suam uideat matrem. **Philippa:** remigrat<sup>139</sup> animus nunc demum mihi.

565

107 *retineo, -ere, retinui, retentus:* “hold”; translate here: “hold the hand of”.

108 *quid est quod:* “why is that”, “why”.

109 *uoltus/uultus, -ūs* (m.): “face”, “facial expression”.

110 *quid est quod uoltus tte turbat tuos?* should probably be emended, as Duckworth suggests, to *quid est quod uoltus turbatur tuos:* “why is your face so troubled?”.

111 *tuos = tuus.*

112 *suscipio, -ere, suscipi, susceptum:* “receive”, “bear [a child]”.

113 *quid eam:* “what about her?”.

114 *eductam = educatam <educo, -are, -aui, -atum:* “raise / bring up [a child]”.

115 *perdo, -ere, perdidi, perditum:* “ruin”, “lose”.

116 *hostium est potita:* “[she] has been captured by the enemy”.

117 *domi meae* (locative).

118 *eccam = ecce eam* (*ecce* usually means “look!”, “behold”, and frequently, as here, refers to someone off stage).

119 *ilico* (adverb): “immediately”.

120 *continuo* (adverb): “immediately”.

121 *emo, -ere, emi, emptum:* “buy”.

122 *adeo:* “precisely”, “exactly”.

123 *sobrie* (adverb from *sobrius, -a, -um:* “sober”, “sensible”).

124 *frugaliter* (adverb <*frugalis, -e:* “useful”, “prudent”); see note 39 in Act 3, scene 4a.

125 *accuro, -are, -aui, -atum:* “attend to”, “take care of”, “perform with care”.

126 *impense:* “exceedingly” <*impensus, -a, -um:* “great”, “ample”.

127 *inprobus = improbus <improbus, -a, -um:* “wicked”, “greedy”, “shameless”.

128 *fac uideam:* “let me see [her]”.

129 *sei = si.*

130 *sei mea:* “if she is mine”.

131 *sei saluam <me> uis:* “if you want me to be well”.

132 *echo* (an exclamation of surprise, amazement, anger, or a preface to giving someone an order or request).

133 *istinc:* “from [in] there”.

134 *Canthara, -ae:* a woman’s name.

135 *Telestis, Telestidis:* the name of Periphanes’s and Philippa’s illegitimate daughter.

136 *prodeo, -ire, -iui, -itum:* “come out”.

137 *ante* (preposition + accusative): “in front of”.

138 *aedis/aedes, -is* (f.): “building”, “house” (often used in the plural, as here).

139 *remigro, -are, -aui, -atum:* “move back”, “return”.

## 4.2 ACROPOLISTIS, PERIPHANES, PHILIPPA

**Scene summary:** Acropolistis (whom Periphanes has been made to believe is his daughter Telestis) comes out, calling Periphanes “father”. Philippa says that the woman is not Telestis, and Acropolistis says she was told by Epidicus to pretend to be Telestis. Periphanes is enraged and threatens to have Epidicus executed when he finds him.

**Acropolistis:** quid est, pater, quod me exciusti<sup>1</sup> ante aedis?                        570

**Periphanes:** ut matrem tuam  
uideas, adeas,<sup>2</sup> aduenienti<sup>3</sup> des<sup>4</sup> salutem<sup>5</sup> atque osculum.<sup>6</sup>

**Acropolostis:** quam meam matrem?<sup>7</sup> **Periphanes:** quae examinata<sup>8</sup>  
exsequitur<sup>9</sup> aspectum<sup>10</sup> tuom.<sup>11</sup>

**Philippa:** quis istaec<sup>12</sup> est quam tu osculum mi<sup>13</sup> ferre iubes?

**Periphanes:** tua filia.

**Philippa:** haecine?<sup>14</sup> **Periphanes:** haec. **Philippa:** egone osculum  
huic dem? **Periphanes:** quer<sup>15</sup>  
non, quae ex te nata sit?<sup>16</sup>

**Philippa:** tu homo insanis. **Periphanes:** egone? **Philippa:** tune.                        575

**Periphanes:** quer?<sup>17</sup> **Philippa:** quia ego hanc quae siet<sup>18</sup>  
neque scio neque noui<sup>19</sup> neque ego hanc oculis uidi ante hunc diem.

1 *excio, -ire, -iui, -itum:* “rouse”, “send for”, “summon”.

2 *adeas < adeo, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum:* “approach”.

3 *aduenienti* (dative singular of the present active participle of *aduenio, -ire, -ueni, -uentum*).

4 *des < do, dare, dedi, datum.*

5 *salus, salutis* (f.): “greeting”, “wishes for good health”.

6 *osculum, -i* (n.): “kiss”.

7 *quam meam matrem* (accusative direct object of an implied *ut... uideam, adeam* carried over from 570–571): “[so that I may come and see] which mother of mine?”.

8 *exanimo, -are, -auit, -atum:* “alarm”, “exhaust”, “be out of breath”.

9 *exsequor, -i, -executus sum:* “follow”, “pursue”, “search for”.

10 *aspectus, -ūs* (m.): “appearance”, “sight”, “countenance”.

11 *tuom = tuum.*

12 *istaec = ista.*

13 *mi = mihi.*

14 *haecine = haec + -ne.*

15 *quer = cur.*

16 *nata sit < nascor, nasci, natus sum:* “be born”; perfect subjunctive because it’s a relative clause of concession, see Allen and Greenough’s *Latin Grammar* 535.e, [http://dcc.dickinson.edu/grammar/latin/category-search?field\\_gl\\_section\\_number\\_value=535](http://dcc.dickinson.edu/grammar/latin/category-search?field_gl_section_number_value=535).

17 *quer = cur.*

18 *siet = sit.*

19 *quia ego hanc quae siet / neque scio neque noui:* literally “because I don’t know this woman — who she may be — and I don’t recognize [her]”.

**Periphanes:** scio quid<sup>20</sup> erres:<sup>21</sup> quia uestitum<sup>22</sup> atque ornatum<sup>23</sup> immutabilem<sup>24</sup>

habet haec, \*

**Philippa:** \* aliter<sup>25</sup> catuli<sup>26</sup> longe<sup>27</sup> olen<sup>28</sup> aliter sues.<sup>29</sup>

ne<sup>30</sup> ego me nego nosse<sup>31</sup> hanc quae sit. **Periphanes:** pro<sup>32</sup> deum                    580  
atque hominum fidem!

quid? ego lenocinium<sup>33</sup> facio qui habeam alienas<sup>34</sup> domi<sup>35</sup>

atque argentum egurgitem<sup>36</sup> domo prosus?<sup>37</sup> quid<sup>38</sup> tu, quae

patrem

tuom<sup>39</sup> uocas me atque osculare, quid stas stupida? quid taces?

**Acropolostis:** quid<sup>40</sup> loquar uis? **Periphanes:** haec negat se tuam  
esse matrem. **Acropolostis:** ne fuat<sup>41</sup>

si non uolt:<sup>42</sup> equidem hac inuita<sup>43</sup> tamen ero<sup>44</sup> matris<sup>45</sup> filia;                    585

non med<sup>46</sup> istanc<sup>47</sup> cogere<sup>48</sup> aequom<sup>49</sup> est meam esse matrem si  
neuolt.<sup>50</sup>

20 *quid:* "why".

21 *erro, -are, -aui, -atum:* "err", "make a mistake", "be confused" (subjunctive because it's an indirect question).

22 *uestitus, -ūs* (m.): "clothing".

23 *ornatus, -ūs* (m.): "adornment", "accessories".

24 *immutabilis, -e:* "changed", "liable to be changed" (< *immuto, -are:* "change"; not to be confused with *immutabilis* < *in + mutabilis:* "unchangeable").

25 *aliter... aliter* (adverb): "one way... another way".

26 *catulus, -i* (m.): "puppy".

27 *longe* (adverb): "by a long way", "far", "much".

28 *oleo, -ere, olui, —:* "smell of", "smell like".

29 *sus, suis* (m./f.): "pig".

30 *ne* (interjection followed by a personal or demonstrative pronoun): "really", "indeed".

31 *nosse = nouisse < nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* "get to know", "know", "recognize".

32 *pro:* "oh!", "by...!", "for the sake of..." (+ accusative).

33 *lenocinium, -ii* (n.): "pimping", "sex trafficking".

34 *alienus, -a, -um:* "strange", "foreign".

35 *domi* (locative).

