

compared to a *λάρος* in *Od.* 5. 51. He adds, 'Apollon faucon ne m'est pas connu' and cites *Od.* 15. 525 f. where a falcon is Apollo's messenger (this time the word used is *κίρκος*) and Aristophanes, *Birds* 516 where Apollo has a *ἰέραξ* on his head. In fact Apollo is compared to an *ἵρηξ* (the Homeric form of this word) in *Il.* 15. 237–8.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> cf. the quotation of these lines by Aelian, *NA* 10. 14.

## SYMPHOSIUS 42. 1: A LITERAL INTERPRETATION

### Beta

*tota vocor Graece, sed non sum tota Latine*

'...as the name of the second letter of the alphabet *beta* (Greek) is curtailed to *be*. This could be expressed by substituting *quod* for *sed*: "What I am in Latin when incomplete (*non tota*), I am called in Greek complete.'" So most recently Shackleton Bailey.<sup>1</sup> Read rather the verse aloud to solve the riddle. *tota* heard as Greek would be *τωτα*, i.e. *τῶ τα* (*τῶ* being written *τῷ* at this period):

My name is whole (with a TA) in Greek, but I am not whole (with a TA) in Latin.

The strained use of the instrumental dative *τῶ τα* would be objectionable, were the poet writing continuous Greek as such.<sup>2</sup> But as a pun concealed within the Latin word *tota*, this secondary meaning and construction should be tolerated.<sup>3</sup> The conceit is in fact rather clever. What are the chances of *tota* admitting so apt a sense, when heard as Greek, as a result of coincidence alone and not design?

<sup>1</sup> D. R. Shackleton Bailey, *Towards a Text of 'Anthologia Latina'*. Cambridge Philological Society supplementary volume no. 5 (Cambridge, 1979), p. 39.

<sup>2</sup> The use of the definite article here, *τὸ τα* = 'a TA', is of course standard usage in the technical Greek of the grammarians.

<sup>3</sup> For a comparable pun involving Greek concealed in Latin see Martial 1. 50: *Si tibi Mistyllus cocus, Aemiliane, vocatur, | dicatur quare non Taratalla mihi?* The poet is playing with the Homeric formula *μίστυλλον τ' ἄρα τᾶλλα* (*Il.* 1. 465, al.). So too in Greek, with a play on a Latin word, *AP* 10. 44. 4 (Palladas): *οὐκ ἐθέλω Δόμινε, οὐ γὰρ ἔχω δόμεναι*.

## ANTHOLOGIA LATINA 24 RIESE

### Amans amanti

Marcent post rorem violae, rosa perdit odorem,  
Lilia post vernum posito candore liquescunt (24. 3–4).

*post rorem*, 'after the dew', seems nonsense and Shackleton Bailey<sup>1</sup> has not unreasonably proposed *post florem*, comparing for the idiom Columella *RR* 2. 11. 10 *diebus quadraginta, quibus post florem ad maturitatem devenit*. But *ros* here stands for *ros marinus*, 'rosemary', as in Vergil, *Georg.* 2. 212–13:

nam ieiuna quidem clivosi glareae ruris  
vix humilis apibus casias roremque ministrat.

The poet is not presenting us with a piece of botanical information about the relative

<sup>1</sup> D. R. Shackleton Bailey, *Towards a Text of 'Anthologia Latina'*. Cambridge Philological Society supplementary volume no. 5 (Cambridge, 1979), p. 12.

seasons of the violet and rosemary; he means rather that all flowers wither and fade, *one after the other*. Four specific examples illustrate his point. For the collocation of these same four flowers see Ovid, *Met.* 12. 410–11:

ut modo rore maris, modo se violave rosave  
implicet, interdum canentia lilia gestet<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Some have questioned the meaning 'rosemary' for *ros* in Vergil, loc. cit. Thus Heyne commented '*Ros marinus* quidem, frutex, a Servio intelligitur, quem alii sequuntur. Sed nondum locum vidi, in quo ille simpliciter *ros* appellaretur.' The present passage from the *Anth. Lat.* provides the parallel desiderated. See also Pliny, *HN* 24. 101.

## LUXORIUS ON THE ART OF SELF-DEFENCE

Cresciture, ferox ne quid tibi dorsa flagellis  
conscindat coniunx, iunctis tu pedibus astas

(*Anth. Lat.* 207 Riese)

'*pedibus* makes no better sense than *metre*.' Shackleton Bailey,<sup>1</sup> who suspects an allusion to the *exclusus amator* theme and accordingly suggests *unctis...postibus* ('Here it would be the husband who anoints the doorposts to placate a fierce wife and then uses them for cover').<sup>2</sup> But *iunctis pedibus* is idiomatic Latin for an all-out fight and has an authentic look to it; Ovid, *Met.* 9. 42–4 illustrates the usage:

rursusque ad bella coimus  
inque gradu stetimus certi non cedere, eratque  
cum pede pes iunctus.

See further Verg. *A.* 10. 361 *haeret pede pes densusque viro vir*; Liv. 38. 21. 13 *pede collato pugnandum est*; Sil. 4. 352–53 *teritur iunctis umbonibus umbo, pesque pedem premit*; Ov. *Am.* 1. 4. 44 (in an erotic context) *nec tenerum duro cum pede iunge pedem*.<sup>3</sup> However, 'Stand up to your wife, Cresciturus, and fight' will not do. That would be a humourless piece of advice and, in any event, Cresciturus appears to be too henpecked to act on it. Since he cannot fight with fair means, he must resort to foul. *pēdibus* is neither corruption nor false quantity, but a comic coinage: *pēs, pēdis*, from *pēdo* (= *πέδομαι*), on the analogy of *pēs, pēdis*, 'foot':<sup>4</sup> *Cresciture, si non vis vapulare, coniugi iterum atque iterum oppedas necesse est. Dorsa* in the first verse calls attention to the fact that Cresciturus enjoys a strategic position for such a manoeuvre—a position which is the very reverse of *iunctis pēdibus* in its normal sense.<sup>5</sup> In short, *iunctis...pēdibus* is a *παρά προσδοκίαν* for *iunctis...pēdibus*.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> D. R. Shackleton Bailey, *Towards a Text of 'Anthologia Latina'*. Cambridge Philological Society supplementary volume no. 5 (Cambridge, 1979), p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> loc. cit.

<sup>3</sup> For parallels in Greek the anonymous referee compares Tyrtaeus 11. 31 West [= 8.31 Diehl] *πόδα παρ ποδὶ θεῖς* and Eur. *Hclid.* 836 *ποὺς ἐπαλλαθθεῖς ποδί*.

<sup>4</sup> That *pēs, pēdis* is an actual word which has not survived elsewhere because of its vulgarity is, I suppose, just possible.

<sup>5</sup> Of course the meaning of *iunctis* is tacitly changed; it is here equivalent to *continuatis, saepe iteratis*. It need hardly be said that the reference is to Cresciturus alone, and not his wife.

<sup>6</sup> For the power of the *πορδή* see *AP* 11. 395; similar specimens of windy wit in Luxorius' model Martial, 4. 87 and 10. 15 (14). 9–10.