

Haiku de Rusticatione (MMXI)

d. 11 m. Iul.

I.
fōlia lentē
dē altīs arborum
rāmīs dēcidunt.

(The leaves slowly fall from the high branches of the trees.)

II.
folia saltant
in tempestāte magnā
cum imbre gravī.

(The leaves dance in the great storm with the heavy rain.)

III.
nūbēs imbrifer
lentē rēpsit trāns caelum
mē fulgurante.

(The rainbringing cloud slowly crawled across the sky while I acted as an interpreter of the lightning.)
(Yeah, it loses something in the translation for sure.)

d. 12 m. Iul.

IV.
hirundinēs laetī
in āere saltantēs
ēdunt īnsectās.
(The happy swallows are eating insects while dancing in the air.)

d. 13 m. Iul.

V.
Iuppiter tonat,
imbrem ferum agitāns
ut adōrētur.
(Jupiter thunders, driving the wild wind, in order to be adored/worshipped.)

VI.
serpēns gracilis
trāns nīdum iacēbat,
crīmina celāns.
(The graceful snake was lying across the nest, hiding his crimes.)

d. 14 m. Iul.

VII.
radius sōlis
sōlum pāpiliōnem
in umbrā mōnstrat.
(A ray of sunlight shows the lone butterfly in the darkness/shade/shadow.)

VIII.
cincindellula
supra grāmina alta
ēvolat sōla.

(The little firefly flies out alone above the high grass.)

d. 21 m. Iul. an. MMX

CINCINDELLAE (Lightning Bugs)

cincindellae in
umbra arborum mihi
expergiscuntur.

ego puellasco
cincindellas capiens
grato in prato.

micantes mihi
sicut stellae in caelo
volant cincindellae.

(The following are merely some rearranged Catullus poems—I was just playing with phrasing.):

quamvis puella
nunc euntem revocet
viam vorabit.

sidera multa
cum tacet nox, furtivos
vident amores

quaeris quot mihi
basiationes sint
satis superque?

(This is from a few lines in Vergil in book 2, the sea serpent scene.):

ecce gemini
a Tenedo tranquilla
per alta angues.

These are some double dactyls I wrote a couple of years ago apparently. You can explore Martial for yourself at the Latin Library.

April 12, 2007 I was messing with this epigram: (V.55)
dic mihi, quem portas volucrem regina? "Tonantem"
nulla manu quare fulmina gestat? "amat"
quo calet igne deus? "pueri." cur mitis aperto
inspicias ore Iovem? "de Ganymede loquor."

Flappity flappity
queen of the birds (eagle)--
whom are you carrying?
Why does he burn?
"Jove, known as Thunderer,
Burns for Ganymede
(Pedaphilology,
As you discern)."

I remember asking about this epigram on the classics list after I wrote this. Apparently this was a poem written about a picture, as if the speaker is talking to the picture.

Then V.59:

cras te victurum cras dicis, Postume, semper
dic mihi, cras istud, Postume, quando venit?
quam longe cras istud! ubi est? aut unde petendum?
numquid apud Parthos Armeniosque latet?
iam cras istud habet Priami vel Nestoris annos.
cras istud quanti, dic mihi, possit emi?
cras vives? hodie iam vivere, Postume, serum est:
ille sapit quisquis, Postume, vixit heri.

The double dactyl is

"Postumously Undone"

'crastinate, 'crastinate
off-putting Postumus,
Tell me just when you are
going to live?
Late is today when you
Look for tomorrow; the
prehesternationist's
Already lived.

Weird word: prehesternationist. This is the great thing about double dactyls--you can make up words.

III.99

Irasci nostro non debes, Cerdo, libello:
ars tua, non vita, est carmine laesa meo.
Innocuos permitte sales. Cur ludere nobis

non liceat, licuit si iugulare tibi?

"Irasci nostro libello"

Gripity, Snipity
Cerdo the Cobbler, you
Ought not to take great of-
fence at my wit;
You are permitted your
Amphitheatrical
jugularectomies--
leave me my bit!