36 *egurgito, -are, -aui, -atum:* "pour out from" (+ ablative).

37 *prosus/prorsus* (adverb): "entirely", "utterly".

38 *quid:* "why".

39 *tuom = tuum.*

40 *quid:* "what".

41 *fuat = sit.*

42 *uolt = uult.*

43 *hāc inuitā* (ablative absolute): "even if she isn't willing", "even without her agreement".

44 *ero < sum, esse, fui, futurum.*

45 *matris* (Acropolistis here is referring to her own real mother): "my mother's".

46 *med = me.*

47 *istanc = istam.*

48 *cogo, -ere, coegi, coactum:* "compel", "force".

49 *aequom = aequum:* "right", "fair".

50 *neuolt = non uult.*

**Periphanes:** *qur<sup>51</sup> me igitur patrem uocabas? Acropolistis:* tua istaec<sup>52</sup> culpast,<sup>53</sup> non mea.  
 non patrem ego te nominem,<sup>54</sup> ubi tu tuam me appelles<sup>55</sup> filiam?  
 hanc quoque etiam, si me appellat filiam, matrem uocem.  
 negat haec filiam me suam esse: non ergo haec mater mea est.                         590  
 postremo<sup>56</sup> haec mea culpa non est: quae didici<sup>57</sup> dixi omnia;  
 Epidicus mihi fuit magister.<sup>58</sup> **Periphanes:** perii!<sup>59</sup> *plastrum<sup>60</sup>*  
 perculi.<sup>61</sup>

**Acropolistis:** numquid<sup>62</sup> ego ibi, pater, peccauit? **Periphanes:** si hercle te umquam audiuero  
 me patrem uocare, uitam tuam ego interimam.<sup>63</sup> **Acropolistis:** non uoco.  
 ubi<sup>64</sup> uoles pater esse ibi<sup>65</sup> esto;<sup>66</sup> ubi noles ne fueris<sup>67</sup> pater.                         595  
**Philippa:** quid <si> | ob eam rem<sup>68</sup> hanc emisti<sup>69</sup> quia tuam gnamat<sup>70</sup> ratu's,<sup>71</sup>  
 quibu'<sup>72</sup> de signis agnoscebas?<sup>73</sup> **Periphanes:** nullis. **Philippa:** qua re<sup>74</sup> filiam  
 credidisti nostram?<sup>75</sup> **Periphanes:** seruos<sup>76</sup> Epidicus dixit mihi.

51 *qur = cur.*52 *istaec = ista.*53 *culpast = culpa est.*54 *nomino, -are, -aui, -atum:* "name", "call".55 *appello, -are, -aui, -atum:* "call", "name".56 *postremo* (adverb): "finally".57 *disco, -ere, didici, discitum:* "learn".58 *magister, -tri* (m.): "teacher".59 *pereo, -ire, -iui/-ii, -itum:* "die", "be ruined", "be lost".60 *plastrum, -tri* (n.): "wagon".61 *percello, -ere, perculi, percussum:* "upset"; *plastrum perculi* (proverbial saying): "I've really messed up".62 *numquid* (a strengthened form of *num*): "surely... not?", "can it be that...?".63 *interimo, -ere, interimi, interemptum:* "do away with", "kill", "put an end to".64 *ubi:* "when", "whenever".65 *ibi:* "then".66 *esto* (second-person singular future imperative active) <*sum, esse, fui, futurus*.>67 *fueris* (second-person singular perfect subjunctive active) <*sum, esse, fui, futurus*.>68 *quam ob rem:* "for that reason".69 *emo, -ere, emi, emptum:* "buy".70 *gnamat = natam <nata, -ae* (f.): "daughter".71 *ratu's = ratus es <reor, reri, ratus sum:* "think", "suppose", "believe". Supply *esse* to make an indirect statement with *tuam gnamat esse ratu's*.72 *quibu' = quibus.*73 *agnosco, -ere, agnoui, agnatum:* "recognize".74 *qua re:* "why".75 *qua re filiam credidisti nostram* (supply *esse* to make an indirect statement).76 *seruos = seruus.*

**Philippa:** quid si seruo aliter uisum est,<sup>77</sup> non poteras nouisse,<sup>78</sup>  
opsecro?<sup>79</sup>

**Periphanes:** quid ego<sup>80</sup> qui illam ut<sup>81</sup> preimum<sup>82</sup> uidi, numquam        600  
uidi postea?

**Philippa:** perii misera! **Periphanes:** ne fle,<sup>83</sup> mulier. intro abi,<sup>84</sup> habe  
animum bonum;

ego illam reperiam.<sup>85</sup> **Philippa:** hinc<sup>86</sup> Athenis<sup>87</sup> ciuis eam emit  
Atticus:

adulescentem equidem dicebant emisse. **Periphanes:** inueniam, tace.  
abi<sup>88</sup> modo intro atque hanc asserua<sup>89</sup> Circam<sup>90</sup> Solis<sup>91</sup> filiam.

ego relictis rebus<sup>92</sup> Epidicum operam quaerendo dabo:<sup>93</sup>        605  
si inuenio exitiabilem<sup>94</sup> ego illi faciam hunc ut fiat diem. —

77 *quid si seruo aliter uisum est:* “so if it seemed otherwise to your slave”, “just because your slave made a mistake”.

78 *nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* “get to know”, “know”, “recognize”.

79 *opsecro:* “please”, “for goodness’ sake”.

80 *quid ego:* “how could I?”.

81 *ut:* “since”.

82 *preimum = primum:* “for the first time”.

83 *fleo, -ere, fleui, fletum:* “weep”, “cry”; *ne fle:* “stop crying”.

84 *abi* (second-person singular present imperative) < *abeo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum.*

85 *reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum:* “find”.

86 *hinc:* “from here”.

87 *Athenis* (ablative of place from which, referring to the place where Stratippocles, the *ciuis Atticus*, is from).

88 *abi* (second-person singular present imperative) < *abeo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum.*

89 *assero, -are, -aui, -atum:* “guard”, “watch”.

90 *Circa, -ae* (f.): “Circe” (Circe, from Greek mythology, was the daughter of the Sun. She was a witch and lover of Odysseus. It is not a compliment for Periphanes to refer to Acropolistis as “Circe”).

91 *Sol, Solis* (m.): “sun”.

92 *relictis rebus* (ablative absolute): “with the [other] matter left aside”.

93 *operam quaerendo dabo:* “I’ll give attention to seeking”, “I’ll start looking for”.

94 *exitiabilis, -e:* “destructive”, “deadly”.



# ACTVS V

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## 5.1 STRATIPPOCLES, EPIDICVS, DANISTA, TELESTIS

**Scene summary:** Epidicus expresses terror at the punishment he knows Periphanes is planning for him, since he has seen Periphanes and Apoecides buying straps for tying him up. He begs for help in running away, but Stratippocles is unsympathetic. The moneylender arrives with Telestis, and Stratippocles goes indoors to bring out the money he owes the moneylender. While Stratippocles is indoors, Epidicus recognizes Telestis as Periphanes's illegitimate daughter, since he'd brought her some birthday gifts some years before (presumably at Periphanes's order). She is delighted to learn that she has found her father, and when Stratippocles comes outdoors and pays off the moneylender, she greets him as her brother. Stratippocles is disappointed to find that his newly acquired slave girlfriend has turned out to be his sister but Epidicus tells him to keep quiet and to make do with Acropolitistis instead. Epidicus knows that his discovery of the real Telestis will turn Periphanes's rage into gratitude, and so no longer plans to run away.

**Stratippocles:** male<sup>1</sup> morigerus<sup>2</sup> mihi est danista,<sup>3</sup> quei<sup>4</sup> a me  
argentum non petit  
neque illam adducit quam <emi> ex praeda.<sup>5</sup> sed eccum<sup>6</sup> incedit<sup>7</sup>  
Epidicus.  
quid illuc est quod<sup>8</sup> illi caperrat<sup>9</sup> frons<sup>10</sup> seueritudine?<sup>11</sup>

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1 *male* (used to negate *morigerus*).

2 *morigerus*, -a, -um: "compliant", "obliging".

3 *danista*, -ae (m.): "moneylender".

4 *quei* = *qui*.

5 *praeda*, -ae (f.): "booty", "[war] prize".

6 *eccum* = *ecce* + *hunc*: "look, there he is!".

7 *incedo*, -ere, *incessi*, *incessum*: "walk", "march along".

8 *quid illuc quod*: "why is it that?".

