

Aeneid X. 887 – 918

- 887 Aeneas instat contra telumque coruscat
Aeneas presses on in opposition, and shakes his
- 888 ingens arboreum, et saevo sic pectore fatur:
huge treelike spear, and says thus from his savage chest,
- 889 “Quae nunc deinde mora est? Aut quid iam, Turne, retractas?
“What, now then, is this delay? Or why now do you draw back,
Turnus?”
- 890 Non cursu, saevis certandum est comminus armis.
It must be fought / [we must fight] not at a run, [but] hand to
hand with savage weapons.
- 891 Verte omnes tete in facies et contrahe quidquid
Turn/change yourself into all forms and bring together whatever
- 892 sive animis sive arte vales; opta ardua pennis
you can, whether through courage or skill;
- 893 astra sequi clausumque cava te condere terra.”
choose to follow the steep stars with feathers and hide yourself
enclosed in the hollow earth.
- 894 Ille caput quassans: “Non me tua fervida terrent
That guy shaking his head [replied]: “your violent words do not
terrify me,
- 895 dicta, ferox; di me terrent et Iuppiter hostis.”
fierce one; the gods terrify me and Jupiter as enemy.”
- 896 Nec plura effatus saxum circumspicit ingens,
And having spoken nothing more, he catches sight of a huge
rock,
- 897 saxum antiquum ingens, campo quod forte iacebat,
a huge old rock, which by chance was lying in a field,
- 898 limes agro positus litem ut discerneret arvis.
a boundary stone placed in the field so that it might decide a
lawsuit w/ regard to the fields.
- 899 Vix illum lecti bis sex cervice subirent,
Scarcely twice six chosen men could support that thing with
their neck,
- 900 qualia nunc hominum producit corpora tellus;
such are the bodies of men [which] the earth now produces;
- 901 ille manu raptum trepida torquebat in hostem
That hero hurled it having been seized by his agitated hand
against the enemy,
- 902 altior insurgens et cursu concitus heros.

rising higher and stirred up in running.

903 Sed neque currentem se nec cognoscit euntem
But he recognizes himself neither running nor going,

904 tollentemve manu saxumve immane moventem;
or raising the huge rock with his hand or moving [it];

905 genua labant, gelidus concrevit frigore sanguis.
his knees give way, and his icy blood stiffens with cold.

906 Tum lapis ipse viri vacuum per inane volutus
Then the stone itself of the man turning through the empty void

907 nec spatium evasit totum neque pertulit ictum.
neither traversed the whole space nor accomplished a blow.

908 Ac velut in somnis, oculos ubi languida pressit
And just as in dreams, when weak quiet has pressed the eyes

909 nocte quies, nequiquam avidos extendere cursus
with night, we seem to want to extend eager flights in vain

910 velle videmur et in mediis conatibus aegri
and in the middle of our attempts we sink down sick;

911 succidimus; non lingua valet, non corpore notae
*the tongue has no strength, the known strengths are not
sufficient in the body*

912 sufficiunt vires nec vox aut verba sequuntur:
nor do the voice or words follow:

913 sic Turno, quacumque viam virtute petivit,
*Thus the dire goddess denies to Turnus success, wherever he
sought a way with bravery.*

914 successum dea dira negat. Tum pectore sensus
Then various sensations are turned in his chest;

915 vertuntur varii; Rutulos aspectat et urbem
he looks at the Rutulians and the city

916 cunctaturque metu letumque instare tremescit,
*and he delays b/c of fear and begins to dread that death is
imminent,*

917 nec quo se eripiat, nec qua vi tendat in hostem,
*nor does he see where he might escape, nor with what strength
he might hold / aim against the enemy,*

918 nec currus usquam videt aurigamve sororem.
nor his chariots anywhere or his chariot-driver sister.