9 *caperro*, -are, -au*i*, -atum: "be wrinkled", "wrinkle", "furrow".

10 *frons*, *frontis* (m.): "forehead", "brow".

11 *seueritudo*, -tudinis (f.): "severity", "worry".

**Epidicus:** si undecim<sup>12</sup> deos praeter<sup>13</sup> sese secum adducat Iuppiter,      610  
 ita non omnes ex cruciatu<sup>14</sup> poterunt eximere<sup>15</sup> Epidicum.  
 Periphanem emere lora<sup>16</sup> uidi, ibi aderat una<sup>17</sup> Apoecides;  
 nunc homines me quaeritare<sup>18</sup> credo. senserunt, sciunt  
 sibi data esse uerba.<sup>19</sup> **Stratippocles:** quid agis,<sup>20</sup> mea  
 Commoditas?<sup>21</sup> **Epidicus:** quod<sup>22</sup> miser.  
**Stratippocles:** quid est tibi? **Epidicus:** quin<sup>23</sup> tu mihi adornas<sup>24</sup> ad      615  
 fugam<sup>25</sup> uiaticum<sup>26</sup>  
 priu' quam<sup>27</sup> pereo? nam per urbem duo defloccati<sup>28</sup> senes  
 quaeritant me, in manibus gestant<sup>29</sup> copulas<sup>30</sup> secum simul.<sup>31</sup>  
**Stratippocles:** habe bonum animum. **Epidicus:** quippe<sup>32</sup> ego quo<sup>33</sup>  
 libertas in mundo<sup>34</sup> sitast.<sup>35</sup>  
**Stratippocles:** ego te seruabo.<sup>36</sup> **Epidicus:** edepol me illi melius<sup>37</sup> si  
 nancti fuant.<sup>38</sup>

12 *undecim* (indeclinable; here it qualifies *deos*): “eleven”.

13 *praeter*: “except”, “not including”.

14 *cruciatus, -us* (m.): “torture”, “crucifixion”.

15 *eximo, -ere, exemi, exemptum*: “extract”, “release”, “save”.

16 *lorum, -i* (n.): “leather strap”, “whip”.

17 *unā* (adverbial): “at the same time”, “along with him”.

18 *quaerito, -are, -auti, -atum*: “seek”, “search for”.

19 *sibi data esse uerba*: “that they have been tricked / lied to”.

20 *quid agis*: “what are you up to” (this is a standard greeting).

21 *Commoditas, -atis* (f.): “timeliness”, “convenience”, “benefit” (Stratippocles uses this nickname for Epidicus perhaps from affection, or more likely as a casual acknowledgment that Epidicus is a useful tool to him).

22 *quod* (replies literally to Stratippocles’s greeting): “what [a miserable man would be up to]”.

23 *quin*: “why... not?”, “why don’t you...?”.

24 *adorno, -are, -auti, -atum*: “get ready”, “prepare”.

25 *fuga, -ae* (f.): “escape”, “running away” “exile”.

26 *uiaticum, -a, -um* (adjective < *uia, -ae*): “relating to a journey”; *quin tu mihi adornaas ad fugam uiaticum*: “why don’t you give me what I’ll need to run away”.

27 *priu' quam* = *prius quam*: “before”.

28 *defloccatus, -a, -um*: “bald”, “shorn”, “fleeced” (probably intended in the sense of “cheated”).

29 *gesto, -are, -auti, -atum*: “carry”.

30 *copula, -ae* (f.): “rope”, “thong”, “bond”.

31 *simul*: “also”, “at the same time”.

32 *quippe*: “obviously”.

33 *quo* = *cui*.

34 *in mundo*: “in readiness” (Epidicus is being ironic here, since it is punishment, not freedom, that he actually expects).

35 *sitast = sita est*: “[for whom freedom] has been allowed / permitted” < *sino, -ere, siui, situm*: “allow”.

36 *seruo, -are, -auti, -atum*: “guard”, “keep watch over”. “protect”, “save”.

37 *me illi melius*: “they’ll guard me better” (Stratippocles used *te seruabo* to mean “I’ll protect you”, but Epidicus picks up on the other meaning of the word: “guard” or “keep watch over”).

38 *nancti fuant* = *nancti sunt* < *nanciscor, nancisci, nanctus sum*: “get”, “find”, “meet with”.

sed quis haec est muliercula<sup>39</sup> et ille grauastellus,<sup>40</sup> qui uenit? 620

**Stratippocles:** hic est danista, haec illa est autem quam [ego] emi de praeda. **Epidicus:** haecinest?<sup>41</sup>

**Stratippocles:** haec est. estne ita ut tibi dixi? aspecta<sup>42</sup> et contempla,<sup>43</sup> Epidice:

usque ab unguiculo<sup>44</sup> ad capillum<sup>45</sup> summumst<sup>46</sup> festiuissuma.<sup>47</sup>

estne consimilis<sup>48</sup> quasi<sup>49</sup> quom<sup>50</sup> signum<sup>51</sup> pictum<sup>52</sup> pulchre aspexeris?<sup>53</sup>

**Epidicus:** e tuis uerbis meum futurum<sup>54</sup> corium<sup>55</sup> pulchrum<sup>56</sup> 625

praedicas,<sup>57</sup>

quem<sup>58</sup> Apelles<sup>59</sup> ac Zeuxis<sup>60</sup> duo<sup>61</sup> pingent<sup>62</sup> pigmentis<sup>63</sup> ulmeis.<sup>64</sup>

**Stratippocles:** di immortales!<sup>65</sup> sicin<sup>66</sup> iussi<sup>67</sup> ad me ires?<sup>68</sup> pedibus plumbeis<sup>69</sup>

39 *muliercula, -ae* (f.): "little woman".

40 *grauastellus, -i* (m.): "little old man".

41 *haecinest = haec + -ne est:* "this is she", "this is her".

42 *aspicio, -ere, aspexi, aspectum:* "look [at]".

43 *contemplo, -are, -aui, -atum:* "gaze [at]".

44 *unguiculus, -i* (m.): "fingernail", "toenail".

45 *capilla, -ae* (f.): "hair".

46 *summumst = summum est.*

47 *festiuissimus = festiuissimus* (superlative <*festiuus, -a, -um*>): "most pleasing", "prettiest".

48 *consimilis, -e:* "similar".

49 *quasi* (adverb): "as though" (followed by the subjunctive mood).

50 *quom = cum.*

51 *signum, -i* (n.): "statue", "picture".

52 *pictus, -a, -um:* "painted".

53 *aspexeris* (second-person singular perfect active subjunctive) <*aspicio, -ere, aspexi, aspectum:* "look [at]">.

54 *futurum = futurum esse:* "[my skin] is going to be".

55 *corium, -ii* (n.): "skin"; "hide".

56 *pulchrum* (here Epidicus means that his skin will be "beautiful" or "pretty as a picture" in the sense that it will be marked with whip lashes).

57 *praedico, -ere, -dixi, -dictum* (this is a different verb from *praedico, -are*): "foretell", "predict".

58 *quem* (referring to a missing *me* as antecedent).

59 *Apelles, -is:* the name of a famous Greek painter.

60 *Zeuxis, is/-idis:* the name of another famous Greek painter.

61 *Apelles atque Zeuxis duo* (referring to Periphanes and Apocedes).

62 *pingo, -ere, pinxi, pictum:* "paint".

63 *pigmentum, -i* (n.): "pigment", "paint".

64 *ulmeus, -a, -um:* "made of elmwood" (referring to the elmwood rods with which Epidicus expects to be beaten).

65 *immortales = immortales.*

66 *sicin = sic + -ne:* "in this way?".

67 *iubeo, -ere, iussi, iussum:* "order", "tell" (often followed, as here, by the subjunctive without *ut*, see Allen and Greenough's *Latin Grammar* 565a, [http://dcc.dickinson.edu/grammar/latin/category-search?field\\_gl\\_section\\_number\\_value=565](http://dcc.dickinson.edu/grammar/latin/category-search?field_gl_section_number_value=565)).

68 *ires < eo, ire, iui/ii, itum.*

69 *plumbeus, -a, -um:* "leaden", "made of lead", "slow" (*pedibus plumbeis* is an ablative of quality).

qui<sup>70</sup> perhibetur<sup>71</sup> priu'<sup>72</sup> uenisset quam tu aduenisti mihi.

**Danista:** haec edepol remorata<sup>73</sup> med<sup>74</sup> est. **Stratippocles:** siquidem<sup>75</sup> istius gratia

id<sup>76</sup> remoratu's<sup>77</sup> quod<sup>78</sup> ista uoluit, nimium aduenisti cito.<sup>79</sup>

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**Danista:** age age,<sup>80</sup> apsolue<sup>81</sup> <me> atque argentum numera,<sup>82</sup> ne comites<sup>83</sup> morer.<sup>84</sup>

**Stratippocles:** pernumeratumst.<sup>85</sup> **Danista:** tene<sup>86</sup> cruminam:<sup>87</sup>

huc<sup>88</sup> inde.<sup>89</sup> **Stratippocles:** sapienter<sup>90</sup> uenis.

opperire<sup>91</sup> dum ecfero<sup>92</sup> ad te argentum. **Danista:** matura.<sup>93</sup>

**Stratippocles:** domist.<sup>94</sup> —

**Epidicus:** satin<sup>95</sup> ego oculis<sup>96</sup> utilitatem<sup>97</sup> optineo<sup>98</sup> sincere<sup>99</sup> an parum?<sup>100</sup>

uideon<sup>101</sup> ego Telestidem<sup>102</sup> te, Periphanei<sup>103</sup> filiam,

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70 *qui*: "the man who" (this seems to be a reference to some proverbial story about a man with leaden feet).

71 *perhibetur*: "is said to be".

72 *priu' ...quam* = *prius... quam*.

73 *remoror, -ari, -atus sum*: "delay".

74 *med* = *me*.

75 *siquidem*: "if indeed", "accordingly".

76 *id* (referring to the task of bringing Telestis to Stratippocles's home).

77 *remoratu's* = *remoratus es* < *remoror, -ari, -atus sum*: "delay".

78 *quod*: "because".

79 *cito*: "quickly".

80 *age age*: "come on now".

81 *apsolie* = *absolie* < *absoluo, -ere, absolui, absolutum*: "pay off".

82 *numero, -are, -aui, -atum*: "count out".

83 *comes, comitis* (m.): "partner", "associate".

84 *moror, -ari, -atus sum*: "delay".

85 *pernumeratumst* = *pernumeratum est* < *pernumero, -are, -aui, -atum*: "count out", "reckon up".

86 *teneo, -ere, tenui, tentum*: "take", "hold".

87 *crumina, -ae* (f.): "pouch", "purse", "small moneybag".

88 *huc*: "in(to) here".

89 *indo, indidi, inditum*: "put into".

90 *sapienter* (adverb < *sapiens, sapientis*).

91 *opperire* (second-person singular present imperative) < *opperior, opperiri, opperitus sum*: "wait", "await".

92 *ecfero* = *effero* < *effero, efferre, extuli, elatus*: "carry out", "bring out".

93 *maturo, -are, -aui, -atum*: "ripen", "hurry", "make haste to".

94 *domist* = *domi est*: "it's in my house".

95 *satin* = *satis + -ne*: "enough", "sufficiently".

96 *oculis* (ablative after *utilitatem optineo*): "[do I still have the use of my] eyes".

97 *utilitas, -tatis* (f.): "use", "usefulness".

98 *optineo, -ere, optimui, optentum*: "obtain", "possess", "keep".

99 *sincere* (adverb < *sincerus, -a, -um*): "sincerely", "genuinely".

100 *parum* (adverb): "not enough", "insufficiently".

101 *uideon* = *uideo + -ne*.

102 *Telestidem* (accusative form of the name Telestis).

103 *Periphanei* (genitive).

ex Philippa matre natam Thebis,<sup>104</sup> Epidauri<sup>105</sup> satam?<sup>106</sup>

**Telestis:** quis tu homo es qui meum parentum nomen memoras<sup>107</sup> et  
meum?

**Epidicus:** non me nouisti?<sup>108</sup> **Telestis:** quod quidem nunc ueniat in  
mentem mihi.<sup>109</sup>

**Epidicus:** non meministi<sup>110</sup> me auream<sup>111</sup> ad te adferre<sup>112</sup> natali<sup>113</sup> die  
lunulam<sup>114</sup> atque anellum<sup>115</sup> aureolum<sup>116</sup> in digitum?<sup>117</sup> **Telestis:**                   640  
memini, mi<sup>118</sup> homo.

tune is es? **Epidicus:** ego sum, et istic<sup>119</sup> frater qui te mercatus<sup>120</sup>  
tuos.<sup>121</sup>

\* \* alia matre, uno patre.<sup>122</sup>

**Telestis:** quid<sup>123</sup> pater meu?<sup>124</sup> uiuost?<sup>125</sup> **Epidicus:** animo<sup>126</sup> liquido<sup>127</sup>  
et tranquillo<sup>128</sup> es,<sup>129</sup> tace.

**Telestis:** di me ex perdita<sup>130</sup> seruatam cupiunt si uera autumas.<sup>131</sup>

**Epidicus:** non habeo ullam occasionem<sup>132</sup> ut apud te falsa fabuler.<sup>133</sup>       645

104 *Thebis* (locative).

105 *Epidauri* (locative).

106 *sero, -ere, seu, satum:* "sow", "plant", "beget"; translate here: "conceive".

107 *memoro, -are, -aui, -atum:* "remember", "reminisce", "speak of", "mention".

108 *nouisti* < *nosco, -ere, noui, notum:* "get to know", "know", "recognize".

109 *quod quidem nunc ueniat in mentem mihi* (the negative is implied): "not that I can recall right now".

110 *memini, meminisse:* "remember" (only the perfect tense forms exist).

111 *aureus, -a, -um:* "gold", "golden".

112 *affero, afferre, attuli, allatum* (or *adfero, adferre, adtuli, adlatum*): "bring", "deliver", "use" (+ accusative).

113 *natalis, -e:* "natal", "relating to one's birth".

114 *lunula, -ae* (f.): "little moon", "moon-shaped ornament".

115 *anellus, -i* (m.): "little ring".

116 *aureolus, -a, -um:* "golden".

117 *in digitum:* "for your finger", "to wear on your finger".

118 *mi* (vocative) < *meus, -a, -um*.

119 *istic* (adverb): "now", "here", "there".

120 *mercatust = mercatus est* < *mercior, -ari, -atus sum:* "buy".

121 *tuos = tuus.*

122 *alia matre uno patre:* "same father, different mothers".

123 *quid:* "what about".

124 *meu' = meus.*

125 *uiuost = uiuus est:* "is he alive".

126 *animo* (ablative of quality; see Bennett's *New Latin Grammar* 224, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect224>).

127 *liquidus, -a, -um:* "clear", "calm".

128 *tranquillus, -a, -um:* "quiet", "calm".

129 *es* (2nd person singular present imperative active) < *sum, esse, fui, futurus.*

130 *ex perdita:* "from/after having been lost".

131 *autumo, -are, -aui, -atum:* "say", "assert".

132 *occasio, -onis* (f.): "occasion", "opportunity".

133 *fabulor, -ari, -atus sum:* "talk", "tell".

**Stratippocles:** accipe argentum hoc, danista. hic sunt quadraginta<sup>134</sup> minae.<sup>135</sup>

siquid erit dubium<sup>136</sup> immutabo.<sup>137</sup> **Danista:** bene fecisti, bene uale. —

**Stratippocles:** nunc enim tu mea es. **Telestis:** soror quidem edepol, ut tu aequa<sup>138</sup> scias.

alue, frater. **Stratippocles:** sanan<sup>139</sup> haec est? **Epidicus:** sana, si appellat suom.<sup>140</sup>

**Stratippocles:** quid? ego <quo> modo<sup>141</sup> huic <sum> frater factus, 650 dum intro eo atque exeo?<sup>142</sup>

**Epidicus:** quod boni est<sup>143</sup> id tacitus<sup>144</sup> taceas<sup>145</sup> tute<sup>146</sup> tecum et gaudeas.<sup>147</sup>

**Stratippocles:** perdidisti<sup>148</sup> et repperisti<sup>149</sup> me, soror. **Epidicus:** stultu's,<sup>150</sup> tace.

tibi quidem quod<sup>151</sup> ames domi praestost,<sup>152</sup> fidicina, | opera mea;<sup>153</sup> et sororem in libertatem idem<sup>154</sup> opera concilio<sup>155</sup> mea.

**Stratippocles:** Epidice, fateor<sup>156</sup> — **Epidicus:** abi<sup>157</sup> intro ac iube<sup>158</sup> 655 huic aquam calefieri,<sup>159</sup>

134 *quadraginta* (indeclinable): “forty”.

135 *mina, -ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

136 *siquid erit dubium*: “if any [of the coins] are of doubtful integrity” (that is, if the moneylender thinks any of the coins are counterfeit).

137 *immuto, -are, -aui, -atum*: “change”.

138 *aeque* (adverb): “equally”.

139 *sanar = sana + -ne < sanus, -a, -um*: “sane”, “healthy”.

140 *si appellat suom*: “if she is calling [you] her own [brother]”.

141 <quo> *modo*: “how?”, “in what way?”.

142 *dum intro eo atque exeo*: “while I was going in and then out of the house”.

143 *quod boni est* (*boni* is genitive of the whole): “what’s good”, “the good [situation] that we have”.

144 *tacitus, -a, -um*: “silent”.

145 *taceo, -ere, tacui, tacitum*: “be silent”.

146 *tute = tu + te* (emphatic form of *tu*).

147 *id tacitus taceas tute tecum et gaudeas*: “you should just be quiet about it and be happy”.

148 *perdo, perdere, perdidisti, perditus*: “ruin”, “lose”.

149 *reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum*: “find”.

150 *stultu's = stultus es*.

151 *quod ames*: “that which you may love”, “an object for your love”.

152 *praestost = praesto est; praesto* (adverb): “at hand”, “ready”, “available”.

153 *operā meā*: “thanks to my efforts”.

154 *idem* (adverb): “likewise”.

155 *concilio, -are, -aui, -atum*: “recover”, “regain”.

156 *fateor, fateri, fassus sum*: “admit”, “confess”.

157 *abi* (second-person singular present imperative) < *abeo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum*.

158 *iubeo -ere, iussi, iussum*: “tell”, “order” (here followed by the infinitive; see Bennett’s *New Latin Grammar* 295, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect295>).

159 *calefieri* (present passive infinitive) < *calefacio, calefacere, calefeci, calefactum*: “make warm/hot”.

cetera haec posterius<sup>160</sup> faxo<sup>161</sup> scibis<sup>162</sup> ubi erit otium.<sup>163</sup>

**Stratippocles:** sequere<sup>164</sup> hac<sup>165</sup> me, soror. **Epidicus:** ego ad uos Thesprionem iussero<sup>166</sup>

huc transire. sed memento,<sup>167</sup> si quid<sup>168</sup> saeuibit<sup>169</sup> senex,  
suppetias<sup>170</sup> mihi cum sorore ferre. **Stratippocles:** facile<sup>171</sup> istuc<sup>172</sup>  
erit. —

**Epidicus:** Thesprio, exi istac<sup>173</sup> per hortum, adfer domum<sup>174</sup> auxilium    660  
mihi,

magnast<sup>175</sup> res. minoris multo facio<sup>176</sup> quam dudum<sup>177</sup> senes.

remeabo<sup>178</sup> intro, ut adcurrentur<sup>179</sup> aduenientes hospites.

eadem<sup>180</sup> haec intus edocebo<sup>181</sup> quae ego scio Stratippoclem.

non fugio, domi adesse certumst;<sup>182</sup> neque ille haud<sup>183</sup> obiciet<sup>184</sup> mihi

pedibus<sup>185</sup> sese prouocatum.<sup>186</sup> abeo intro, nimi'<sup>187</sup> longum                          665

loquor. —

160 *posterior* (adverb): "later".

161 *faxo* (alternative form of the first-person singular future indicative active < *facio*, -*ere*): "I'll make [it happen]", "I promise".

162 *scibis* = *scis*; *faxo scibit*: ""I'll make sure you know", "I'll fill you in".

163 *otium, -ii* (n.): "leisure", "spare time".

164 *sequere* (second-person present imperative) < *sequor*, -*i*, *secutus sum*.

165 *hac*: "this way".

166 *iussero* (first-person singular future perfect indicative active) < *iubeo*, -*ere*, *iussi*, *iussum*.

167 *memento* (second-person singular imperative active) < *memini*, *meminisse*: "remember"; *memento... suppetias... ferre*: "remember to bring help".

168 *quid*: "in any way", "at all", "about anything".

169 *saeuibit* = *saeuiet* < *saeuiō*, -*ire*, *saeuiūi*, *saeuitūm*: "rage", "be/act angry/violent/ferocious", "vent rage on".

170 *suppetiae, -arum* (f. pl.): "help", "aid".

171 *facile* (neuter nominative singular form of the adjective).

172 *istuc* = *istud*.

173 *istac* = *istā*: "that way".

174 *domum* (accusative of place to which): "to the house".

175 *magnast* = *magna est*.

176 *minoris multo facio*: "I care a lot less about".

177 *dudum*: "formerly", "before".

178 *remeo, -are, -aui, -atum*: "go/come back", "return".

179 *adcurrentur* = *accurrentur* < *accuro, -are, -aui, -atum*: "take care of", "attend to".

180 *eadem*: "at the same time", "likewise".

181 *edoceo, edocere, edocui, edoctum*: "teach/inform thoroughly".

182 *certumst* = *certum est mihi*: "it is determined by me", "I'm determined".

183 *neque... haud* (the two negatives strengthen each other).

184 *obicio, -ere, obieci, obiectum*: "object", "throw in the teeth of" (+ dat.).

185 *pedibus*: "by my running away".

186 *prouocatum* = *prouocatum esse* (indirect discourse with the accusative subject *sese*); *prouoco, -are, -aui, -atum*: "provoke".

187 *nimi'* = *nimiris*.

## 5.2 PERIPHANES, APOECIDES, EPIDICVS

**Scene summary:** Periphanes is still enraged at Epidicus, and Apoecides is exhausted from helping him look for Epidicus, and he blames Periphanes. Epidicus calmly strolls up, and surprises Periphanes by demanding that the latter tie him up with the straps he's bought. Epidicus, with his hands bound, admits that he tricked Periphanes into paying thirty *minae* to buy Stratippocles's lyre-playing girlfriend (Acropolistis) and to pretend that she was his daughter Telestis. Epidicus also admits that he gave Stratippocles the fifty *minae* that Periphanes had meant to be given to the pimp in exchange for Acropolistis. Epidicus says Periphanes shouldn't yell at him so angrily, as though he were merely a slave, saying that he has earned his freedom and that Periphanes will understand if he goes into his house. When Periphanes sees the real Telestis, he feels badly for having been so angry at Epidicus and wants to untie him. Epidicus, milking Periphanes's gratitude and guilt as much as he can, won't let him untie the bonds until Periphanes has begged his pardon, promised him some new clothes, promised to free him, and to provide for him as his freedman. Epidicus magnanimously accepts these offers and allows Periphanes to untie him. The play ends with the troop of actors celebrating the man (Epidicus) who has won his freedom through bad behaviour, and they ask the audience for a round of applause.

**Periphanes:** Satine<sup>1</sup> illic<sup>2</sup> homo ludibrio<sup>3</sup> nos uetulos<sup>4</sup>

decrepitos<sup>5</sup> duos

habet?<sup>6</sup> **Apoecides:** immo edepol tuquidem<sup>7</sup> miserum med<sup>8</sup>

habes miseris modis.

**Periphanes:** tace sis, modo sine<sup>9</sup> me hominem apisci.<sup>10</sup> **Apoecides:**

dico ego tibi iam, ut scias:

alium tibi te comitem meliust<sup>11</sup> quaerere; ita, dum te sequor,

1 *satine* = *satis* + *-ne*: "surely...?".

2 *illic* = *ille*.

3 *ludibrium, ludibri/ludibrii* (n.): "mockery", "laughingstock".

4 *uetulus, -a, -um*: "elderly", "aging".

5 *decrepitus, -a, -um*: "worn out", "feeble", "decrepit", "infirm".

6 *ludibrio... habet*: "is making a laughingstock of" (+ acc.).

7 *tuquidem* = *tu quidem*.

8 *med* = *me*.

9 *sine < sino, -ere, -siui, situm*: "allow", "let".

10 *apiscor, apisci, aptus sum*: "reach", "catch".

11 *meliust* = *melius est*.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| lassitudine <sup>12</sup> inuaserunt <sup>13</sup> misero <sup>14</sup> in genua flemina. <sup>15</sup>                       | 670 |
| <b>Periphanes:</b> quot illic homo hodie me exemplis <sup>16</sup> ludificatust <sup>17</sup>                                 |     |
| atque te,   |     |
| ut <sup>18</sup> illic autem exenterauit <sup>19</sup> mihi opes argentarias! <sup>20</sup>                                   |     |
| <b>Apoecides:</b> apage <sup>21</sup> illum a me! nam ille quidem Volcani iratist <sup>22</sup>                               |     |
| filius:   |     |
| quaqua <sup>23</sup> tangit, omne amburit, <sup>24</sup> si astes, <sup>25</sup> aestu <sup>26</sup> calefacit. <sup>27</sup> |     |
| <b>Epidicus:</b> duodecim <sup>28</sup> dis <sup>29</sup> plus quam <sup>30</sup> in caelo deorumst <sup>31</sup>             | 675 |
| inmortarium <sup>32</sup>   |     |
| mihi nunc auxilio <sup>33</sup> adiutores <sup>34</sup> sunt et mecum militant. <sup>35</sup>                                 |     |
| quidquid ego male feci, auxilia mi <sup>36</sup> et suppetiae <sup>37</sup> sunt domi,  |     |
| apolactizo <sup>38</sup> inimicos omnis. <sup>39</sup> <b>Periphanes:</b> ubi illum quaeram <sup>40</sup>                     |     |
| gentium? <sup>41</sup>  |     |

12 *lassitudine* (ablative of cause) < *lassitudo*, *lassitudinis* (f.): “exhaustion”, “weariness”.

13 *inuado*, -ere, *inuasi*, *inuasum*: “take possession of”.

14 *misero*: “for wretched me”.

15 *flemina*, -um (n. pl.): “swelling from blood accumulating in the ankles (or, in this case, the knees)”.

16 *quot... exemplis*: “in how many ways”.

17 *ludificatust* = *ludificatus est* < *ludificor*, -ari, -atus sum: “make a mockery of”, “trick”.

18 *ut*: “how!” (exclamatory).

19 *exentero*, -are, -au-i, -atum: “disembowel”; (in the context of a purse or store of money) “empty”.

20 *opes argentarias*: “supply of money”.

21 *apage*: “be off!”, “let [that man] keep away”.

22 *iratist* = *irati est*.

23 *quaqua*: “wherever”, “whatever”.

24 *amburo*, -ere, *ambussi*, *ambustum*: “scorch”, “burn”.

25 *asto*, *astare*, *astiti*, -: “wait”; “stay”, “stand near”.

26 *aestus*, -ūs (m.): “heat”, “fire”; “rage”.

27 *calefacio*, -ere, *calefeci*, *calefactum*: “make hot”, “heat”; “trouble”, “vex”.

28 *duodecim* (indeclinable, here agreeing with *dis*): twelve.

29 *dis* (ablative of degree of difference).

30 *duodecim dis plus quam in caelo deorumst inmortarium*: “twelve gods more than the immortal gods in heaven”.

31 *deorumst* = *deorum est*.

32 *inmortarium* = *immortalium*.

33 *auxilio*: “by means of their assistance”.

34 *adiutor*, *adiutoris* (m.): “helper”, “supporter”.

35 *milito*, -are, -au-i, -atum: “serve as a soldier”, “perform military service”, “serve in the army”, “make war”.

36 *mi* = *mihi*.

37 *suppetiae*, -arum (f. pl.): “help”, “aid”.

38 *apolactizo*, -are, -au-i, -atum: “kick away”, “spurn”.

39 *omnis* = *omnes*.

40 *quaero*, -ere, *quaesiui*, *quaesitum*: “seek”, “look for”.

41 *ubi... gentium*: “where in the world...?”.

**Apoecides:** dum<sup>42</sup> sine me quaeras, quaeras mea caussa<sup>43</sup> uel<sup>44</sup>  
medio in mari.<sup>45</sup>

**Epidicus:** quid<sup>46</sup> me quaeris? quid laboras?<sup>47</sup> quid hunc<sup>48</sup> 680  
sollicitas?<sup>49</sup> ecce me.

num<sup>50</sup> te fugi, num ab domo apsum,<sup>51</sup> num oculis concessi<sup>52</sup> tuis?

\* \*

nec tibi supplico.<sup>53</sup> uincire<sup>54</sup> uis? em,<sup>55</sup> ostendo manus;  
tu habes lora,<sup>56</sup> ego te emere uidi:<sup>57</sup> quid nunc cessas?<sup>58</sup> conliga.<sup>59</sup>

**Periphanes:** ilicet!<sup>60</sup> uadimonium<sup>61</sup> ultro<sup>62</sup> mihi hic facit.<sup>63</sup> 685

**Epidicus:** quin<sup>64</sup> conligas?

**Apoecides:** edepol mancipium<sup>65</sup> scelestum!<sup>66</sup> **Epidicus:** te  
profecto,<sup>67</sup> Apoecides, —

nil<sup>68</sup> moror mihi deprecari.<sup>69</sup> **Apoecides:** facile exoras,<sup>70</sup> Epidice.

42 *dum*: “provided that”.

43 *mea caussa*: “for all I care”.

44 *uel* (adverb): “even”, “if you prefer”.

45 *medio in mari*: “in the middle of the sea”.

46 *quid*: “why”.

47 *laboro, -are, -aui, -atum*: “labour”, “take pains”, “exert oneself”.

48 *hunc* (refers to Apoecides).

49 *sollicito, -are, -aui, -atum*: “disturb”, “worry”.

50 *num* (interrogative particle, usually implying that a negative answer is expected): “surely... not?”.

51 *apsum = absum*.

52 *concede, -ere, -cessi, -cessum*: “withdraw”; “move back”.

53 *supplico, -are, -aui, -atum*: “supplicate”, “beg for mercy/pardon/help” (+ dative).

54 *uincio, -ire, uinxii, uinctum*: “bind”, “restrain”.

55 *em* (expression of surprise, in a good or bad sense): “there!”, “ha!”.

56 *lorum, -i* (n.): “leather strap”, “whip”.

57 *te emere uidi* (indirect discourse; *lora* is the implied direct object of *emere*).

58 *cedo, -ere, cessi, cessum*: “withdraw”, “leave”.

59 *conligo, -are, -aui, -atum*: “bind”, “tie up”.

60 *ilicet*: “it’s no use”, “it’s all up”.

61 *uadimonium, -ii* (n.): “bail”, “surety”.

62 *ultro* (adverb): “of one’s own accord”, “voluntarily”.

63 *uadimonium... facit*: “he offers bail”.

64 *quin*: “why... not?”, “why don’t you...?”.

65 *mancipium = mancipium*: “possession”, “property”; translate here: “slave”.

66 *scelestus, -a, -um*: “wicked”.

67 *profecto* (adverb): “certainly”.

68 *nil = nihil*.

69 *nil moror mihi deprecari*: “I don’t need you to intercede for me” (on *nil/nihil moror* see note 38 in Act 3, scene 2).

70 *exoro, -are, -aui, -atum*: “obtain by persuasion”, “prevail”.

**Epidicus:** ecquid agis?<sup>71</sup> **Periphanes:** tuon<sup>72</sup> arbitratu?<sup>73</sup> **Epidicus:**

meo<sup>74</sup> hercle uero atque hau<sup>75</sup> tuo<sup>76</sup>

conligandae haec<sup>77</sup> sunt tibi<sup>78</sup> hodie. **Periphanes:** at non lubet,<sup>79</sup>  
non conligo.<sup>80</sup>

**Apoecides:** tragulam<sup>81</sup> in te inicere<sup>82</sup> adornat,<sup>83</sup> nescioquam<sup>84</sup>  
fabricam<sup>85</sup> facit.

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**Epidicus:** tibi moram<sup>86</sup> faci'<sup>87</sup> quom<sup>88</sup> ego solutus<sup>89</sup> asto.<sup>90</sup> age,  
inquam, conliga.

**Periphanes:** at mihi magi'<sup>91</sup> lubet solutum te rogitar. **Epidicus:** at  
nihil scies.

**Periphanes:** quid ago? **Apoecides:** quid agas? mos geratur.<sup>92</sup>

**Epidicus:** frugi<sup>93</sup> es tu homo, Apoecides.

**Periphanes:** cedo<sup>94</sup> manus igitur. **Epidicus:** morantur nihil.<sup>95</sup> atque  
arte<sup>96</sup> conliga,

nihil uero <hoc> obnoxiosse.<sup>97</sup> **Periphanes:** facto opere<sup>98</sup>  
arbitramino.<sup>99</sup>

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71 *ecquid agis:* “are you going to do anything or not?”.

72 *tuon* = *tuo* + *-ne*.

73 *arbitratus, -ūs* (m.): “decision”, “wish”, “choice”.

74 *meo* = *meo arbitratu*.

75 *hau* = *haud*.

76 *tuo* = *tuo arbitratu*.

77 *haec* = *haec manūs*.

78 *tibi* (dative of agent after passive periphrastic).

79 *lubet* = *libet* (impersonal verb; see Bennett 138, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect138>).

80 Supply *eas* or *tuas manūs* after *conligo*.

81 *tragula, -ae* (f.): “dart”, “javelin”.

82 *inicio, -ere, inieci, iniectum:* “thow at”.

83 *adorno, -are, -aui, -atum:* “get ready”, “prepare”.

84 *nescioquam* = *nescio quam*.

85 *fabrica, -ae* (f.): “crafty device”, “trick”.

86 *mora, ae* (f.): “delay”, “obstacle”, “hindrance”.

87 *faci'* = *facis*.

88 *quom* = *cum*.

89 *solutus, -a, -um:* “unbound”, “released”, “unrestrained”, “at large”.

90 *asto, astare, astiti, -:* “wait”; “stay”, “stand near”.

91 *magi'* = *magis*.

92 *mos geratur:* “let [his] wish be gratified”, “do what he wants”.

93 *frugi* (indeclinable adjective): “worthy”, “frugal”, “virtuous” (see note 39 in Act 3, scene 4a).

94 *cedo* (archaic singular imperative related to *do, dare*): “give”.

95 *morantur nihil:* “they don’t mind” (on *nil/nihil moror* see note 38 in Act 3, scene 2).

96 *arte* (adverb <*artus, -a, -um*>): “tightly”.

97 *nihil uero <hoc> obnoxiosse:* “and don’t go easy on me”, “and without any compassion” (*obnoxiosse* = *obnoxie*: “subject to qualification”, “in a restricted manner”).

98 *facto opere* (ablative absolute): “when the job has been done”.

99 *arbitramino* (archaic imperative second-person singular): “give judgment”.

**Epidicus:** bene hoc habet.<sup>100</sup> age nunciam<sup>101</sup> ex me exquire,<sup>102</sup> rogita  
quod lubet.<sup>103</sup>

**Periphanes:** qua fiducia<sup>104</sup> ausu's<sup>105</sup> primum quae emptast<sup>106</sup>  
nudiustertius<sup>107</sup>

filiam meam dicere esse? **Epidicus:** lubuit.<sup>108</sup> ea fiducia.<sup>109</sup>

**Periphanes:** ain<sup>110</sup> tu? lubuit? **Epidicus:** aio.<sup>111</sup> uel<sup>112</sup> da pignus,<sup>113</sup>  
ni<sup>114</sup> ea sit filia.

**Periphanes:** quam negat nouisse<sup>115</sup> mater? **Epidicus:** ni ergo matris      700  
filia est,

in meum nummum, in tuom talentum pignus da.<sup>116</sup> **Periphanes:**  
enim istaec<sup>117</sup> captiost.<sup>118</sup>

sed quis east<sup>119</sup> mulier? **Epidicus:** tui gnati<sup>120</sup> amica, ut omnem rem  
scias.

**Periphanes:** dedin<sup>121</sup> tibi minas<sup>122</sup> triginta<sup>123</sup> ob<sup>124</sup> filiam? **Epidicus:**  
fateor<sup>125</sup> datas<sup>126</sup>

100 *bene hoc habet*: “that does it”.

101 *nunciam* = *nunc + iam* (emphatic form of *nunc*).

102 *exquirō, exquirere, exquisiūi, exquisitum*: “find out”, “ask”.

103 *lubet* = *libet*.

104 *qua fiducia*: “with what boldness”, “with what brazen self-confidence”.

105 *ausu's* = *ausus es* < *audeo, audere, ausus sum*: “dare”.

106 *emptast* = *empta est*.

107 *nudiustertius* = *nudius tertius*; *nudius* = *num/nunc dies* (always paired with an ordinal number): “it is now the ... day since” (because the Romans counted inclusively, *nudiustertius* means “the day before yesterday”).

108 *lubuit* = *libuit* (perfect tense of impersonal verb *libet*); “it pleased [me]”, “I wanted to”.

109 *ea fiducia*: “with that brazen self-confidence”.

110 *ain* = *ais + -ne*: “you say [that]?”.

111 *aio*: “I do say [that]”.

112 *uel*: “or”, “actually”, “indeed”, “even”, “if you prefer”.

113 *pignus, pignoris* (n.): “bet”, “stake”, “wager”, “hostage”; *da pignus* prompts the following subjunctive (*sit*).

114 *ni*: “if... not”.

115 *nosco, -ere, noui, notum*: “get to know”, “know”, “recognize”.

116 *in meum nummum, in tuom talentum pignus da*: “bet me a talent (26–32.5 kg of silver) for a coin (of unknown but not high value)”. We can't be sure what kind of small coin a *nummus* was (see note 142 in Act 1, scene 1) but whether it was a *sesertius*, a drachma, or a didrachma, this is a wildly unequal bet, with Periphanes's stake, if he loses, being between 3,000–24,000 times higher than Epidicus's).

117 *istaec* = *ista*.

118 *captiost* = *captio est*; *captio, captionis* (f.): “trick”, “deception”, “fraud”.

119 *east* = *ea est*.

120 *gnati* = *nati* < *natus, -i*: “son”.

121 *dedin* = *dedi + -ne*.

122 *mina, -ae* (f.): a Greek unit of money equivalent to 430g of silver.

123 *triginta* (indeclinable): “thirty”.

124 *ob*: “in return for”.

125 *fateor, fateri, fassus sum*: “admit”, “confess”.

126 *datas* (modifies *minas*).

et eo argento illam me emisse amicam fili fidicinam  
 pro<sup>127</sup> tua filia: istam ob rem<sup>128</sup> te tetigi<sup>129</sup> triginta minis. 705  
**Periphanes:** quomodo me ludos fecisti<sup>130</sup> de illa conducticia<sup>131</sup>  
 fidicina! **Epidicus:** factum hercle uero et recte factum iudico.  
**Periphanes:** quid postremo argento factum est quod dedi? **Epidicus:**  
 dicam tibi:  
 neque malo homini neque benigno<sup>132</sup> tuo dedi Stratippocli.  
**Periphanes:** qur<sup>133</sup> dare ausu's?<sup>134</sup> **Epidicus:** quia mi<sup>135</sup> lubitum est.<sup>136</sup> 710  
**Periphanes:** quae haec, malum,<sup>137</sup> inpudentiast?<sup>138</sup>  
**Epidicus:** etiam inclamitor<sup>139</sup> quasi seruos?<sup>140</sup> **Periphanes:** quom<sup>141</sup>  
 tu es liber gaudeo.  
**Epidicus:** merui<sup>142</sup> ut fierem.<sup>143</sup> **Periphanes:** tu meruisti? **Epidicus:**  
 uisse<sup>144</sup> intro: ego faxo<sup>145</sup> scies  
 hoc ita esse.<sup>146</sup> **Periphanes:** quid est negoti?<sup>147</sup> **Epidicus:** iam ipsa res  
 dicet tibi.  
 abi<sup>148</sup> modo intro. **Apoecides:** i,<sup>149</sup> illuc<sup>150</sup> non temerest.<sup>151</sup>  
**Periphanes:** adserua<sup>152</sup> istum, Apoecides. —

127 *pro:* "instead of".

128 *istam ob rem:* "because of that", "for that reason" (this is an emendation of a corrupted line: Lindsay's text has this line as: *pro tua filia: is te taboret tetigi triginta minis*).

129 *tango, -ere, tetigi, tactum:* "touch"; translate here: "rob by means of a trick", "cheat [someone] out of [something (ablative)]".

130 *quomodo me ludos fecisti:* "how you fooled me!".

131 *conducticius, -a, -um:* "hired", "rented".

132 *benignus, -a, -um:* "kindly", "good", "good natured".

133 *qur = cur.*

134 *ausu's = ausus es < audeo, -ere, ausus sum:* "dare".

135 *mi = mihi.*

136 *lubitum est = libitum est < libet, -ere, -uit, libitum* (impersonal verb): "it pleases" (+ dative of person pleased).

137 *malum* (exclamation): "you no-good rascal".

138 *inpudentiast = impudentia est; quae haec... inpudentiast:* "what is this impudence".

139 *inclamito, -are, -auī, -atum:* "abuse", "scold".

140 *seruos = seruus.*

141 *quom = cum.*

142 *mereo, -ere, merui, meritum:* "deserve", "earn".

143 *fierem* (first-person singular subjunctive active) < *fio, fieri, factus sum.*

144 *uisse = uise < uiso, -ere, uisi, uisum:* "go see", "go look at", "visit".

145 *faxo* (alternative form of the first-person singular future indicative active of *facio, -ere*): "I'll make [it happen]", "I promise".

146 *hoc ita esse:* "that this is so".

147 *quid est negoti:* "what is this business", "what is all this about".

148 *abi* (2nd person singular present imperative) < *abeo, -ire, -ii/iui, -itum.*

149 *i* (singular imperative) < *eo, ire, iui, itum.*

150 *illuc:* "there, "in there".

151 *temerest = temere est; illuc non temerest:* "it's not by chance [that he's directing you to go] in there", "there must be some explanation in there".

152 *adseruo, -are, -auī, -atum:* "keep watch", "guard".

**Apoecides:** quid illuc, Epidice, est negoti? **Epidicus:** maxuma<sup>153</sup>      715  
 hercle iniuria  
 uintus asto,<sup>154</sup> quoius<sup>155</sup> haec hodie opera<sup>156</sup> inuentast<sup>157</sup> filia.  
**Apoecides:** ain<sup>158</sup> tu te illius inuenisse filiam? **Epidicus:** inueni et  
 domi est.  
 sed ut acerbum<sup>159</sup> est pro bene factis quom<sup>160</sup> mali messim<sup>161</sup> metas!<sup>162</sup>  
**Apoecides:** quamne<sup>163</sup> hodie per urbem uterque sumu'<sup>164</sup> defessi  
 quaerere?  
**Epidicus:** ego sum defessus reperire,<sup>165</sup> uos defessi quaerere.      720  
**Periphanes:** quid<sup>166</sup> isti<sup>167</sup> oratis opere tanto?<sup>168</sup> <me> meruisse<sup>169</sup>  
 intellego<sup>170</sup>  
 ut liceat<sup>171</sup> merito<sup>172</sup> huiius<sup>173</sup> facere.<sup>174</sup> cedo<sup>175</sup> tu ut exsoluam<sup>176</sup>  
 manus.  
**Epidicus:** ne attigas.<sup>177</sup> **Periphanes:** ostende<sup>178</sup> uero. **Epidicus:** nolo.  
**Periphanes:** non aequom<sup>179</sup> facis.<sup>180</sup>

153 *maxuma* = *maxima*.154 *asto, astore, astiti, -:* “wait”; “stay”, “stand near”.155 *quoius* = *cuius*.156 *operā:* “by my efforts”.157 *inuentast* = *inuenta est* <*inuenio, -ire, -iui, -itum*>.158 *ain* = *ais + -ne*: “are you saying”.159 *acerbus, -a, -um*: “harsh”, “upsetting”.160 *quom* = *cum*.161 *messim* (accusative singular) <*messis, -is* (f.): “harvest”, “crop”.162 *meto, -ere, messui, messum*: “reap”, “harvest”.163 *quam* (relative pronoun).164 *sumu'* = *sumus*.165 *reperio, -ire, repperi, repertum*: “find”.166 *quid*: “why”.167 *isti* (dative of reference, or dative of advantage; see Bennett 188, <http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/bennett.html#sect186>).168 *opere tanto*: “so much”.169 *mereo, -ere, merui, meritum*: “deserve”, “earn”.170 *intellego, -ere, -exi, ectum*: “understand”, “realize”.171 *licet, licuit, licitum est* (impersonal): “it is lawful”, “it is permitted”.172 *merito huiius*: “according to his merits”, “as he deserves”.173 *huiius* = *huius*.174 <*me*> *meruisse intellego, ut liceat merito huiius facere*: “I realize that I can treat him as he deserves”.175 *cedo* (archaic singular imperative related to *do, dare*): “give”.176 *exsoluo, -ere, -solui, -solutum*: “untie”, “release”.177 *ne attigas* (prohibitive subjunctive, equivalent to *noli/nolite + infinitive*) <*attigo, -ere, attigi, attactum*: “touch”.178 *ostendo, -ere, ostendi, —*: “show”, “stretch out”.179 *aequom* = *aequum*.180 *non aequom facis*: “you’re not being fair”.

**Epidicus:** numquam hercle hodie, nisi supplicium<sup>181</sup> mihi das, me solui<sup>182</sup> sinam.<sup>183</sup>

**Periphanes:** optumum<sup>184</sup> atque aequissimum<sup>185</sup> oras. soccos,<sup>186</sup> 725  
tunicam, pallium<sup>187</sup>

tibi dabo. **Epidicus:** quid deinde porro?<sup>188</sup> **Periphanes:** libertatem.

**Epidicus:** at postea?

nouo liberto<sup>189</sup> opus est<sup>190</sup> quod<sup>191</sup> pappet.<sup>192</sup> **Periphanes:** dabitur,  
praebeo<sup>193</sup> cibum.

**Epidicus:** numquam hercle hodie, nisi me orassis,<sup>194</sup> solues.

**Periphanes:** oro te, Epidice,  
mihi ut ignoscas<sup>195</sup> si quid imprudens<sup>196</sup> culpa<sup>197</sup> peccauit<sup>198</sup> mea.

at ob eam rem<sup>199</sup> liber esto.<sup>200</sup> **Epidicus:** inuitus do hanc ueniam<sup>201</sup> 730  
tibi,

nisi<sup>202</sup> necessitate cogar.<sup>203</sup> solue sane<sup>204</sup> si lubet.<sup>205</sup>

**Grex:**<sup>206</sup> hic is homo est qui libertatem malitia<sup>207</sup> inuenit sua.

plaudite<sup>208</sup> et ualete. lumbos<sup>209</sup> porgite<sup>210</sup> atque exsurgite.<sup>211</sup>

181 *supplicium, -ii/-i* (n.): “supplication”, humble entreaty”; “punishment”.

182 *soluti* (present infinitive passive) < *soluo, -ere, solui, solutum*: “release”, “untie”.

183 *sino, -ere, -siui, situm*: “allow”, “let”.

184 *optumum* = *optimum*.

185 *aequissimum* = *aequissimum*

186 *soccus, -i* (m.): “low-heeled light shoe”, “slipper”.

187 *pallium, ii* (n.): “cloak” (technically a Greek cloak).

188 *porro* (adverb): “afterwards”, “next”.

189 *libertus, -i* (m.): “freedman”, “freed slave”.

190 *opus est* (impersonal): “there is need for”; *nouo liberto opus est quod pappet*: “a freedman needs something that he can eat”.

191 *quod*: “something”.

192 *pappo, -are, -aui, -atum*: “eat” (specifically eat soft foods like porridge).

193 *praebeo, -ere, praebui, praebitum*: “offer”, “supply”.

194 *nisi me orassis* (alternative future < *oro, -are, -aui, -atum*): “[unless] you beg me”.

195 *ignoso, -ere, ignoui, ignotum*: “forgive”.

196 *inprudens* = *imprudens*: “without knowing”, “inadvertent[ly]”.

197 *culpā... meā*: “because of my own fault”.

198 *pecco, -are, -aui, -atum*: “make a mistake”, “be wrong”, “do wrong”.

199 *ob eam rem*: “for this/that reason”, “for this/that purpose”.

200 *esto* (second-person singular future imperative active) < *sum, esse, fui, futurus*.

201 *uenia, -ae* (f.): “pardon”, “forgiveness”, “kindness”.

202 *nisi*: “except”.

203 *cogo, -ere, coegi, coactum*: “compel”, “force”.

204 *sane*: “certainly”, “however”.

205 *lubet* = *libet*.

206 *grex, gregis* (m.): “flock”, “herd”; “troop”; translate here: “company (of actors)”.

207 *malitia, -ae* (f.): “wickedness”.

208 *plaudo, -ere, plausi, plausum*: “applaud”, “clap”.

209 *lumbus, -i* (m.): “loin”.

210 *porgite* = *porrigite* < *porrigo, -ere, porrexi, porrectum*: “stretch”, stretch out”.

211 *exsurgo, -ere, exsurrei, exsurrectum*: “rise”, “stand up”.

